COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: EM-0
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November 24, 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 clean up 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 rely on emergency contracting to expedite long-term recovery efforts.

As of November 10, 2026, the following actions have been taken pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050. Attached is a table of emergency contracts that are currently in progress or have been completed. In addition to the contracts listed below, Public Works continues to use its existing authorities to perform other emergency work required for recovery.

- 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 to upgrade a pump station to ensure the system meets fire flow standards. A construction contract was awarded to Blois Construction in July 2025 in the amount of $8,910,420. Between February and September 2026, seven change orders totaling $884,562 were approved to identify existing utilities within the project area, modify the construction sequence to expedite rebuilding, purchase additional materials, and address pump station construction costs following design completion. The project's total contract amount is $9,794,982. Due to critical items requiring long lead times to obtain, construction began in March 2026 and is expected to be completed in December 2027.

- Flood Control District – The Santa Anita Dam Access Road Post-Fire Repairs Project will repair four segments of the dam's access road damaged by the Eaton Fire and post-fire storms to ensure safe access to maintain critical operations at the dam. A construction contract was awarded to GMZ Engineering, Inc., in March 2026 in the amount of $3,140,375. Between May and November 2026, 12 change orders totaling $2,764,395 were approved to address unforeseen conditions encountered during construction and additional damage discovered on the access road. The project's total contract amount is $5,904,770. Construction began in April 2026 and is expected to be completed in December 2026.

- Waterworks Districts – The Las Flores Mesa Water Main Improvements Project will replace approximately 3,500 feet of existing above-ground 2- to 4-inch water main piping with 8-inch below-ground, earthquake-resistant ductile iron pipe and will include pump station improvements in the City of Malibu. This work is necessary to provide the minimum flow requirements for rebuilding permits. The project was awarded to Toro Enterprises, Inc., in September 2026 for a total contract amount of $3,691,252. Procurement of required materials will take 6 months; therefore, construction is scheduled to start in April 2027 and is expected to be completed in April 2028.

Next Report

The next report will be provided by December 8, 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.

LT:cj
EMG/SharedDoc/Board Rpts/2025Fires/Jan2025FireBi-WeeklyRept2026-11-24

Attach.

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

ONGOING PROJECTS

Project	*Status*	*Contract Award*	*Contract Amount*	*Start Construction*	*Scheduled Construction Completion*
Waterworks Districts – Carbon Canyon Road Waterline Improvements Project 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.	Blois Construction. Under construction.	July 2025	$9,794,982	March 2026	December 2027
Flood Control District – Santa Anita Dam Access Road Post Fire Repairs Project Repair four segments of the dam's access road to ensure safe access to maintain critical operations at the dam.	GMZ Engineering, Inc. Under construction.	March 2026	$5,904,770	April 2026	December 2026
Las Flores Mesa Water Main Improvement Project Replace 3,500 feet of existing 2- to 4-inch above-ground water main piping with 8-inch below-ground piping. Includes upgrades to pump station in City of Malibu.	Toro Enterprises, Inc. Procurement of required materials.	September 2026	$3,691,252	April 2027	April 2028

COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION

Project	*Contractor*	*Contract Award*	*Contract Amount*	*Start Construction*	*Construction Completed*
Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam Post Fire Emergency Project 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
Waterworks Districts – amend existing on-call emergency repair service contract Repair fire damaged water distribution system, including relocation of approximately 700 feet of a 12-inch water main unearthed along Topanga Canyon Boulevard.	W.A. Rasic Construction Company, Inc.	May 2025 *Amendment date*	$1,790,000 *Amendment amount*	June 2025 *Amendment work only*	September 2025 *Amendment work only*
Road Department – Lincoln Avenue Over Unnamed Wash Emergency Temporary Bridge Project 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
Flood Control District – Sierra Madre Dam Emergency Sediment Capture Expansion Project Remove 10,000 cubic yards of sediment at Sierra Madre Dam and construct an upstream debris barrier.	Mike Bubalo Construction Co., Inc.	December 2025	$2,600,000	January 2026	April 2026
Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam Inlet Works Emergency Restoration Project 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.	MMC, Inc.	January 2026	$1,189,900	April 2026	August 2026

Project	*Contractor*	*Contract Award*	*Contract Amount*	*Start Construction*	*Construction Completed*
Flood Control District – Eaton Wash Dam and Reservoir Post Fire Cleanout 2026 Project Remove 180,000 cubic yards of sediment from the reservoir to restore its capacity before the next storm season.	Sully-Miller Contracting Co.	June 2026	$12,000,405	August 2026	October 2026