



**To:** Supervisor Donald Wagner, Chairman, Third District  
Members of the Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Michelle Anderson, County Emergency Manager  
**Date:** May 4, 2023  
**RE:** Status Report, Item 38, May 9, Agenda: Review the Need For Continuing The Local Emergency

The following is a status report on the Proclamation of Local Emergency for the 2022-2023 Winter Storms. A local emergency with respect to the winter storms was proclaimed on March 14, 2023. Per the California Emergency Services Act, the proclamation must be reviewed at least every 60 days and terminated when emergency conditions no longer persist.

Orange County has been impacted by an onslaught of winter storms beginning in December 2022 and extending into May of 2023. Estimated damages reported to date are estimated at \$16,264,110 in public property and \$10,180,000 in private property.

It is recommended that the local emergency proclamation be continued since damage continues to occur due to changes in soil saturation levels. The County continues to coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Office of Emergency Services, and local jurisdictions in pursuing recovery. To date, Orange County has been included in the following

FEMA ID	Dates	Eligible Assistance
DR-4683-CA	Dec 27, 2022 - Jan 31, 2023	None
EM-3591-CA	Jan 8, 2023 - Jan 31, 2023	Category B
DR-4699-CA	Feb 21, 2023 and continuing	None
EM-3592-CA	Mar 9, 2023 and continuing	Category B

- Category B: Emergency protective measures by local government

On April 10 and 11, members of the Orange County Emergency Management Division hosted recovery team representatives from both Cal OES and FEMA to tour public sites which reported storm damage during the period of February 21 through portions of April 2023. During this two-day tour, efforts were made to visit sites throughout the County where damage was reported and public assistance was potentially available. The County is actively negotiating with the CalOES and FEMA to tour the San Clemente Casa Romantica site and neighboring buildings that experienced slope failures this past week.

Damages and costs from the storms, include but are not limited to:

County Agencies

- Orange County Community Resources (Parks)  
Storm damage due to heavy rains caused by run-off along with shifting soil led to damage to the historical Modjeska House in Modjeska Canyon. Newport Harbor OC Parks Bayside Beach Rental Docks suffered damage due to the storms as strong winds and rising waters displaced pilings and dislodged boating docks causing docks to become detached. Estimated combined damage of \$1.5 million.
- Orange County Public Works  
OCPW completed emergency work including responding to mud and debris flows, removing downed trees, and clearing storm channels of debris. This included assisting several cities with debris removal and disposal. Additionally, there was damage to County weather stations and construction project delays due to heavy rain. These costs are estimated at \$255,533.

# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## INTERNAL MEMO

- Orange County Sheriff's Department Technology Division  
The Sheriff's Department manages the countywide communications infrastructure on behalf of all public safety agencies across Orange County. Damage estimates are being gathered at this time, exceeding \$100,000 as of the progress report.
- Orange County Waste and Recycling  
OCWR costs have included damages at the PRIMA facility and operational overtime to manage winter storm response. These costs are estimated at \$84,913.

### Orange County Jurisdictions

- City of Costa Mesa:  
Estimated \$55,000 for public assistance and \$100,000 in miscellaneous damages.
- City of Fountain Valley:  
Reported damage to a roadway and storm drain area which forced the closure of at least one lane in the southern portion of their City. Estimated cost was \$1.1 million for public assistance.
- City of Huntington Beach  
The City of Huntington Beach estimates \$240,000 in emergency response costs to mitigate the heavy storms.
- City of Laguna Beach  
The January storms destroyed a lifeguard tower with an estimated damage of \$96,000. With other damages in the city, total damages were estimated to be \$5.5 million for public and individual assistance.
- City of Los Alamitos:  
Community Center suffered major roof, wall and floor damage, these repairs estimated at \$400,000.
- City of Newport Beach:  
Homes along the Back Bay area in the City of Newport Beach where the backyard of a home collapsed causing great damage to an adjacent storm drain forcing the use of temporary pumps to assist in the drainage for the surrounding neighborhood. The adjacent house was deemed uninhabitable by local officials and was later demolished. Additional structures were threatened due to slope instability and will need repair, as the ground continues to shift. Cost has increased to 3.4 million for public and individual assistance.
- City of San Clemente  
San Clemente has had multiple locations with significant impacts due to soil saturation and slope failures.
  - San Clemente also has four apartment buildings in the 1500 block of Buena Vista that were evacuated and red tagged due to a landslide that left the back of the structures in danger of crumbling down the hillside. These buildings are being monitored. The cost has reached over \$3 million.
  - As of the date of this progress report, public and private damage continues to develop along Avenida Granada properties. At present, this includes a 24- unit condominium complex that was red-tagged due to landslide. Additionally, the historically designated Casa Romantica Cultural Center in San Clemente is closed after the landslide destroyed a significant portion of the balcony and outdoor venue space on the city owned property. Damage assessment remains ongoing.

# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## INTERNAL MEMO

- City of San Juan Capistrano  
Estimated damage of \$1 million for hillside slippage and traffic signaling equipment for public assistance.
- City of Santa Ana  
Water Control Facilities suffered damage to a joint municipal water clarification channel, needed to filter water *en route* to the Pacific Ocean. Maintenance crews clear debris from waterways wash. At times needing to utilize contractors to assist in the maintenance and repairs to this joint project. Over \$70,000 in repairs and damages was estimated towards public assistance.
- City of Seal Beach  
The City of Seal Beach proclaimed an emergency on January 17, 2023. The severe winter storms damaged the pier and caused flooding to homes along the coast. Initial damage estimates are \$1.6 million.
- City of Yorba Linda  
City owned golf course has a sizable sinkhole that is in the cart patch. Estimated damage of \$200,000.
- Orange Coast College District  
Reported storms caused damage roofs, walls and floors in several campus buildings. Their Newport Beach Sailing school also incurred damage to two elevators that are used access to ensure accessibility. Estimated damage of \$88,454.
- Orange County Transportation Authority  
The Orange County Transportation Authority conducted protective measures to stabilize the railroad tracks in southern San Clemente. With the ongoing storms, the remediation costs have increased to approximately \$1.5 million for additional land anchors and debris removal shutting down the railway is a major revenue loss and disruption for those who commute to work and those who use this means of transportation for recreation and everyday use.
- Santa Margarita Water District  
Land subsidence during the January Storms caused infrastructure damages estimated at \$750,000.
- South Coast Water District Coastal Treatment Plant  
Had severe damage at 10th and Sunset where the storms caused a water main rupture creating a sinkhole that led to a gas leak. Residents evacuated their homes until the gas leak repair was completed. Additionally, an SUV fell in the sinkhole when the road collapsed. Repairs continue and are estimated to be \$1.5 million.

Recommended Action: Approve continuation of local emergency for 2022-2023 winter storms; and set review to determine need for continuing local emergency for 6/27/23

cc: County Executive Officer Frank Kim  
Clerk of the Board Robin Stieler  
Undersheriff Jeff Hallock, Sheriff-Coroner Department  
County Emergency Manager Michelle Anderson, Sheriff-Coroner Department