California Department of Housing and Community Development

ReCoverCA Monthly Newsletter – February 2024

Another Homeowner Moves In!



Peter* is thrilled to be moving back onto his property thanks to ReCoverCA Housing Programs. After 36 years of living in his hometown, he could not imagine living anywhere else and was grateful for the opportunity to rebuild.

He had the unique opportunity to observe construction from the ground-up as he was living in a trailer on his mother's property next door. The ability to watch construction was encouraging for him, and for his son, who was only 5 years old at the time of the disaster. The fact that his young son will be able to have his own space again is what brings Peter the most joy about moving back in. That and the spacious kitchen cabinets, he said.

After he and his son are settled, they plan on throwing a

barbecue with family to celebrate. When asked about what he would tell others about the program Peter said, "[It's] well worth it and I've had many happy tears because of it."

*Name of applicant has been changed to protect the identity of the homeowner.

2020 ReCoverCA Housing Programs: Mitigation Retrofits Available in Eligible Counties

Homeowners living in counties in which eligible 2020 disasters took place may be able to use ReCoverCA Owner-Occupied Wildfire Mitigation Retrofit (OOM) funds for defensible space and home hardening needs on their property. Homeowners do not need to have been affected by eligible 2020 disasters to qualify.

Eligible homeowners can apply for funds up to \$50,000 per household for mitigation activities. These activities are those that bring a property into compliance with <u>Wildland Urban Interface Code</u>. Wildland Urban Interfaces (WUI) are part of the California Building Code and Housing Code that help reduce risk and improve resiliency in the event of future disasters.

Applicable WUI standards may include distance between structures, types of building materials used, vegetation management, emergency vehicle access, water supply, and fire protection. Mitigation needs on eligible properties will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

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If you or someone you know has mitigation needs on their owner-occupied property located in an eligible 2020 disaster-impacted county, please visit the ReCoverCA website for more information and to access the online application.

Full information, including eligibility, policies and procedures, fact sheets, and application instructions can be found on the <u>ReCoverCA website</u>. Eligible 2020 disasters are FEMA DR-4558 (August 14-September 26, 2020) and FEMA DR-4569 (September 4-November 17, 2020) in Butte, Fresno, Los Angeles, Napa, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, and Sonoma Counties.

2021 ReCoverCA Programs Launching in February!

ReCoverCA Housing Programs for eligible households in Plumas County will launch in late February! Homeowners impacted by the 2021 Dixie Fire – including owner-occupants and landlords willing to rent their properties as affordable, single-family homes – may be eligible for the Single-Family Reconstruction (SFR) or Single-Family Mitigation (SFM) Programs.

The Single-Family Reconstruction (SFR) Program offers eligible homeowners and landlords who lost homes in the Dixie Fire up to \$500,000 to help rebuild damaged or destroyed homes.

The Single-Family Mitigation (SFM) Program provides funds for defensible space and home hardening needs on homeowners' properties. Eligible homeowners can apply for up to \$50,000 for mitigation activities that bring a property into compliance with California <u>Wildland Urban Interface Code</u>. Low- to moderate-income households and landlords renting their properties as affordable single-family homes across Plumas County are encouraged to apply for SFM. Note that homes do not have to have sustained damage in the Dixie Fire to qualify for mitigation assistance.

If you or someone you know still needs to rebuild their single-family home or mobile home after the Dixie Fire or has mitigation needs on their property – such as debris clearance, defensible space, or other work to bring the property into compliance with <u>Wildland Urban Interface Code</u> – visit the ReCoverCA website for information and application instructions. Funds will be prioritized for low- to moderate-income households and those with the greatest housing need.

Applications for ReCoverCA 2021 will be available on the <u>ReCoverCA website</u> in late February. Additional resources, including full Program details, eligibility, policies and procedures, fact sheets, and application instructions will also be available.

Sign up for the ReCoverCA monthly newsletter and follow the Program on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/ReCoverCA/</u> to receive the latest updates.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT RECOVERCA? Visit our website: <u>www.hcd.ca.gov/recoverca</u>