



**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
17.		Favor	Ben Stapleton	Please see attached letter in support of Item 17, Legal Pathways to Los Angeles County Serving as a Rebuilding Authority for Wildfire Recovery.
			City of Malibu Marianne Riggins Mayor	<p>Re: Support for Motion - Legal Pathways to Los Angeles County Serving as the Palisades and Eaton Fire Rebuilding Authority</p> <p>Dear Supervisor Horvath,</p> <p>On behalf of the City of Malibu, I am writing to express our support for your motion directing County Counsel to explore the legal viability of Los Angeles County serving as a Rebuilding Authority for areas impacted by the January 2025 wildfires.</p> <p>The City of Malibu recognizes the unprecedented scale and complexity of recovery efforts required following these devastating fires. We share your vision of charting a path for rebuilding fire-impacted communities in a way that reduces climate vulnerabilities and fosters a stronger, safer, and more resilient region. Your motion provides a comprehensive approach that addresses critical priorities including coordinated interagency recovery efforts, upgrading water and wastewater infrastructure for fire resilience and firefighting readiness, replanting burned areas and implementing fire-resilient landscapes, expanding grid modernization and backup power solutions, promoting insurance reform through affordability and equity measures, supporting community rebuilding through mental health investments and evacuation planning, and developing innovative finance tools to accelerate rebuilding.</p> <p>A unified, coordinated rebuilding authority could provide significant benefits to our community and the broader region while advancing these critical resilience and fire safety objectives.</p> <p>We particularly support this initiative for its potential to achieve economies of scale for rebuilding supplies and coordination of key services and utilities. The ability to bulk purchase critical construction materials and coordinate reconstruction logistics will be invaluable as our communities work to rebuild simultaneously. This coordinated approach promises to address the workforce shortages and escalating costs that individual jurisdictions would struggle to manage independently.</p> <p>We see tremendous value in being included in innovative financing mechanisms that would benefit our rebuilding efforts and our commitment to building a more resilient Malibu. The enhanced financing options outlined in your motion, including partnerships with private lenders, community development finance institutions, and philanthropic organizations, could provide crucial support for residents facing financial barriers to rebuilding.</p>

As of: 6/30/2025 9:00:08 PM



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We also recognize the importance of the proposed Fire Control District with permanent funding for regional fire mitigation activities, including buffer zones and retrofitting, which would enhance the long-term fire safety and resilience of our community. This regional approach to fire prevention and mitigation represents a critical evolution in how we prepare for and respond to future fire threats.

While we support this motion, we wish to emphasize several important considerations specific to the City of Malibu's unique character and circumstances:

Rural Nature and Character Preservation: The City of Malibu is fundamentally rural by nature, unlike other municipalities that will be included in this motion. Our community's rural character is not merely aesthetic but is integral to our identity, environmental stewardship, and the lifestyle that residents have chosen to preserve. Any rebuilding authority must recognize and respect this distinctive rural character that defines our coastal community.

Respect for Local Zoning and Planning Authority: We strongly emphasize that Malibu's existing zoning ordinances and general planning laws must be respected and maintained. Our local land use regulations have been carefully crafted to protect our coastal environment, preserve our rural character, and ensure appropriate development patterns that are consistent with our community's values and environmental constraints. These regulations represent decades of thoughtful planning and community input.

No Increase in Density: We want to make explicitly clear that we are not looking to increase our density through this rebuilding process. Any rebuilding efforts must be consistent with our existing development standards and density limitations. The rebuilding authority should support reconstruction that maintains our current community scale and character while incorporating enhanced fire safety measures.

Balancing Regional Coordination with Local Priorities: While we support regional coordination, it is essential that the rebuilding authority operate as a facilitating and coordinating body rather than a regulatory override mechanism. The authority should enhance our local capacity to rebuild safely and efficiently while preserving our community's decision-making authority over land use and development matters.

We appreciate that your motion includes provisions for meaningful community engagement mechanisms. Given Malibu's unique characteristics and strong tradition of community involvement, robust engagement will be essential to ensure that any rebuilding authority operates in harmony with our local priorities and values. This engagement must be ongoing and substantive, not merely consultative.

We are particularly interested in the motion's emphasis on upgrading water and wastewater infrastructure for fire resilience and firefighting readiness. Malibu's unique geography and infrastructure present both challenges and opportunities for



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	<p>implementing fire-resilient systems.</p> <p>We look forward to working with the rebuilding authority to identify innovative solutions that address our specific topographical and environmental constraints. The proposed grid modernization and backup power solutions are also critical for our community, given our vulnerability to power outages during fire events. We support regional approaches that can deliver these improvements more efficiently and cost-effectively than individual municipal efforts.</p> <p>The City of Malibu looks forward to working collaboratively with Los Angeles County and our fellow jurisdictions to develop a rebuilding authority structure that respects local autonomy while providing the coordination and resources necessary for effective recovery. We believe this balanced approach can deliver the benefits of unified action while preserving the distinctive character and governance principles that define our individual communities. We are committed to participating constructively in the development and implementation of this rebuilding authority, with the understanding that our local planning authority and community character will be preserved and respected. This partnership approach will be essential to ensuring that the rebuilding authority serves as an effective tool for regional coordination while honoring the unique needs and values of each participating community.</p> <p>Thank you for your leadership in advancing this innovative approach to disaster recovery. We stand ready to work with you to create a rebuilding framework that addresses the urgent needs of fire survivors while building long-term resilience for our entire region.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Marianne Riggins Mayor, City of Malibu</p>
Fran Pavley	<p>I am writing to you as a resident of a severe risk wildfire neighborhood, and former local Mayor/Councilmember and State legislator in strong support of item 17. We need your Board of Supervisors to explore all legal options to establish a countywide rebuilding and resilience authority.</p> <p>LA County could take the lead in establishing this authority in the unincorporated areas and invite cities to join your efforts. Wildfires don't respond to city boundaries. Many local cities would want to join your authority to respond and reduce wildfires, and when needed be there to help coordinate rebuilding of homes, businesses, schools, and public buildings. We need regional solutions for creating and managing defensible space, coordinating water and energy resources, assuring coordinated emergency communications, and rebuilding the needed roads and other infrastructure. Thank you.</p>
Jonathan Parfrey	<p>My name is Jonathan Parfrey. I am CEO of Climate Resolve. I was privileged to serve as a member of LA County's Blue Ribbon Commission on wildfire</p>



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			<p>recovery.</p> <p>I write in support of the motion. In fact, key concepts underlying the motion were suggested by the Blue Ribbon Commission.</p> <p>The unprecedented urban conflagration that afflicted our County in January, demands a strong response by the County. There are many property-owners in unincorporated LA County whose lots were uninsured or under-insured. Unfortunately, these people may choose to not rebuild. They may abandon a home held by their family for multiple generations. In order to maintain the continuity and spirit of the neighborhood, sometime must be done.</p> <p>The resolution asks County Counsel to investigate how to best establish an authority that could help LA County residents during the recovery. The authority must be able to develop community-level resiliency measures, especially with an eye on making communities insurable. The authority should further be able to issue bonds, develop public/private partnerships — and directly oversee the buying and selling of property and managing construction projects.</p> <p>There is precedence in constituting authorities to coordinate large scale disaster recovery in previous crises, such as authorities established following the Northridge earthquake of 1994, among other emergencies.</p> <p>We are in such a crisis today — I implore you to please support the motion to help jumpstart the recovery.</p>
		Marianne Riggins	
		Marianne Riggins	
		Oppose	Bryan Walley
		Katherine S Woodhouse	
		Stephen A Sachs	<p>Sustainable Community Development Corporation (SCDC), a nonprofit representing rebuilding concepts in Altadena opposes the creation of a new Rebuilding Authority. SCDC is located in Altadena and our Executive Director is a resident as well. Altadena, which is unincorporated and with the greatest effects of the fire, has examined other, less bureaucratic methods of rebuilding. The Authority being proposed is another layer, taking control of tax dollars from residents, and allocating them to Tax Increment Financing and other means which are unnecessary and will not meet the moment of what financial needs will be required to rebuild Altadena. The Motion describes one opinion of the County's response, but does not necessarily reflect the views of the entire community. In fact, there are many residents of Altadena who are against further allocation of authority to the County.</p> <p>The Blue Ribbon Commission, which seeded the Authority found in the Motion did not gain the trust of the community in Altadena, nor did it reflect</p>

				<p>the views of the Community at large. Many Altadena residents are looking at other approaches to rebuilding, including community-led methods via nonprofits. The community, moreover, is supportive of the State level efforts found in AB 797 and the mechanism described to capture and allocate funds for specific policy purposes.</p> <p>Members of the community are also surprised the County has not begun allocated funds using the method described in the legislation (AB 797) considering the County has the capability to issue such securities the same as the State and allow for quick deployment to meet methods listed in the Motion including rebuilding housing and acquisition of land. In other words, the Authority described could already have been effective and has waited this long while people in Altadena knew there were paths to accomplish the instant goals of the Authority without these complications and beyond.</p> <p>Altadena does not want more bureaucracy. The notion, described in the Motion, that a new authority adding bureaucracy and appointed will reduce bureaucracy defies logic. The hope in the community is to focus energies on models already available as opposed to recreating the wheel and waste more time with additional authorities and whatever governance issues which result.</p> <p>The BOS has enough complicated issues to focus on and such a Motion, tasking the County to distract from its current mission of supporting those who need help the most, and move those resources to creating an Authority not wanted by the Community, should be considered and opposed by the full Board.</p> <p>We appreciate the desire to provide assistance, but the Motion's approach is not one which will make the necessary changes we need to rebuild Altadena. Waiting 6 months, moreover, for such an approach to even be proposed, demonstrates a further detachment from the reality on the ground. Solutions could and should have been deployed quicker had the Motion writer truly taken into considering the need for a holistic approach and listened to the residents of Altadena, the vast majority of those affected by these fires.</p>
		Item Total	9	
Grand Total			9	

525 S. Hewitt St.
Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 689-9707 usgbc-ca.org

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Candice Wong – Ten Over Studio

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Ben Stapleton, Executive Director

Jun 26, 2025

To: County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

RE: Item 17, Legal Pathways to Los Angeles County Serving as a Rebuilding Authority for Wildfire Recovery - SUPPORT

Dear Board Members,

On behalf of the U.S. Green Building Council California, I am writing to express support for Item 17, Legal Pathways to Los Angeles County Serving as a Rebuilding Authority for Wildfire Recovery. Establishing the County as a Rebuilding Authority will support a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable recovery in these communities.

USGBC California's deep bench of members are sustainability and green building professionals with a strong commitment to addressing climate change and other local, state, and international environmental issues. Our members are designers, engineers, public agency and utility staff, consultants, product manufacturers, and service providers. Our goals include advancing impactful solutions to address our urgent environmental and social challenges.

Establishing a Resilient Rebuilding Authority is one of the most urgent recommendations identified by the [Blue Ribbon Commission for Climate Action and Fire-Safe Recovery](#) established by Supervisor Horvath because a community-wide approach is needed to limit displacement, address labor shortages, and achieve resilience measures that will protect the communities in the future and enhance insurability.

A Rebuilding Authority can help reduce the costs and delays of rebuilding for individual residents and businesses by coordinating design and construction. More broadly, it can improve resilience and insurability for the entire community by enabling acquisition of properties that could be used for community mitigation measures and implementing recommendations on maximizing structural spacing. By delivering as many rental and owned options as existed prior to the fires and providing returning residents with first look options, the Rebuilding Authority can reduce displacement.

The Rebuilding Authority should also be able to administer and/or issue bonds and other financial instruments, control costs through bulk purchasing and coordinating logistics and work with utilities to strengthen key infrastructure systems.

Furthermore, having a Rebuilding Authority that can serve all areas affected by the January 2025 fires can help reduce inequality between communities and streamline the process.

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Ben Stapleton, Executive Director

We urge you to support this Motion. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ben Stapleton,
Executive Director



City of Malibu

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Phone (310) 456-2489 · Fax (310) 456-3356 · www.malibucity.org

June 27, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors - Third District
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street, Room 866
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Support for Motion - Legal Pathways to Los Angeles County Serving as the Palisades and Eaton Fire Rebuilding Authority

Dear Supervisor Horvath,

On behalf of the City of Malibu, I am writing to express our support for your motion directing County Counsel to explore the legal viability of Los Angeles County serving as a Rebuilding Authority for areas impacted by the January 2025 wildfires.

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enhanced financing options outlined in your motion, including partnerships with private lenders, community development finance institutions, and philanthropic organizations, could provide crucial support for residents facing financial barriers to rebuilding.

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Thank you for your leadership in advancing this innovative approach to disaster recovery. We stand ready to work with you to create a rebuilding framework that addresses the urgent needs of fire survivors while building long-term resilience for our entire region.

Sincerely,

Marianne Riggins

Marianne Riggins
Mayor, City of Malibu





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Marianne Riggins

Marianne Riggins
Mayor, City of Malibu