



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE:

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April 8, 2025

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Mark Pestrella, 
Director of Public Works

**JANUARY 2025 WINDSTORM AND CRITICAL FIRE EVENTS
BI-WEEKLY EMERGENCY CONTRACTS REPORT
RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE EMERGENCY ACTIONS
APPROVED ON JANUARY 28, 2025, AGENDA ITEM 13-C
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 3 AND 5)
(4 VOTES)**

Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050, the Department of Public Works is reporting on the emergency actions taken by the Director in accordance with authority delegated by the Board (under the Board's resolution dated January 28, 2025), to respond to and recover from the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events including the Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Kenneth Fire, and multiple other fires (collectively, LA County Fires), including actions to repair or replace public facilities, actions directly related and immediately required by the emergency, and actions to procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for such purposes, without giving notice for bids to let contracts (collectively, Actions). The Director hereby reports on the reasons justifying why the emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids, and why the emergency Actions that have been ordered and taken are necessary to respond to the emergency.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Review the emergency Actions ordered and taken by Public Works under authority delegated to the Director by the Board, acting as both the County Board of Supervisors and the Governing Body of the various districts (under the Board's resolution dated January 28, 2025), to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires, without giving notice for bids to let contracts; determine that there is a need to continue the emergency Actions.

2. Find that there is substantial evidence that the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events continue to constitute an emergency pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050, which requires that immediate action be taken to cleanup and reconstruct public property, buildings, facilities, and infrastructure because the emergency does not permit the delay resulting from a formal competitive solicitation of bids to procure construction services for projects necessary to respond to and recover from the LA County Fires.
3. Find that authority should therefore continue to be delegated to the Director of Public Works to amend or extend and supplement existing as-needed or on-call contracts without giving notice for bids to let contracts, and to award new contracts for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires, and such contracts should be issued because they are necessary to respond to the emergency.

Background

The LA County Fires burned over 47,000 acres, destroyed or damaged over 16,000 structures, and severely damaged or destroyed several public infrastructure assets in the cities of Arcadia, Los Angeles, Malibu, Monrovia, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and unincorporated communities of Altadena, Big Rock, Las Flores, Monte Nido, Sunset Mesa, and Tuna Canyon in January 2025.

As part of the recovery efforts, the Director of Public Works 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 has delegated authority by the Board to carry out emergency contracting for response to and recovery from the LA County Fires in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1.25 billion, inclusive of the following amounts for the following types of work: emergency contracting to replace and repair County buildings and structures (\$300 million); repair of damaged public roads and appurtenant assets within the road rights of way (\$100 million); repair and construction of Flood Control District facilities and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures (\$100 million); support emergency repairs to water distribution system facilities for the various Waterworks Districts and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures (\$50 million); support emergency repairs to Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District infrastructure and construction of mitigation measures (\$15 million); and support repairs to the Los Angeles County Lighting Maintenance Districts infrastructure and construction of permanent facilities (\$25 million).

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Contracting Status

Public Works has focused on immediate and temporary restoration and hardening of critical infrastructure assets as we prepare for upcoming storms. We continue to work in collaboration with multiple local, state, and federal agencies responding to the widespread recovery efforts while assessing our inventory of damaged and destroyed infrastructure assets.

We will be moving forward with our priority list of action items to clean up and rebuild communities in the coming days and weeks and will be relying on emergency contracting to expedite the long-term recovery efforts.

As of March 24, 2025, the following action has been taken pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050. In addition to the contract below, Public Works continues to use its existing authorities to perform other emergency work required for the recovery.

- Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam Post Fire Emergency Project, which includes sediment removal at Eaton Dam in preparation for stormwater inflows, including debris and mudflow due to the fire. The contract was awarded to Ames Construction Inc. for the removal of 400,000 cubic yards of sediment on February 5, 2025. Construction started on February 18, 2025, and the expected completion date has been moved back a month to May 2025. The contract value is currently \$16,000,000. Approximately 160,750 cubic yards of sediment have been removed.

Next Report

The next report will be provided by April 29, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Assistant Director Art Vander Vis at (626) 458-4015 or avander@pw.lacounty.gov.

LT:mc

<https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/teams/DPW/EMG/Shared Documents/11-Board Related Documents/2025 Fires Emergency Contracts/2025 Fire Recovery Bi-Weekly Rept 2025-04-08.docx>

Attach.

cc: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

ONGOING CONTRACTS

<i>Project</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Contract Award</i>	<i>Contract Amount</i>	<i>Start</i>	<i>Scheduled Completion</i>
Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam Post Fire Emergency Project Removal of 400,000 cubic yards of sediment at Eaton Dam in preparation for stormwater inflows.	Awarded to Ames Construction Inc. Construction operations underway.	2/5/2025	\$16,000,000	2/18/2025	May 2025