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110 East Shore Drive, Babylon to be auctioned

Open houses for Sandy-damaged homes auction

By: David Winzelberg October 9, 2015 0

Prospective buyers can begin viewing the newest batch of Sandy-damaged homes next week before they are auctioned in November.

Garden City-based Paramount Realty USA is holding open houses starting Tuesday, Oct. 13 for 155 Long Island homes and properties damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The open houses run through Oct. 22 and details can be found on the auction company's website <u>prusa.com</u>.

This is the second collection of properties sold by Paramount Realty USA. In April, the firm auctioned off 150 such homes, after it was contracted in to auction the properties by the state's Office of Storm Recovery, established by Gov. Andrew Cuomo in 2013. For its efforts, the firm gets a flat fee of \$300,000

to cover marketing expenses in addition to an undisclosed percentage of each sale. Information on the properties in this second auction round is listed on the company's website. With minimum bids that start at \$43,000, the properties are located in 23 towns and villages, 81 in Nassau County and 74 in Suffolk.

The auction inventory is part of the 1,200 or so damaged properties that were purchased by the Housing Trust Fund Corporation, as part of the New York Rising Housing Recovery Program. About 500 of the properties, which stretch from Staten Island to Suffolk's East End, were slated to be demolished and left as open space. But the remaining properties—about 700 on Long Island—were tagged to be resold via auction.

It's not clear if this will be the last opportunity to purchase such a large collection of Sandy-damaged properties.

"It's uncertain at this point if there will be more auctions for these types of Long Island properties," said Misha Haghani, a Paramount Realty USA principal. "And if there are, there may be fewer properties offered."

The latest auction is scheduled for Nov. 17 at the Hyatt Regency in Hauppauge.