



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
2.		<b>Favor</b>	Hector Ramirez	<p>To the esteemed Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>My name is Hector Ramirez, and I am a person with disabilities who lives in Los Angeles County and on behalf of myself and other people with disabilities I am deeply committed to the safety and well-being of all members of our community. I am writing today to express my unwavering support for the Initiatives to Protect Los Angeles County Residents from Extreme Heat, with a particular emphasis on the need for inclusive measures that address the unique experiences of individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Extreme heat significantly impacts people with disabilities, posing unique challenges and risks to their health and well-being. Here's a breakdown of the key impacts:</p> <p><b>Physical Health:</b>            Heat-related illnesses: People with certain disabilities, particularly those affecting mobility, the central nervous system, or the ability to regulate body temperature, are more susceptible to heat stroke, heat exhaustion, and other heat-related illnesses.            Exacerbation of existing conditions: Extreme heat can worsen chronic conditions like cardiovascular disease, respiratory issues, and diabetes.            Medication interactions: Some medications for disabilities can impair the body's ability to regulate temperature or increase sensitivity to heat.</p> <p><b>Mental Health:</b>            Increased stress and anxiety: The physical discomfort and health risks associated with extreme heat can trigger or worsen mental health conditions like anxiety and depression.            Social isolation: Limited mobility or reliance on medical equipment may make it difficult to access cooling centers or public spaces, leading to social isolation and loneliness.            Disruption of routines: Extreme heat can disrupt daily routines and activities, impacting mental well-being.</p> <p><b>Accessibility Challenges:</b>            Cooling centers and transportation: Many cooling centers may not be fully accessible to people with disabilities, and transportation to these facilities can be a barrier.            Emergency alerts and communication: Emergency alerts and information may not be accessible to people with disabilities, particularly those with sensory impairments.            Evacuation and emergency response: Evacuation procedures and emergency response plans may not adequately consider the needs of people with disabilities.</p>



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**Additional Considerations:**

**Socioeconomic factors:** People with disabilities are more likely to experience poverty, which can limit access to air conditioning, transportation, and other resources necessary to cope with extreme heat.

**Housing conditions:** Many people with disabilities live in housing that is poorly insulated or lacks air conditioning, making them more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses.

**Caregiver burden:** Caregivers of people with disabilities may experience increased stress and burden during extreme heat events, as they need to ensure their loved ones stay safe and cool.

**Resources and Support:**

**Government agencies:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide resources and information on extreme heat and disabilities.

**Disability advocacy organizations:** Many organizations advocate for the rights and needs of people with disabilities and can provide information and support during extreme heat events.

**Local community resources:** Local community organizations may offer cooling centers, transportation assistance, and other resources for people with disabilities.

It's important to recognize that the impact of extreme heat on people with disabilities is a complex issue with multiple interconnected factors. By understanding these challenges, we can work towards creating more inclusive and supportive environments that protect the health and well-being of all individuals during extreme heat events.

This initiative can also protect disabled residents from extreme heat with this considerations:

**Electricity Utility Assistance:** Ensuring that people with disabilities can afford to maintain access to electricity for medical and accessibility equipment while also being able to afford the cost of electricity during extreme heat periods and or emergency financial situations.

**Accessibility of Cooling Centers:** Ensuring that cooling centers are accessible to people with disabilities is crucial. This includes features like ramps, accessible restrooms, and transportation options for those who cannot drive themselves. Providing information in alternative formats like Braille or audio can also be helpful.

**Targeted Outreach and Assistance:** People with disabilities may be more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses and may need additional support.

Targeted outreach programs can inform them about available resources like cooling centers, transportation assistance, and home visits to check on their well-being.

**Accessible Emergency Information:** During heatwaves, providing emergency information in accessible formats (e.g., 211, sign language interpretation, captioned videos) is crucial. This ensures that people with disabilities receive



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			<p>timely warnings and instructions on how to stay safe.</p> <p>Home Modifications and Assistance: Some initiatives may provide assistance with home modifications to improve heat resilience. This could include installing air conditioning units, fans, or window coverings to keep homes cooler for people with disabilities who may have difficulty regulating their body temperature.</p> <p>Transportation to Cooling Centers: Offering transportation services to cooling centers for people with disabilities who may have limited mobility can be a lifesaver during extreme heat events.</p> <p>Prioritizing Vulnerable Populations: Initiatives can prioritize the needs of people with disabilities during heatwaves by allocating resources like bottled water, cooling devices, and medical assistance to them first.</p> <p>Training for Caregivers: Providing training to caregivers of people with disabilities on how to recognize and respond to heat-related illnesses can help prevent serious health complications.</p> <p>Inclusive Planning: Engaging people with disabilities in the planning and implementation of heat protection initiatives ensures that their specific needs and concerns are addressed effectively.</p> <p>Overall, initiatives that consider the unique needs of people with disabilities can significantly reduce their vulnerability to extreme heat and protect their health and well-being.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Hector Manuel Ramirez</p>
<b>Oppose</b>	Monisha Parker		<p>1. Implement a heat emergency response plan: Develop a plan that outlines specific actions to take during extreme heat events, such as opening cooling centers, providing public transportation to these centers, and organizing outreach efforts to vulnerable populations.</p> <p>2. Increase access to cool spaces: Ensure that there are enough cooling centers where residents can seek relief from the heat. This includes public buildings, community centers, libraries, and other facilities that are equipped with air conditioning.</p> <p>3. Provide information and education: Educate residents about the dangers of extreme heat and how to protect themselves and their loved ones. This may include distributing information pamphlets, hosting community workshops, and using public service announcements.</p> <p>4. Implement an early warning system: Establish a system that can alert residents of upcoming extreme heat events, so they can take necessary precautions to stay safe.</p>

			<p>5. Encourage water consumption: Promote drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated during extreme heat. Make sure clean and safe drinking water is readily available to residents.</p> <p>6. Support vulnerable populations: Provide extra support and resources to elderly residents, individuals with medical conditions, homeless individuals, and other vulnerable populations who may be more susceptible to heat-related illnesses.</p> <p>7. Improve infrastructure: Plant more trees and create green spaces to provide shade and reduce the urban heat island effect in high-heat areas. Improve access to public transportation to help residents reach cooling centers.</p> <p>8. Coordinate with community partners: Work with local organizations, non-profits, and community groups to organize outreach efforts and provide support to residents during extreme heat events. Collaborate with emergency services and healthcare providers to ensure a coordinated response to heat-related emergencies.</p>
		<b>Other</b>	Lionel Mares I urge you to help underserved communities deal with extreme hot weather due to climate change. We need more trees and shade in underserved communities like in the northeast San Fernando Valley.
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>3</b>