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September 16, 2025

To: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Janice Hahn

From: Michael Owh 
Director

**BI-WEEKLY REPORT: JANUARY 2025 WINDSTORM AND CRITICAL FIRE EVENTS
EMERGENCY CONTRACTS REPORT / RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE
EMERGENCY ACTIONS APPROVED ON JANUARY 28, 2025, AGENDA ITEM 13-C
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 3 AND 5)
(4 VOTES)**

On January 28, 2025, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (Board) approved emergency authority for the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD) to take emergency actions to respond to and recover from the Los Angeles County Fires.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050, this report describes the emergency actions taken by ISD in accordance with authority delegated to the Director by the Board, 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 enumerated in the aforementioned authorities (the Actions).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Review the emergency Actions ordered and taken by the Director of ISD 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 and/or proposals to procure construction, materials, equipment and services for projects and initiatives 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 ISD to amend or extend and supplement existing as-needed or on-call contracts without giving notice for bids to let contracts related to facilities and related support services, 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 Board adopted a resolution, pursuant to Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, authorizing the Director of ISD to provide any services required by County Departments to support the repair or restoration of County facilities and infrastructure, as well as other activities related to responding to and recovering from the LA County Fires; to carry out emergency actions by utilizing ISD employees and by awarding and executing one or more contracts without notice for bids when there are exigent or emergency circumstances. This may include procuring necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, such as awarding new or extending existing as-needed or on-call contracts without notice for bids. Alternatively, this can be done after solicitation in accordance with Federal, State, and County laws, regulations, and executive orders.

Contracting Status

In the previous report to the Board dated September 2, 2025, ISD reported emergency contracts for fire damage assessments on behalf of the Chief Executive Office (CEO) for

eighty-one (81) structures affected by the fires, ranging from minor damages to complete losses. No new contracts have been issued since that report.

Assessment Status

- ISD has finalized the [fire damage assessment report](#) and completed reviews with the CEO Office of Emergency Management and impacted departments. ISD has documented work performed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers and temporary repairs made to date by ISD and self-performing departments.
- The teams inspected over 80 structures across 24 sites, representing nine County Departments and covering 300,000 square feet of County property that had some level of damage. Site visits, data collection, and assessments were conducted, with individual reports prepared for each structure and shared with the impacted departments and the CEO Office of Emergency Management for FEMA claim reporting.
- Of the 80 structures, using FEMA damage categories, 17 were “Affected,” 16 have “Minor Damage,” 17 have “Major Damage,” and 30 are considered “Total Loss.”
- The Rough Order Magnitude (ROM) estimated costs for repairs and replacement are \$372,162,000. This figure is based on “like-for-like” improvements and new construction and will likely change as the final project design and engineering are developed, considering options to build instead of repair, improving the design of buildings and structures requiring replacement, and potential location changes.
- ISD and the Department of Public Works are in discussions with the CEO Asset Management, Office of Emergency Management and impacted departments regarding plans and funding for moving forward with the cited repairs and replacements cited in the assessment report.

Justification to Continue Emergency Actions

As of September 5, 2025, ISD has not executed any additional contracts under the Board’s emergency authority since the last report. As mentioned here, ISD has completed the accelerated assessment process that provides the foundational information needed to plan for repairs and rebuilding, and it will proceed with implementing recovery projects as the next step. Therefore, ISD requests continued authorization from the Board to carry out the emergency recovery efforts.

Next Report

The report will be provided by September 30, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 267-2101 or email me at MOwh@isd.lacounty.gov. Alternatively, your staff can reach out to Michael Eugene, General Manager of Operations, at (323) 267-2107 or email him at MEugene@isd.lacounty.gov.

MO:QH:ME:me

c: Chief Executive Office
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors