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NEWS FOR RELEASE

December 7, 2011

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PASADENANS URGED TO REPORT PRIVATE STORM DAMAGE IN EFFORT TO GAIN STATE AND FEDERAL EMERGENCY FINANCIAL HELP

While city and private crews work to reconnect the remaining customers still without electricity and clear thousands of tons of debris from streets and parks, local governments, including the city of Pasadena, are tallying the public costs of last week's hurricane-force windstorm. Pasadena's costs will certainly run into the tens of millions of dollars.

State and federal emergency agencies could help mitigate those costs but only if they have accurate damage totals. City and county officials are asking that homeowners and business owners report their storm-related costs as well so local governments can more accurately demonstrate the need for state and federal disaster aid.

"We need any damage and costs that residents and businesses incurred to be reported to the county, which will forward them to the state," said Pasadena City Manager Michael J. Beck. "It's crucial that the state and federal governments have an accurate sense of the true costs of this emergency to local governments and private property owners and businesses to follow up with disaster-relief funding."

Beck urged residents to report their storm-related costs to the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, which is tallying estimates countywide. Call 2-1-1 or visit www.211la.org.

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For more information about the city's emergency declaration and storm-related cost estimates, contact Emergency Management Coordinator Lisa Derderian at (626) 744-7276.

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