

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

March 11, 2025

SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR NEWSOM’S APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

On February 21, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom sent a letter to the United States House of Representatives leadership outlining the financial needs of the County, City and State to support the immediate and long-term recovery of impacted communities. The Governor’s Supplemental Appropriations request, totaling \$39,680,737,878, would support business and workforce recovery, tax incentives, community and private property recovery and disaster resilience. On January 23, 2025, the County sent a letter to President Donald Trump requesting financial and legislative relief for fire recovery efforts. The County of Los Angeles continues to face significant challenges resulting from the impacts of the January 2025 wildfires, and is leading the swift rebuild and recovery of our communities and residents.

To mitigate local fiscal challenges, the County has submitted a 2025-26 Supplemental State Budget Request seeking \$900 million in revenue stabilization funding. While the County commits significant resources towards leading the recovery of impacted communities, this supplemental funding is critical to sustaining vital public services, including child and family services, healthcare, libraries, public works, solid waste management, and parks and recreation.

The needs and opportunities delineated in Governor Newsom’s letter outline the challenges and necessary investments the County is seeing each day. Significant repairs and modernizations to water, sewer, gas and electrical infrastructure are necessary to get residents back into their communities. Creative financing mechanisms and federal grant funding will be crucial to ensure all residents have the option to return to their homes. Local, state and federal partnerships are instrumental in protecting vulnerable communities from future disasters across Los Angeles County.

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President Trump's commitment to supporting Los Angeles County's recovery from the January windstorms and fires has been steadfast. It is in thanks to the Trump Administration's investment of additional resources that the EPA's clearance of hazardous household waste, and the Army Corps of Engineers debris clearance, are ahead of schedule. It is evident that the County, State, and Federal agencies are committed to eliminating any bureaucracy that will slow down rebuilding.

The County has prioritized the tactical, transparent and efficient deployment of all resources in response to these fires, and remains committed to partnering with Congress and all federal agencies to demonstrate that all resources are mobilized to the highest and most effective service of impacted residents.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors support Governor Gavin Newsom's February 21, 2025 letter to Congressional leadership to request \$39,680,737,878 in support of recovery efforts in response to the January 2025 firestorms in Los Angeles County, and send a five-signature letter to Congressional leadership with a copy to the Los Angeles County House and Senate delegation.

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