



Preserve Community. Rebuild Sustainably. Return Equitably.

July 24, 2025

What the Blueprint for Rebuilding Means for You

This Blueprint for Rebuilding is an action-driven, coordinated plan to help communities rebuild over the months and years ahead. Here are some immediate resources that residents and businesses in LA County's unincorporated areas (Altadena and Sunset Mesa) can use now.

- **Code-waiver and fee-deferrals** – Temporary pauses on rebuilding code requirements (rooftop-solar, electrification, 2025 energy standards) that simplify rebuilding; homeowners who qualify can access a [permit fee waiver or refund](#) on zoning, plan check, and permitting fees across four departments
- **Tax relief and protections for 'like for like' rebuilds**– If rebuilding on the same lot [up to 120% of pre-fire value](#), residents will not be reassessed at higher tax base; properties severely damaged or destroyed qualify for [property tax reductions](#) that can save \$3-10K per year, depending on value
- **"Express Lanes" to speed approvals** – Single-family owners can opt into the County's [new eCheck AI Pilot](#) to accelerate the plan approval process; this expands upon existing like-for-like rebuild and pre-approved building plan "Express Lane" options
- **Self-certification pilot for licensed architects and engineers** – Licensed professionals who register for the [Building Plan Self-Certification Pilot Program](#) can self-certify that their plans comply with County code, eliminating the need for a full County plan checks and speeding permit issuance
- **One-stop permit centers in Altadena and Pacific Palisades**– County permitting agencies are available on site at [One-Stop Permit Centers](#) to guide property owners through the rebuild process, answer questions, and provide area-specific permit information; walk-ins are welcome
- **Temporary housing permits and protections** – [Permits for ADUs and RVs are fast-tracked](#) to support on-site living during rebuilding; [short-term rental protections](#) in place to expand housing availability
- **Pre-approved plan catalog** – Ready-to-use home designs are coming available in the [County Pre-Approved Plan Catalog](#) which have been reviewed for code compliance that streamline architectural work and accelerate County plan review, helping residents rebuild faster with less time and cost
- **"Shop Local. Dine Local. Recover Local"** for fire-impacted small businesses – Marketing assistance, visibility campaigns, and access to pop-up spaces for displaced small businesses to boost recovery

What's ahead in the coming months

- **Rebuild Navigators support** – One-on-one support to navigate the process of rebuilding including navigating financing, construction and permitting
- **Plan for undergrounded and resilient utilities** – Over 150 miles of power, gas, and telecom lines targeted to underground with County seeking funds so homeowners pay for home connections
- **Expanded pre-approved plan catalog** – Expanded set of pre-approved designs and targeting expanded access to design costs
- **Remote and digital inspections** – Mobile-device inspections mean most routine checks can be done without scheduling an on-site visit
- **Anchor facilities and local businesses reopening plan** – Ensuring that essentials such as grocery, health care, child-care, schools, and parks return when residents plan to return