



**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
Grand Total			0	

January 6, 2026

To: Supervisor Holly Mitchell, CC: United Homeowners' Association (UHA), the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Regional Planning Commission

**Re: Testing of Fire Hydrants in relation to the View development approval (5101 Overhill Drive)**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing regarding a particular point in the potential approval of the View residential development at 5101 Overhill Drive, adjacent to the View Park/Windsor Hills community. I have been informed that the relevant local water system, a branch of California American Water (Cal Am), has provided a will serve letter and the Planning Commission has approved the project to go forward.

I am not weighing in on this larger development approval matter, but do have potential concerns that Cal Am has denied a request to test nearby fire hydrants for fireflow capacity associated with increased demand from the new development, but is instead relying on modeled capacity estimates. My concern is not that the system necessarily has deficient fireflow related to this new development. In fact, although I do not have hard data, if I had to make an informed guess, I would expect the system does have sufficient fireflow, as Cal Am is a very well-run system. Rather, my concern is that local residents in this case do not have the same right to receive information (if they pay the fees to cover the cost of the testing) as they would if served by a publicly-owned system.

For instance, multiple LA area publicly-managed water systems (including LADWP and Pasadena PWP) of comparable size and capability to Cal Am allow the public to directly request a fire flow test. Both require that the test be paid for by the requester (as is reasonable), but one has the opportunity to request a fire flow test and pay to have the test completed. Given the heightened concern and need for vigilance regarding water supply for firefighting in the region, this seems like a best practice and right which all residents in the county should enjoy.

Sincerely,



Gregory Pierce, PhD

Associate Professor (IR), Department of Urban Planning  
Director, Human Right to Water Solutions Lab  
Chair, Urban Water Supply+ Fire Working Group ([CWRI](#))  
Director, UCLA Water Resources Group  
University of California, Los Angeles

E-mail: [gspierce@ucla.edu](mailto:gspierce@ucla.edu)

See more: <https://innovation.luskin.ucla.edu/water/water-systems-and-fire-resilience/>