

Mahoney Delivers Critical Funds to Martin County

Martin Receives \$4.88 Million Reimbursement

(January 31, 2008)

(Stuart, FL) - Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) today delivered on his efforts to obtain a reimbursement of \$3.18 million from FEMA for debris removal resulting from Hurricane Jeanne in 2004. Martin County petitioned FEMA for over 3 years to get reimbursed. The County requested help from Congressman Mahoney after they had run out of appeals. In an unusual step, Mahoney met personally with FEMA Director Paulson on two separate occasions in his effort to get the money.

Earlier, Mahoney was able to get \$1.7 million in emergency funds for Martin County to offset losses resulting from the 2004 and 2005 hurricane season. Combined, Congressman Mahoney delivered just under \$5 million.

"I applaud Martin County for making the necessary investments in a state-of-the-art asset management system that enabled me to make the case to FEMA Director Paulson," said Congressman Mahoney. "My ability to cut through the bureaucracy couldn't come at a better time now that the County has to deal with a projected revenue shortfall due to the adoption of property tax reform and a downturn in the economy."

"Martin County thanks Congressman Mahoney for going beyond the call of duty to take on Washington bureaucracy to get what Martin taxpayers were owed," said Martin County Administrator Duncan Ballentyne. "I also want to thank FEMA Director Paulson for getting personally involved and making sure our hard work and preparation was rewarded with this reimbursement."

"Today is a great day for Martin County and we are thankful for Congressman Mahoney for making this day happen. We look forward to continue working with him in the future on such critical issues for the county and surrounding area," said Martin County Commissioner Doug Smith.

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