

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

AGN. NO.
October 8, 2024

Waiving Fire Department Fees for Residents Impacted by the Land Movement on the Palos Verdes Peninsula

The Palos Verdes Peninsula has seen increased and accelerated land movement over the past year that has damaged homes, buckled roads, damaged critical infrastructure, and threatened public safety. The Rancho Palos Verdes City Council proclaimed a state of local emergency within the Greater Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex on October 3, 2023. The impact of these landslides has been devastating to cities on the Peninsula, which have seen land movement as rapid as one foot per week, causing homes to be torn apart and infrastructure to be compromised. On September 3, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in the region, highlighting the severity of the rapid acceleration of land movement and the dire need for support and resources.

In addition to the damage landslides are causing to roads and homes, residents are experiencing power and gas shutoffs by utility companies. In most cases, these shutoffs are indefinite, and many residents have no alternative power source, and nowhere else to go. While utility companies are investigating possible engineering solutions to restore service to the affected homes, cities are taking immediate action by

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expediting city permits for residents who want to install alternative sources of power. In addition to these permits, the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) requires permits for the installation of various alternative energy sources like propane, solar power, and generators. LACoFD requires residents who want to install these energy sources to pay inspection and permitting fees that can cost individuals upwards of \$1,000. While some residents may have already paid for permits related to the installation of these systems, getting these necessary utilities in the midst of a crisis is of the utmost importance, and impacted residents in the Peninsula cities should be relieved of these additional costs. LACoFD currently does not have the authority to waive these fees, or provide reimbursement for those who have already paid, and must receive Board authority to do so.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD), until December 31, 2025, to waive inspection and permitting fees for the installation of propane, solar, and energy storage systems pursuant to Los Angeles County Code, Title 32, sections 105.5.29, 105.6.15, 105.6.20 1207.1.2, for those residents whose utilities have been disabled due to land movement.
2. Approve and allow LACoFD, until December 31, 2025, to reimburse residents who have already paid inspection and permitting fees for the installation of propane, solar, and energy storage systems pursuant to Los Angeles County Code, Title 32, sections 105.5.29, 105.6.15, 105.6.20 1207.1.2, in response to land movement since October 3, 2023.
3. Find that the reimbursement and temporary waiver of Sections 105.5.29, 105.6.15,

105.6.20 1207.1.2 of Title 32 is exempt under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Section 21080(b)(8) and Sections 15273 and 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

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JH:ccr