

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER
AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

JANUARY 28, 2025

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECOVERY EFFORTS AND BUILDING URGENCY INTO
IMPLEMENTATION OF LONG-TERM DISASTER SUPPORT**

Starting on January 7, 2025, the County of Los Angeles (County) has been impacted by severe and life-threatening windstorms and resulting wind-driven destructive fires (January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events), which include the Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Kenneth Fire, and multiple other fires (collectively, LA County Fires). These unprecedented simultaneous events have caused loss of life, widespread damage, and destruction to residential structures, businesses, public facilities and infrastructure, power outages, downed trees, road closures, rockslides, and debris.

On January 7, 2025, the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events (Proclamation of Local Emergency) in the County. Similarly, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency, and the President approved a major disaster declaration in the County. The Board of Supervisors ratified the Proclamation of Local Emergency on January 14, 2025. The Proclamation of Local Emergency enables the County to more effectively respond to the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events, to accelerate the procurement of vital supplies, cleanup and reconstruction efforts, to seek and utilize mutual aid, and to potentially obtain reimbursement and assistance from the state and federal governments.

The County must rapidly provide critical support and services in response to and recovery from the LA County Fires to assist in the recovery and rebuilding of our communities. Recognizing that rebuilding costs can create significant barriers, and hardships for vulnerable communities, unprecedented strategies are needed such as mandate waivers to reduce cost barriers and ensure an equitable recovery for such communities. Where possible, funding and support should be advocated to offset waived building mandates for those opting to voluntarily adopt such requirements, as communities of all income levels deserve sustainable elements included in their homes and places of business. Due to these emergency circumstances, extraordinary measures must be implemented to ensure that the Board's and the County's processes proceed expeditiously and seamlessly in responding to and recovering from the devastating LA County Fires.

-MORE-

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors (Board), acting as the governing body of the County, Los Angeles County Development Authority; the Regional Park and Open Space District of the County of Los Angeles; the Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District; the Los Angeles County Lighting Maintenance District; the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts, and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, take the following actions to facilitate efforts to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires:

1. Find that each of the directives, actions, activities, and projects encompassed by this Motion and the enclosed Resolution, including, but not limited to response, recovery, repair, replacement, and construction activities, are critically needed to respond to and recover from the emergency related to the LA County Fires, and are statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Public Resources Code, Section 21080(b) (2), (3), and (4) and Section 15269 (b) and (c) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Executive Orders issued by the Governor related to the LA County Fires.
2. Approve an exception to the County's grant policy by authorizing Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to accept grants, including, but not limited to, from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Office of Emergency Services and any other necessary state, federal, and local agencies, public entities, and private entities to secure funds for actions and projects required because of the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires by the LA County Fires.
3. Request the Los Angeles County Assessor and direct the Treasurer and Tax Collector to continue their efforts to inform property owners of the importance of filing a Misfortune and Calamity Claim, including the impact to the deferral of property taxes; request the Los Angeles County Assessor to initiate reassessments notwithstanding whether a Misfortune and Calamity Claim has been filed where the property damage exceeds \$10,000 pursuant to section 170(a) of the Revenue and Taxation Code and Chapter 4.64.020 of the Los Angeles County Code. This information could come from the Los Angeles County Fire Department's records or aerial photographs.
4. Request the Los Angeles County Assessor to report back to the Board in 60 days on the number of affected property owners who filed Misfortune and Calamity Claims.

-MORE-

5. Find, in accordance with California Public Contract Code section 22050, and based on substantial evidence, that public interest and necessity demand immediate action by the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (Public Works) to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires, including, but not limited to, the repair, restoration, and replacement of buildings, structures, roads, bridges, roadway drainage, flood control facilities, sewer facilities and other property and public infrastructure impacted by the LA County Fires; the removal of sediment from debris basins, debris dams, and major dams, including, but not limited to, Devil's Gate, Eaton Wash and Sierra Madre, with watershed areas burned by the LA County Fires or that may otherwise be impacted by the LA County Fires; the construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures and structures; and any other directly related and immediate action required to address those conditions for the public health and safety as determined by the Director of Public Works, including entering into or amending existing contracts without giving notice to let bids for contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel; find that the exigent or emergency conditions will not permit the delay that would result if such actions were performed pursuant to a contract procured through a competitive solicitation for bids, and that such actions are necessary to save lives, protect public health and safety, protect improved property, and eliminate or lessen an immediate threat of additional impacts and damage; and further delegate authority to the Director of Public Works, or designee, to enter into, amend, and terminate for convenience new contracts, after solicitation in compliance with applicable federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, for response to or recovery from the LA County Fires.
6. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or designee, acting as the County Engineer, the Road Commissioner, the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and the administrator of the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, to carry out the following emergency activities to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires:
 - a. Repair, restore, or replace buildings, structures, roads, bridges, roadway drainage, flood control facilities, water supply facilities, sewer facilities, and other public infrastructure impacted, damaged, or destroyed by the LA County Fires; remove sediment from debris basins, debris dams, and major dams, including, but not limited to, Devil's Gate, Eaton Wash and Sierra Madre, with watershed areas burned by the LA County Fires or that may otherwise be impacted by the LA County Fires; construct temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures and structures; and take any other directly related and immediate action required to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires for the public health and safety as determined by the Director of Public Works, including entering into or amending existing contracts without giving notice to let bids for contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel and further delegate authority to the Director of Public Works, or designee, to enter into, amend, and terminate for convenience new contracts, after solicitation in compliance with applicable federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, for response to or recovery from the LA County Fires;

- b. Trim or remove trees damaged as a result of the LA County Fires that are adjacent to any County buildings or infrastructure within the fire areas, including, but not limited to, County roads, bridges, flood control facilities and water supply facilities; , while taking actions to protect native trees that are still viable;
- c. Conduct outreach to impacted residents and businesses, and provide feasible options on mitigation of impacts from potential debris flows resulting from the LA County Fires;
- d. Analyze map and debris flow hazards and develop strategies and action plans for potential mudflow events, including maintenance and road closure plans, resulting from the LA County Fires;
- e. Acquire the necessary rights of way, including, without limitation, through permits or agreements with private parties and the Cities of Los Angeles, Malibu, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and Arcadia, the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, and
- f. Carry out these emergency actions by using Public Works employees and by awarding new or extending and supplementing existing as-needed or on-call contracts without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, or by awarding new contracts after solicitation in compliance with applicable federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1.25 Billion, inclusive of the amounts stated in the subparagraphs below, for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires, for the following types of work in the following maximum amounts:
 - i. To support Public Works activities to replace and repair damaged County buildings and structures, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$300 million;
 - ii. For professional services, including but not limited to, geotechnical, design, inspection, environmental, survey, project management and construction management, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$360 million;
 - iii. For debris removal and emergency recovery service contracts, including, but not limited to, hazardous material removal, debris removal and disposal, haul-truck services, and operated heavy equipment contracts, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$300 million;
 - iv. For repair of damaged public roads and appurtenant assets within the road rights of way, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$100 million.
 - v. To support Public Works activities to replace and repair damaged public roads and appurtenant assets within the road rights of way, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$100 million;
 - vi. For repair and construction of Flood Control District infrastructure to support emergency repairs to Flood Control District facilities and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures as required, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$100 million;
 - vii. For the Waterworks Districts to support emergency repairs to water distribution system facilities for the various Waterworks Districts and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures required, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$50 million;

- viii. For the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District to support emergency repairs to Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District infrastructure and construction of mitigation measures, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$15 million; and
 - ix. For the Lighting Maintenance Districts to support repairs to the Los Angeles County Lighting Maintenance Districts infrastructure and construction of permanent facilities, in a maximum amount not to exceed \$25 million.
- g. Acquire the necessary rights of way, including, without limitation, through permits or agreements with private parties and the Cities of Los Angeles, Malibu, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and Arcadia, the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, as necessary to conduct these emergency actions;
- h. Assist and coordinate with the Chief Executive Office, Office of Emergency Management (CEO-OEM) in submitting grant applications, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts, the Los Angeles County Lighting Maintenance Districts, and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, and in taking any necessary related actions, including with respect to negotiating and executing grant agreements, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, and signing requests for reimbursements, in consultation with, and subject to approval as to form by, County Counsel, as applicable, to the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the California Office of Emergency Services in order to secure Federal and State funds for response and recovery from the LA County Fires;
- i. Work with the Department of Public Health to identify and streamline permitting for necessary actions to repair existing septic systems and water wells for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires;
- j. In partnership with the Internal Services Department ~~Work~~ with Southern California Edison and all other electrical utilities to expedite the establishment of a streamlined permitting process to install temporary power solutions and associated infrastructure within the public rights-of-way and on County properties with the goal of rapidly restoring and rebuilding utility infrastructure that is more resilient to future disaster; and to establish a similar process that includes the Department of Regional Planning and, as applicable, other County departments, for private property, for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires;
- k. Coordinate on behalf of communities impacted by the LA County Fires, including, but not limited to, the unincorporated communities of Altadena, Kinneloa Mesa, Kinneloa Canyon, Sunset Mesa, Topanga, Monte Nido, and any other surrounding unincorporated areas, and collaborate and coordinate with the Cities of Los Angeles, Malibu, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and Arcadia, and other impacted incorporated cities, the National Park Service, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and any other property owner as needed to restore and modify damaged infrastructure, including the construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires; and

-MORE-

- I. Enter into memoranda of understanding with cities, districts, and other state and federal partners regarding extraordinary flood control, debris flow, and debris removal efforts to protect life, property, and the environment from immediate hazards.
7. Direct the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to report back in 30 days with an analysis of potential disposal opportunities for fire-related debris given the ongoing challenges to the County's waste stream.
8. Find, in accordance with California Public Contract Code section 22050, and based on substantial evidence, that public interest and necessity demand immediate action by the County Director of ISD to respond to and recover from the emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires, including, but not limited to, the repair, restoration, and replacement of buildings, structures, and other property and public infrastructure impacted by the LA County Fires; and that the County Director of ISD must therefore direct and take immediate action required to address those conditions for the public health and safety, including entering into or amending contracts without giving notice to let bids for contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel; and find that the exigent or emergency conditions will not permit the delay that would result if such actions were performed pursuant to a contract procured through a competitive solicitation for bids, and that such actions are necessary to save lives, protect public health and safety, protect improved property, and eliminate or lessen an immediate threat of additional impacts and damage.
9. Adopt the enclosed Resolution, pursuant to Sections 20407, 20604, and 22050 of the Public Contract Code, authorizing the Director of Public Works to perform force account work, to negotiate and amend existing emergency and as-needed contracts, including Job Order Contracts, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, to award, amend, and terminate for convenience new contracts after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, and to perform any or all actions with respect to construction contracts, including, but not limited to, the authority to adopt and advertise plans and specifications, award new construction contracts, including Job Order Contracts, after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, in consultation with, and subject to approval as to form by, County Counsel, for the necessary equipment, services, and supplies in order to repair, restore, or replace road, flood control, water supply, and sewer facilities, and County buildings, including property and infrastructure, damaged by LA County Fires, and to construct temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures to prevent and reduce potential flooding and damage due to debris flows resulting from the LA County Fires.

-MORE-

10. Direct the Director of Public Works to regularly report back bi-weekly in writing at Board meetings, in accordance with section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, regarding emergency actions taken under the authority of Public Contract Code section 22050, including providing justification of the need to continue the emergency actions required because of the continuing exigent and/or emergency conditions resulting from the LA County Fires.
11. Adopt the enclosed Resolution, pursuant to Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, authorizing the Director of ISD to perform force account work, to negotiate and amend existing emergency and as-needed contracts, including Job Order Contracts, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, to award, amend, and terminate for convenience new contracts after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, and to perform any or all actions with respect to construction contracts, including, but not limited to, the authority to adopt and advertise plans and specifications, award new construction contracts, including Job Order Contracts, after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, in consultation with, and subject to approval as to form by, County Counsel, for the necessary equipment, services, and supplies in order to repair, restore, or replace road, flood control, water supply, and sewer facilities, and County buildings, including property and infrastructure, damaged by LA County Fires, and to construct temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures to prevent and reduce potential flooding and damage due to debris flows resulting from the LA County Fires.
12. Authorize the Director of ISD to carry out the following activities for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires:
 - a. Provide any services required by County departments to support the repair or restoration of County facilities and infrastructure and any other activities related to the response to and recovery from the LA County Fires;
 - b. Carry out emergency actions by using ISD employees, and by awarding and executing one or more contracts, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, or by procuring the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, including awarding new or extending existing as-needed or on-call contracts, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, or after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel;

-MORE-

c. To supplement and increase existing professional service contracts, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, or after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, including, but not limited to, construction project management and architectural and engineering; to supplement the value of each construction project management contract by \$2,000,000 for 18 months each for an additional aggregate of \$8,000,000; to supplement the value of architectural and engineering contracts by \$500,000 each for 18 months for an additional aggregate amount of \$4,500,000 to support emergency repairs to County facilities, property and infrastructure required as a result of the LA County Fires;

d. To supplement ISD's existing approved Job Order Contract of \$88,400,000, by an additional \$22,800,000, by awarding new Job Order Contracts up to maximum authorized value of \$5,700,000 each, without giving notice for bids to let contracts where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, or after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, including B license General Contracting, A license General Engineering, and C-39 License Roofing. Authorize the Director if ISD or his designee to request technical assistance from the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response at the Department of Energy in supporting planning for rebuilding of regional energy infrastructure.

13. Direct the Director of ISD to regularly report back bi-weekly in writing at Board meetings, in accordance with section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, regarding emergency actions taken under the authority of Public Contract Code section 22050, including providing justification of the need to continue the emergency actions required because of the exigent and/or emergency conditions resulting from the LA County Fires.
14. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, to carry out the following emergency activities required for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires:
 - a. Carry out emergency protective measures at County parks and recreational facilities, including buttressing, bracing, or shoring, barricading and safety fencing, and flood protection, such as sandbagging, and emergency repairs or stabilization to eliminate or lessen an immediate threat to public health and safety directly resulting from the LA County Fires, remove and dispose of vegetative debris, including tree limbs, branches, stumps, or hazardous trees damaged by the LA County Fires, that extend over or otherwise threaten improved property or public-use areas at County parks and recreational facilities within the LA County Fire areas, and take any other directly related and immediate action required to address emergency conditions for public health and safety as determined by the Director of Parks and Recreation;
 - b. Restore the pre-disaster appearance and functionality of parks and recreational facilities impacted by the LA County Fires, in consultation with the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel, to address a public exigency or emergency as determined by the Director of Parks and Recreation, subject to independent authorizations, including as to budgeting and contracting authority, including as may be reflected in this motion;

- c. Award new contracts, and amend, supplement, and extend for up to 18 months existing service contracts, including, but not limited to, food service delivery, field security and debris removal and disposal, to support the Department of Parks and Recreation's emergency response and recovery activities required because of the LA County Fires, without adhering to the requirements of the County's Sole Source Policy or any other competitive procurement requirements cause where there are exigent or emergency circumstances, or after solicitation in accordance with federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, for the execution of the agreement, and/or amendment, subject to independent authorizations, including as to budgeting and contracting authority, including as may be reflected in this motion, as necessary for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires, and to terminate said agreements as necessary.
 - d. Waive all fees, execute, and amend all permits and leases, in consultation with, and subject to approval as to form by, County Counsel, as necessary, and suspend applicable restrictions, for use of property and facilities under the control of the Department of Parks and Recreation necessary to support response to and recovery from the LA County Fires.
15. Ratify the award of new contracts or amendments of existing contracts entered into by the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or designee, executed on or after January 7, 2025, including, but not limited to, food service delivery, field security and debris removal and disposal, to support the Department of Parks and Recreation's emergency response activities required as a result of the LA County Fires without adhering to the requirements of the County's Sole Source Policy or any other competitive procurement requirements, and to authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation to terminate said agreements as necessary.
16. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, to execute and amend, and terminate, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, all lease agreements for County-owned or operated parks and recreational facilities, for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires, subject to independent authorizations, including as to budgeting and contracting authority, including as may be reflected in this motion.
17. Direct the Director of Parks and Recreation to report back in writing to the Board in 30 days and then on a quarterly basis what actions have been taken under the authorizations provided for under this motion.
18. Authorize the Director of Beaches and Harbors, or designee, to waive all fees, execute and amend all permits, licenses, and leases, in consultation with, and subject to approval as to form by, County Counsel, as applicable, and suspend applicable restrictions, for use of property and facilities under the control of the Department of Beaches and Harbors necessary to support emergency response and recovery activities required because of the LA County Fires.

19. Direct the Director of Beaches and Harbors to report back in writing to the Board in 30 days and then on a quarterly basis what actions have been taken to support emergency response and recovery activities and verify the need to continue these emergency actions.
20. Direct the Director of Regional Planning to identify and report back to the Board in writing in 30 days on potential exemptions from current regulations governing land use restrictions that may impact the recovery and rebuilding efforts, as required for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires.
21. Direct Department of Regional Planning, in conjunction with other EPIC LA-involved departments to build online resources, specific to the impacted communities, that provide step by step instructions on the recovery and rebuilding process, required because of the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires.
22. Authorize the Director of Regional Planning or designee, to execute and amend, and terminate, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, contracts with consulting firms, including staffing agencies, as necessary emergency activities to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires and the need for expedited permit application reviews, without adhering to the requirements of the County's Sole Source Policy or any other competitive procurement requirements provided the department has good cause justification for the execution of the agreement, and/or amendment, subject to independent authorizations, including as to budgeting and contracting authority, including as may be reflected in this motion.
23. Direct the Director of Regional Planning to report back in writing to the Board in 30 days and then on a quarterly basis what actions have been taken under the authorizations provided for under this motion.
24. Direct the CEO Office of Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to request exemptions from State and Federal agency compensatory mitigation requirements for repair and restoration of public infrastructure and construction of debris mitigation measures required because of the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires.
25. Direct the Departments of Regional Planning, Public Health, Fire, and Public Works to fully utilize existing resources, and apply increased resources, as necessary, to assist property owners in the reconstruction of structures damaged or destroyed by the LA County Fires. Assistance will include:
 - a. Streamlined coordination, plan review, and permit issuance for project compliance with County's building codes and all building requirements; and
 - b. Separation of fire rebuild permit applications from other pending permit applications already in queue and establishment of two separate permit review teams to handle the fire rebuild permit applications:
 - i. One to handle like-for-like rebuilds
 - ii. The other to handle more complex rebuilds and rebuilds requiring discretionary review.

- c. Establishment of a comprehensive service implementation to include:
 - i. Development of a comprehensive permit resource guide, which includes suggestions for incorporating resiliency into rebuilds as options for applicants;
 - ii. Enhanced community outreach to affected property owners through local information workshops and one-on-one consultation, including:
 - 1. Hosting "One-Stop" workshops where property owners are provided with assistance, including access to permit records, assessor information, and site attributes;
 - 2. Hosting separate workshops for design professionals as needed;
 - 3. Participation by all permitting departments, with additional county/city representatives as needed, modeled after the framework of the Woolsey Fire rebuild initiative.
 - d. Establishment of a Rebuild Coordination Team, including but not limited to:
 - i. Forming a dedicated Concierge Fire Rebuild Coordination Team comprising representatives from all relevant departments to oversee and monitor rebuild plan submittals, ensuring inter-departmental connectivity and expedited processing;
 - 1. Developing staffing models to address existing constrained staff resources and to separate rebuild activities from 'business as usual' entitlement and permit activities, with Staffing models required to balance permit experience, timeliness of permit approvals, and fiscal resilience.
 - e. All permitting departments to evaluate the feasibility of waiving certain fees for applicable permits, based on ability to reimburse the affected department or from sourcing alternative funding for fees, with a report back to the Board in 30 days with this information;
 - f. Leveraging the 2025 fire and building code update cycle to revise and adapt existing codes to accommodate the fire rebuild processes;
 - g. Inclusion of commercial/Institutional and historic buildings within the scope of the rebuild guidelines to streamline economic and community development recovery; and
 - h. Establishment of a clear timeframe for approvals from each department for like-for-like rebuilds, with consideration for extensions or different timeframes for more complex or discretionary rebuilds.
26. Direct the Los Angeles County Fire Department in support of directive 23 to:
- a. Subject to department coordination and compliance with applicable law, allow applicants rebuilding their homes to utilize plans approved within the last two code cycles (since 2020) without additional plan checks, and include the "Zone Zero" no combustible materials within five feet.
 - b. For R-3 structures, in areas impacted by the Eaton Fire, within Fire Hazard Severity Zones limit Fire Department review of R-3 plan submittals to water and access requirements, deferring all other elements, including Chapter 7A, to Public Works.

-MORE-

27. Direct the Department of Public Health in support of directive 23 to:

- a. Provide simplified reviews when rebuilding according to the original floor plan; and
- b. Grant a variance from the requirements of the Noise Control Ordinance (Section 12.08.580) for a period not to exceed two years, extending working hours (7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.) to include Sundays and legal holidays, and allowing an activity, operation or noise source which cannot feasibly be done in a manner that would comply with the provisions of this chapter, when no other reasonable alternative is available.

28. Direct the Department of Public Works in support of directive 23 to:

- a. For areas impacted by the Eaton Fire adopt local regulations delineated under the “Local Regulations” as noted in Attachment 4 of the January 21, 2025 Report Back for (Item No. 31-A, Agenda Of January 14, 2025);
- b. Implement the recommendations delimited under the “Local Procedures for Streamlining the Permitting Process” as noted in Attachment 4 of the January 21, 2025 Report Back for (Item No. 31-A, Agenda Of January 14, 2025)

29. Direct the Department of Regional Planning in support of directive 23, and subject to State law, to:

- a. Exempt applicable fire impacted businesses from the requirements of section 22.140.030.H.3.C. This section of Title 22 requires a Conditional Use Permit if a deemed approved alcohol sales use has been abandoned, has discontinued operation, or has ceased selling alcoholic beverages for at least three consecutive months;
- b. Allow temporary housing on non-fire impacted properties and accessory emergency shelters for volunteers and workers assisting with recovery efforts, affected property owners, and others;
- c. Coordinate with permitting agencies to allow temporary housing on the parcel right of way of a fire impacted property under certain circumstances (*i.e.*, site limitations), provided that there is appropriate emergency and public access maintained at all times;
- d. In Altadena, allow temporary food truck operations for fire impacted restaurants, coffee shops or eateries to occur on the same parcel as the original use, provided that all health, safety and welfare regulations are met;
- e. Grant a five-year extension for unused discretionary and ministerial land use entitlements, and for discretionary land use entitlements that will expire soon or have already expired, provided the permittee was in the process of receiving a new entitlement;
- f. In fire impacted areas, exempt rebuilds from minimum densities required by the General Plan, provided that the State grants an exception for no net loss provisions for Housing Element rezoned sites;
- g. Provide flexibility on the enforcement of junk and salvage and outside storage on fire impacted properties;
- h. Exempt like-for-like rebuilds in fire impacted areas from referrals to Public Works for R-3 zoning and above for site plan reviews;

- i. In the flatland areas of Altadena, process and record a single Certificate of Compliance for all applicable residential parcels, as feasible, to streamline future rebuilding; and
 - j. In areas impacted by the Eaton Fire, acknowledge that all subdivisions entitled by the Department were completed in accordance with the Subdivision Map Act and are exempt from obtaining a new Certificate of Compliance.
30. Direct CEO-LAIR, in collaboration with the permitting departments, to send a 5-signature letter to the Governor and the LA Delegation advocating for the modification for fire victims of the following:
- a. That, in alignment with Executive Order N-4-25, the following provisions of the California Building Standards Code be suspended for fire victims in areas impacted by the Eaton Fire:
 - i. Residential Photovoltaic (PV) requirements of the CA Energy Standards Code, similar to Assembly Bill AB178 (2019).
 - ii. Battery Storage and All-Electric Ready requirements of the CA Energy Standards.
 - 1. In lieu of suspending the above requirements, request that the State offer full rebates for owners who are required to install solar on rebuilt homes.
 - 2. If waived, encourage implementation through the Rebuilding Through Resilience Resource Guide.
 - b. The application of current codes for owners rebuilding their homes and to authorize DPW and Fire to use plans approved since 2020, during the prior two code cycles, to issue rebuild permits without additional plan check;
 - c. The following under SB35:
 - i. Temporary suspension in VHFHSZ; including any other bills that reference SB35, such as SB9.
 - ii. Extending the exemption for replacement housing to fire impacted areas that are not within a VHFHSZ.
 - iii. Removing the requirement for public meetings on SB35 projects per SB 423.
 - d. The following under State Density Bonus Law/Government Code 65915:
 - i. Temporary suspension of this code section for five years in fire impacted areas to allow like-for-like rebuilds and retention of community character.
 - ii. Temporary suspension of the requirement for ground floor commercial on projects that take advantage of State by-right or State density bonus laws (specific to Altadena/Lake Avenue).
 - e. The following under SB 330/Government Code section 66300/Housing Crisis Act of 2019:
 - i. Temporary suspension in fire impacted communities for five years.
 - ii. Added local flexibility to objective development standards to retain the character of communities.
 - iii. More flexibility in timing of the replacement units.

-MORE-

- f. The following pertaining to Housing Elements:
 - i. Suspension of the obligation to fulfill any RHNA the local jurisdiction allocated to the fire impact areas.
 - ii. Extension of the April 1, 2025, submittal deadline for the Housing Element Annual Progress Report to July 1, 2025, and providing a variance for jurisdictions with populations over 500,000 with a later deadline of July 1st of each year.
 - g. Temporary suspension of existing 90-day time frame for approving ADUs in fire impacted communities to accommodate the surge in rebuilds and staffing challenges for all impacted jurisdictions at the same time, as allowed in Government Code sections 66310 through 66342;
 - h. Temporary suspension of Government Code section 65863.2 for five years in fire impacted communities;
 - i. Temporary suspension of HAA regulations, Government Code section 65589.5, (including Builder's Remedy and enforcement) for five years within fire impacted communities;
 - j. Suspension of no net loss provisions, Government Code 65863, for rebuilds on Housing Element sites in fire impacted areas, and to not penalize these jurisdictions in the current Housing Element timeframe and for Round 7 of the Housing Element;
 - k. Temporary suspension of Government Code section 65852.24 for five years in fire impacted communities;
 - l. Temporary suspension of Government Code sections 65912.100 through 65912.140 for five years in fire impacted communities;
 - m. Temporary suspension of Government Code section 65913.11 for five years in fire impacted communities;
31. Direct the Department of Public Health, Department of Mental Health, and Department of Public Social Services to conduct a needs assessment and evaluate the implementation of public health, mental health, and eligible social service resources to mitigate the negative effects experienced by those affected by the LA County Fires.
32. Direct the Los Angeles County Development Authority, in coordination with other relevant County Departments, to report back in 30 days with an assessment on the ability to provide eligible housing and community-based services to mitigate the loss experienced by those impacted by the LA County Fires.
33. Direct the Department of Public Works and Internal Services Department to explore opportunities for County departments and related special districts and agencies to enter into master purchasing agreements to leverage economies of scale, to reduce building material costs, as the County and the related agencies/districts implement the repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or construction of their structures, buildings, and facilities, as contemplated by this motion, for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires.

34. Direct the Department of Consumer Business Affairs, in collaboration with the California Department of Consumer Affairs, and in coordination with the Departments of Public Works, Regional Planning, Economic Opportunity, and Internal Services Department, along with the Los Angeles-Orange County Building Trades Council, the Building Industry Association of Southern California, and other relevant labor partners, and in consultation with County Counsel, to take steps to identify a potential pool of qualified general contractors, technical services providers, such as architects and engineers, and a trained and skilled workforce to begin the rebuilding of Los Angeles County, required because of the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires.
35. Direct the Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures to:
 - a. Inspect any food production facilities, including farms, within the vicinity of the fires to ensure that products were not contaminated by the fires and that appropriate actions take place as a result of any findings; and
 - b. Report back in writing in 30 days with recommendations on any enhancements or updates to the weed abatement program that can help further mitigate wildfire risk.
36. Before County departments and special districts are permitted to exercise the contracting-related delegated authorities granted above, the departments and special districts must first request and obtain the CEO's written approval thereof. In addition, the CEO is authorized to prepare and implement binding written guidelines and processes for approval requests applicable to the use of such contracting-related delegated authorities, including as to funding and budgeting issues.
37. In accordance with Los Angeles County Code Section 6.12.030, ratify the authority of the CEO, or designee, to take the following actions required because of the emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires:
 - a. Grant up to 120 hours of paid leave for employees working a 56-hour workweek, up to 80 hours of paid leave to full-time employees and up to 40 hours of paid leave to part-time employees who were or are unable to work due to the LA County Fires;
 - b. Establish guidelines governing the specific eligibility criteria for and use of such leave, in consultation with the Department of Human Resources and County Counsel; and
 - c. Make such leave available for the period beginning January 7, 2025, through December 31, 2025, to qualifying employees who were hired on or before January 7, 2025.

-MORE-

WE, FURTHER MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors:

38. To the extent that County departments and special districts need or request additional delegated authorities that are not encompassed within those provided for above, the CEO, or designee, is authorized to grant additional contracting-related delegated authority to County departments and special districts as required for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires, as follows:
- a. The CEO is authorized to delegate authority to County departments and special districts enabling them to enter into and/or amend agreements, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, for professional and other services, without the departments and special districts adhering to the requirements of any Board mandated policies, regulations, directives, or requirements, including, but not limited to, the County's Sole Source Policy or any other competitive procurement requirements, subject to applicable federal and State law and funding source limitations, and to terminate said agreements as necessary. In furtherance of the CEO's role/authority in this regard, the CEO is authorized to prepare and implement binding written guidelines and processes for approval requests applicable to departments and special districts' use and attainment of such contracting-related delegated authority, including as to funding/budgeting issues, and procedural requirements for approval requests by departments and special districts. As an example, CEO could, in CEO's discretion, require that County departments prepare and submit Board letters to CEO for CEO's consideration in order to secure such contract-related authorizations. Among other things, the CEO's issuance of contracting-related approvals is subject to the following:
 - i. That the CEO, or designee, confirms in writing that there is good cause justification or the request in accordance with applicable federal or State funding for the execution of the agreement and/or amendment, in order to address the LA County Fires;
 - ii. That the CEO, or designee, confirms in writing there is sufficient funding in the Final Adopted Budget or the Adjusted Allowance and the funds can be used to address the LA County Fires; and
 - iii. That the term of the agreements, including all change orders or work orders, shall not extend beyond December 31, 2026, unless the department has obtained prior written approval from the CEO to extend or amend the term of the agreements.
 - b. With respect to purchases of goods, including supplies, equipment, and services necessary to address LA County Fires, the CEO is delegated:
 - i. The authority to increase impacted County departments' delegated purchasing authority to \$50,000 and, to the extent legally permitted, authorize impacted County departments to enter into and amend agreements, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, including work or purchase orders, and other services or commodities, without adhering to the requirements of any Board mandated policies, regulations, directives, or requirements including, but not limited to, the County's Sole Source Policy or any other competitive procurement requirements provided the department has good cause justification or the request is in accordance with applicable federal or State funding for

the execution of the agreement and/or amendment, in order to address the LA County Fires, and terminate said agreements as necessary; and

- ii. The authority to direct the County's Purchasing Agent, as applicable, to the extent legally permitted and, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, as applicable, to: (a) approve any purchases that otherwise would require Board approval under current law, regulations, or Board policies; (b) take any procurement or other actions necessary for the expedited acquisition of all goods, including supplies, equipment, and services needed, without adhering to the requirements of any Board mandated policies, regulations, directives, or requirements including, but not limited to, the County's Sole Source Policy, Purchasing Policies, or any other competitive procurement requirements provided the CEO, or designee, confirms in writing that there is good cause justification or it is in accordance with applicable federal or State funding for the purchase, in order to address the LA County Fires; and (c) when necessary, authorize the Purchasing Agent to make purchases in excess of \$250,000 without prior Board approval, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel.
- c. In connection with the CEO's authorization to grant additional contracting-related delegated authority to special districts, the CEO may require that the special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, districts, and authorities prepare and submit Board letters for the CEO's consideration, when the Board acts in the capacity of the those districts' governing board. In this regard, the CEO is further authorized to approve those fiscal, budgetary, contractual (subject to approval as to form by County Counsel), procurement, and operational actions of the such special districts, that are necessary to address the exigent or emergency circumstances created by the LA County Fires, including, but not limited to:
 - i. The Los Angeles County Development Authority;
 - ii. Los Angeles County Flood Control District;
 - iii. Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District;
 - iv. The Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts; and
 - v. The Consolidated Sewer Maintenance Districts.
- d. The authority to waive fees, execute and amend all permits, licenses, and leases, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, as applicable, and suspend applicable restrictions, for the use of County property and facilities necessary for response to and recovery from, and as needed during, the LA County Fires;
- e. The authority to execute and amend all permits, licenses, and leases, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, as applicable, to secure the use of property and facilities necessary for response to and recovery from, and as needed during, the LA County Fires;

-MORE-

- f. The authority to approve and adopt resolutions and to make any determinations and findings necessary, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, as applicable, to support and execute other authorities that have been delegated to the CEO, to the extent permitted by law, required because of the LA County Fires; and
 - g. The Authority to approve, in consultation with County Counsel, 120-day retiree rehires if CEO determines that such rehires are necessary for the response to the LA County Fires.
39. Delegate authority to the CEO, or her designee, to enter into services contracts necessary to support emergency response and recovery and report quarterly to the Board on such contracts. This delegation shall be effective as of January 7, 2025, the date of the declared emergency.
40. Except as otherwise provided herein, the authorizations and delegated authorities provided for above shall remain in effect until July 29, 2026, unless the Board extends that date or provides that the authorizations and delegated authorities are terminated on a sooner date.
41. Direct Auditor-Controller in collaboration with CEO to report back to the Board in writing within 30 days with recommendations and a staffing model to utilize existing resources to track revenues, track expenditures, and monitor contracts related to the LA County Fires to ensure resources are effectively utilized and avoid fraudulent activity; and identify opportunities to track data and outcomes on the progress of aforementioned activities, utilizing existing resources.

WE, FURTHER MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors:

42. Authorize LACDA's Executive Director, or designee, in consultation with County Counsel, to execute agreements and amend existing agreements in accordance with applicable federal or State laws and regulations for response to or recovery from the LA County Fires, and to terminate said agreements as necessary.

#

KB:asras

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO ORDER EMERGENCY
WORK RELATED TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR THE JANUARY 2025
WINDSTORM AND CRITICAL FIRE EVENTS**

WHEREAS, starting on January 7, 2025, the County of Los Angeles (County) has been impacted by severe and life-threatening windstorms and resulting wind-driven destructive fires (January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events), which include the Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Kenneth Fire, and multiple other fires (collectively, LA County Fires). These unprecedented simultaneous events have caused loss of life, widespread damage, and destruction to residential structures, businesses, public facilities and infrastructure, power outages, downed trees, road closures, rockslides, and significant debris; and

WHEREAS, on January 7, 2025, the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events (Proclamation of Local Emergency) in the County; and

WHEREAS, on January 7, 2025, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency, for fire and windstorm conditions in the areas affected by the LA County Fires; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2025, the President approved a major disaster declaration in the State of California, and ordered federal aid for local recovery efforts in the areas affected by the LA County Fires; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2025, the County Health Officer issued a Declaration of a Local Health Emergency due to the serious health impacts of the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events in the County; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2025, the Board ratified the Proclamation of Local Emergency and the Declaration of a Local Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2025, the County Health Officer issued an order finding that the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events have created an imminent threat to public health in Los Angeles County in the form of contaminated fire debris from household hazardous waste and materials, and structural debris resulting from the destruction of thousands of structures; and

WHEREAS, the mobilization of local resources, the ability to coordinate interagency response, the acceleration of the procurement of vital supplies and infrastructure improvements, including the procurement of construction, alteration, and repair work for new or existing structures, buildings, and facilities, as well as the procurement of necessary equipment, services and supplies for such purposes, will be critical to responding to and recovering from the exigent and/or emergency circumstances created by the LA County Fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND EX-OFFICIO THE GOVERNING BODY OF ALL OTHER SPECIAL ASSESSMENT AND TAXING DISTRICTS, AGENCIES, AND AUTHORITIES FOR WHICH SAID BOARD SO ACTS, DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM, RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 1102, the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires constitute a sudden, unexpected occurrence that poses a clear and imminent danger, requiring immediate action to prevent and mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, and essential public services; furthermore, the safety and security of people and property within the areas impacted by the LA County Fires require that the Director of the Los Angeles County

Department of Public Works (Public Works), or designee, and acting as the County Engineer, the Road Commissioner, the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and the administrator of the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts and the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District (collectively "Director"), as applicable, take immediate emergency action to carry out activities to respond to and recover from the exigent and/or emergency circumstances created by the LA County Fires by procuring contracts, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, or performing with their own forces, for the construction or installation of new structures, buildings, properties, and facilities and the repair, alteration, or renovation of existing structures, buildings, properties, and facilities. Further, the emergency conditions will not permit the delay that would result if such actions were performed pursuant to a contract procured through a competitive solicitation for bids and other procurement rules and requirements, and such actions are necessary to save lives, protect public health and safety, protect improved property, and eliminate or lessen an immediate threat of additional impacts and damage.

SECTION 2: The Board, pursuant to Public Contract Code, sections 20604, 20813(d) and 22050, upon the substantial evidence set forth above, finds that public interest and necessity demand immediate action and, therefore, may and hereby does delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Public Works, to respond to and recover from the exigent or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires, which include, but are not limited to, the repair, restoration, and replacement of structures, buildings, properties, roads, bridges, roadway drainage, flood control facilities, sewer facilities, water works, and other public infrastructure impacted by the

LA County Fires; the removal of sediment from debris basins, debris dams, and major dams, including, but not limited to, Devil's Gate, Eaton Wash and Sierra Madre, with watershed areas burned by the LA County Fires or that may otherwise be impacted by the LA County Fires; the construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures and structures; and any other directly related and immediate action, including entering or amending contracts, subject to approval by County Counsel, without giving notice for bids to let contracts, as required to address those exigent or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires, as determined by the Director of Public Works; and to procure the necessary equipment services, and supplies for those purposes.

SECTION 3: Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 1102, the exigent and/or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires constitute a sudden, unexpected occurrence that poses a clear and imminent danger, requiring immediate action to prevent and mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, and essential public services; furthermore, the safety and security of people and property within the areas impacted by the LA County Fires require that the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD) take immediate emergency action to carry out activities to respond to and recover from the exigent and/or emergency circumstances created by the LA County Fires by procuring contracts, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel, or performing with their own forces, the construction or installation of new structures, buildings, properties, and facilities and the repair, alteration, or renovation of existing structures, buildings, properties, and facilities. Further, the emergency conditions will not permit the delay that would result if such actions were performed pursuant to a

contract procured through a competitive solicitation for bids and other procurement rules and requirements, and such actions are necessary to save lives, protect public health and safety, protect improved property, and eliminate or lessen an immediate threat of additional impacts and damage.

SECTION 4: The Board, pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050, upon the substantial evidence set forth above, finds that public interest and necessity demand immediate action and, therefore, may and hereby does delegate authority to the Director of ISD to respond to and recover from the exigent or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires, which include, but are not limited to, the repair, restoration, and replacement of structures, buildings, properties, and other public infrastructure impacted by the LA County Fires; and any other directly related and immediate action, including entering or amending contracts, subject to approval by County Counsel, without giving notice for bids to let contracts, as required to address those exigent or emergency conditions created by the LA County Fires, as determined by the Director of ISD; and to procure the necessary equipment services, and supplies for those purposes.

SECTION 5: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and shall remain in effect until repealed by the Board.

The foregoing resolution was on the *28th* day of *January* 2025, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.




EDWARD YEN
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

By 
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON
County Counsel

By 
MICHAEL S. SIMON
Assistant County Counsel
Public Works Division

MSS