



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE:

EM-0  
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March 17, 2026

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Mark Pestrella, PE   
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 was 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).

### 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 4, 2026, the following actions have been taken pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050. In addition to the contracts below, Public Works continues to use its existing authorities to perform other emergency work required for the recovery.

- Flood Control District – The Eaton Wash Dam Post Fire Emergency Project construction was completed in September 2025. The project removed approximately 672,000 cubic yards of sediment and repaired damaged infrastructure. The total cost of the work was \$35,902,987.
- Waterworks Districts – The projects completed construction in September 2025. The projects carried out repairs to the water distribution system damaged by the Palisades Fire. The total cost of the work was \$1,790,000.
- Road Department – The Lincoln Avenue Over Unnamed Wash Emergency Temporary Bridge Project was completed in February 2026. The project removed the existing bridge that was damaged by the Eaton Fire and provided a temporary bridge to reopen Lincoln Avenue over the wash to traffic and pedestrians. The total cost of the work was \$1,986,761.
- Waterworks Districts – The Carbon Canyon Road Waterline Improvements Project was initiated to replace 6,900 feet of undersized water mains along Carbon Canyon Road and Carbon Mesa Road and upgrade a pump station to ensure the system meets fire flow standards. A construction contract was awarded to Blois Construction in July 2025, for a total contract amount of \$8,910,420. Preconstruction activities continue. Due to critical items requiring a long lead time to obtain, construction is scheduled to begin in late March 2026 and is expected to be completed in December 2027.

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- Flood Control District – The Sierra Madre Dam Emergency Sediment Capture Expansion Project was initiated to reduce flood risk to downstream communities by removing approximately 10,000 cubic yards of post-fire sediment, deepening the basin, and constructing an upstream debris barrier. A Notice to Proceed was issued to Mike Bubalo Construction Co., Inc., in December 2025 for \$1,770,000, and supplemented in January 2026 for \$830,000 to address changed field conditions and delays caused by the December 2025 storm events, as well as additional handling and disposal of wet sediment and boulders. Construction began in January 2026 and the upstream debris barrier and sediment removal was completed in February 2026 with 10,500 cubic yards of sediment removed. The remaining work consists of repairs to the spillway's safety railing, and will be completed in March 2026.
- Flood Control District – The Eaton Wash Dam Inlet Works and Emergency Restoration Project will install two inclined intake towers and concrete access stairways at the dam to ensure flood protection by providing resilient drainage capacity under heavy post-fire debris flow. A construction contract was awarded to MMC, Inc., in January 2026 for a total contract amount of \$1,158,900. Construction is scheduled to start in April 2026 and is expected to be completed in August 2026.

### Next Report

The next report will be provided by March 24, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Deputy Director Luis Ramirez at (626) 458-4004 or [luramire@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:luramire@pw.lacounty.gov).

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[https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/teams/DPW/EMG/Shared Documents/11-Board Related Documents/2025 Fires Emergency Contracts BRT 10659/January 2025 Fire Recovery Bi-Weekly Rept 2026-03-17.docx](https://lacounty.sharepoint.com/teams/DPW/EMG/Shared%20Documents/11-Board%20Related%20Documents/2025%20Fires%20Emergency%20Contracts%20BRT%2010659/January%202025%20Fire%20Recovery%20Bi-Weekly%20Rept%202026-03-17.docx)

Attach.

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

ONGOING PROJECTS

<i>Project</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Contract Award</i>	<i>Contract Amount</i>	<i>Start Construction</i>	<i>Scheduled Construction Completion</i>
<p><b>Waterworks Districts – Carbon Canyon Road Waterline Improvements Project</b>                      Replace 6,900 feet of undersized water mains along Carbon Canyon Road and Carbon Mesa Road and upgrade pump station to ensure the system meets fire flow standards.</p>	<p>Awarded to Blois Construction. Preparing for construction.</p>	<p>July 2025</p>	<p>\$8,910,420</p>	<p>March 2026</p>	<p>December 2027</p>
<p><b>Flood Control District – Sierra Madre Dam Emergency Sediment Capture Expansion Project</b>                      Remove 10,000 cubic yards of sediment at Sierra Madre Dam and construct an upstream debris barrier.</p>	<p>Mike Bubalo Construction Co., Inc. Under construction.</p>	<p>December 2025 <i>NTP date</i></p>	<p>\$2,600,000 <i>NTP amount</i></p>	<p>January 2026 <i>NTP work only</i></p>	<p>End of March 2026 <i>NTP work only</i></p>
<p><b>Eaton Wash Dam Inlet Works and Emergency Restoration Project</b>                      Install two inclined intake towers and concrete access stairways at the dam to ensure flood protection by providing resilient drainage capacity under heavy post-fire debris flow</p>	<p>MMC, Inc. Under construction.</p>	<p>January 2026</p>	<p>\$1,158,900</p>	<p>April 2026</p>	<p>August 2026</p>

**COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Contractor</i>	<i>Contract Award</i>	<i>Contract Amount</i>	<i>Start Construction</i>	<i>Construction Completed</i>
<b>Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam Post Fire Emergency Project</b> Removal of 680,000 cubic yards of sediment at Eaton Wash Dam, process organic material, and repair rail-and-timber structures.	Ames Construction, Inc.	February 2025	\$35,902,987	February 2025	September 2025
<b>Waterworks Districts – amend existing on-call emergency repair service contract</b> Repair fire damaged water distribution system, including relocation of approximately 700 feet of a 12-inch watermain unearthed along Topanga Canyon Boulevard.	W.A. Rasic Construction Company, Inc.	May 2025 <i>Amendment date</i>	\$1,790,000 <i>Amendment amount</i>	June 2025 <i>Amendment work only</i>	September 2025 <i>Amendment work only</i>
<b>Road Department – Lincoln Avenue Over Unnamed Wash Emergency Temporary Bridge Project</b> Remove the Lincoln Avenue bridge over an unnamed wash and provide a temporary bridge.	G.B. Cooke, Inc.	July 2025	\$1,986,761	September 2025	February 2026