



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**City of La Habra  
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La Habra, CA 90631  
(562) 383-4000**

**April 9, 2014**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PRESS RELEASE #11-2014**

**Subject: City Waives Building Permit Fees for 90 Days for Structures Damaged by March 28<sup>th</sup> Earthquake**

**Contact: La Habra Building & Safety Division (562) 383-4116  
Dennis McCreary Chief Building Official**

**City Manager's Office (562) 383-4010  
Rob Ferrier, Assistant to the City Manager**

A 5.1 magnitude earthquake centered approximately 1 mile southeast of La Habra City Hall occurred at 9:09 p.m. on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. The event was felt widely throughout Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties. The quake was preceded by a smaller foreshock (magnitude 3.6) at 8:03 p.m. Scores of aftershocks have followed, the largest of which was a magnitude 4.1 earthquake that occurred at 2:32 p.m. on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

In order to assist and promote the immediate repair of damages, on April 7<sup>th</sup> the La Habra City Council approved a temporary waiver of building permit fees for structures damaged by the tremors. The waiver allows property-owners to repair legally permitted improvements for a period of 90 days. The waiver period does not relieve property-owners of the need to secure a building permit, but rather it allows them the opportunity to complete repairs without bearing the cost of a permit. In cases where a permit has already been issued, the applicant may apply for a refund of fees already paid.

Building & Safety Division staff has responded to approximately 100 requests for inspection since the earthquake. In most instances, the damage was cosmetic and there have been no "red-tagged" structures in La Habra; however, some properties have suffered damage to masonry walls and chimneys. The permit waiver will promote public safety and assist affected property-owners to complete repairs.

For more information, please contact the Building & Safety Division at 562-383-4116.

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