


## ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Title 2 – Administration – of the Los Angeles County Code, to:

- Establish the Los Angeles County Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority (Rebuild Authority) within the Department of Public Works;
- Specify that the Director of Public Works is the head of the Rebuild Authority; and
- Designate the powers and duties of the Rebuild Authority.

Very truly yours,

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County Counsel

By   
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MFA:eb

Requested: 02/11/26  
Revised: 05/14/26

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

An ordinance amending Title 2 – Administration – of the Los Angeles County Code, establishing the Los Angeles County Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority (Rebuild Authority) within the Department of Public Works, specifying that the Director of Public Works is the head of the Rebuild Authority, and designating the powers and duties of the Rebuild Authority.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Section 2.18.090 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.090 Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority**

**SECTION 2.** Section 2.18.091 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.091 Title**

This Ordinance shall be known as the Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority Ordinance.

**SECTION 3.** Section 2.18.092 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.092 Purpose**

In January 2025, Los Angeles County experienced one of the most devastating, deadly, and costly climate disasters in U.S. history encompassing the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire in which a total of 31 lives were lost, and more than 16,000 structures

were damaged or destroyed. In collaboration with federal, State, and municipal partners, Los Angeles County has led proactive efforts to respond to, recover from, and rebuild after, the disaster insofar as it impacted unincorporated areas within Altadena and the Santa Monica Mountains. As rebuilding continues to accelerate, tremendous challenges remain for community residents and local government. Recovery and rebuilding efforts require coordinated, timely, and technically informed action across multiple County departments and potentially other agencies. Therefore, to enhance ongoing recovery and rebuilding efforts related to the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire, the Board of Supervisors hereby creates the Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority, as a unit within the Department of Public Works, to help rebuild public infrastructure, support the recovery and rebuilding of private property, and support community residents' needs in the aftermath of the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire, which collectively constitute one of the worst disasters in Los Angeles County history.

**SECTION 4.** Section 2.18.093 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.093 Establishment**

There is hereby created the Disaster Recovery Rebuild Authority ("Rebuild Authority") as a unit within the Department of Public Works to pursue recovery and rebuilding efforts related to the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire.

**SECTION 5.** Section 2.18.094 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.094 Head of Rebuild Authority**

The Director of Public Works is the head of the Rebuild Authority and, in that capacity, has administrative authority to implement and oversee the operations, programs, and staff assigned to the Rebuild Authority, in coordination with other involved County departments. The Director of Public Works may delegate duties as necessary and appropriate to carry out the Rebuild Authority's purposes and functions.

**SECTION 6.** Section 2.18.095 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.095 Powers and Duties**

Subject to and in accordance with applicable statutes, laws, policies, rules, restrictions, and limitations, with respect to fire-impacted properties located within applicable incorporated areas of the County that were affected by the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire, the Rebuild Authority shall have the power to:

- A. Plan, coordinate, and oversee rebuilding projects.
- B. Develop and enforce building standards and design guidelines that promote sustainability, energy efficiency, and resilience to fire, flood, and other hazards.
- C. Enter into contracts, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements with public agencies, private entities, and nonprofit organizations as necessary and appropriate to fulfill the Rebuild Authority's purposes and functions.

D. Apply for, receive, and administer grants, loans, and other funding sources, including charitable donations and gifts, for rebuilding efforts.

E. Acquire, lease, or dispose of property in furtherance of the Rebuild Authority's purposes and functions.

F. Coordinate with the Chief Executive Office, the Department of Regional Planning, the Fire Department, the Department of Public Health, other County Departments, and other agencies, and in consultation with County Counsel, as necessary and appropriate to carry out the Rebuild Authority's purposes and functions.

G. Engage in public outreach and stakeholder engagement to ensure community input in rebuilding plans.

**SECTION 7.** Section 2.18.096 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.096 Sustainable and Resilient Rebuilding Standards**

To the extent feasible, projects undertaken or approved by the Rebuild Authority shall incorporate:

- Fire-resistant materials and defensible space design.
- Renewable energy systems.
- Water conservation and drought-resilient landscaping.
- Infrastructure improvements to enhance evacuation routes and emergency access.

The Rebuild Authority shall periodically review and update these standards in consultation with experts and community stakeholders.

**SECTION 8.** Section 2.18.097 is hereby added to read as follows:

**Section 2.18.097 Relationship to Existing Law**

This Section shall not be construed to limit the emergency or other powers of the Board of Supervisors or to supersede the authority of other County departments.

[218090MACC]