AGN. NO.\_\_\_\_

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER AND

LINDSEY P. HORVATH

 JANUARY 14, 2025

**RATIFICATION OF PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY, CURFEW ORDER, AND LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR THE JANUARY 2025 WINDSTORM AND CRITICAL FIRE EVENTS**

Starting on January 7, 2025, the County of Los Angeles (“County”) has been impacted by severe and life-threatening windstorms and resulting wind-driven destructive fires, which include the Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Kenneth Fire (“January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events”), and multiple other fires. These unprecedented simultaneous events have caused loss of life, widespread damage, and destruction to residential structures, businesses, and infrastructure, power outages, downed trees, road closures, rockslides, and significant debris. The January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events have necessitated large-scale evacuations of County residents; led to road, school, business, and public facility closures, and to power disruptions; and required multiple sheltering operations for both people and animals. Coordination, collaboration, and the combined forces of different jurisdictions are imperatively needed to effectively respond to and recover from these and other likely related events.

On January 7, 2025, the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events (“Proclamation of Local Emergency”) in the County. Similarly, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency, and the President approved a major disaster declaration in the County. The Proclamation of Local Emergency enables the County to more effectively respond to the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events, to accelerate the procurement of vital supplies, to seek and utilize mutual aid, and to potentially obtain reimbursement and assistance from the state and federal governments.

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Unfortunately, while the numerous fires were causing massive destruction throughout the County, there were also multiple arrests for burglary and for looting and trespassing within the evacuation areas, including arrestees who do not reside in the County of Los Angeles. This indicates planned and coordinated criminal activity. As a result of the increasing danger to life and property and the necessity to preserve public order and safety, on January 9, 2025, the Chair of the Board issued a curfew order for the Evacuation Order and Evacuation Warning Zones within the County unincorporated areas and within the incorporated areas of the City of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Monica, and the City of Malibu (“Curfew Order”). Pursuant to Government Code Section 8634 and Los Angeles County Code Section 2.68.150, the Curfew Order became effective, starting on January 9, 2025, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., until the Curfew Order is lifted.

On January 10, 2025, the County’s Health Officer declared a local health emergency due the hazardous air quality, displacement of thousands of residents, disruption of access to critical health services and resources, and other negative health impacts caused by the Critical Fire Events and Windstorm conditions. This order requires persons to not use air blowing devices, such as leaf blowers, during the fire recovery period until the County’s Health Officer determines that use of such devices will not negatively impact the health of County residents.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 8630(b), Health and Safety Code Section 101080,) and Los Angeles County Code Sections 2.68.110 and 2.68.150, the Proclamation of Local Emergency, the County Health Officer’s Declaration of Local Health Emergency, and the Curfew Order require ratification shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the Board of Supervisors (Board).

With residents, businesses, schools and more being impacted by loss of life, property, and savings, it is important to ensure we are looking to coordinate with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, our state and federal partners, and philanthropy to ensure a rapid response to victims in this time of emergency and need.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Ratify the attached Proclamation of Local Emergency made on January 7, 2025, for the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events, in the County of Los Angeles. The Proclamation of Local Emergency shall remain in effect until its termination is proclaimed by the Board.
2. Forward a copy of the Proclamation of Local Emergency to the Director of California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Director) and request the Director to find it acceptable in accordance with State law, make available recovery assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act, and expedite access to State and federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.
3. Ratify the attached Curfew Order, issued on January 9, 2025, for the Evacuation Order and Evacuation Warning Zones within the County unincorporated areas and incorporated areas of the City of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Monica, and the City of Malibu.
4. Ratify the attached Declaration of a Local Health Emergency, issued on January 10, 2025, due to the impactions of the Critical Fire Events and Windstorm Conditions in Los Angeles County. This declaration shall remain in effect until its termination is proclaimed by the Board.
5. Direct County Departments to implement all assessment, assistance, and monitoring efforts as applicable.

**WE, FURTHER, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct Chief Executive Office-Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to support legislation and pursue funding opportunities at both the state and federal levels to support efforts to promote the recovery of the Los Angeles County economy in the wake of the Windstorm and Critical Fire Events.
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to develop a plan to enter into an agreement with a third-party intermediary to implement and administer a Los Angeles County Fire Recovery Fund to support the needs of victims impacted by the fires.

A. The various types of impacts include but are not limited to business interruption, worker relief, childcare, housing assistance, relocation, and other essential needs.

1. The CEO should report back to the Board with this plan in 7 days.
2. Instruct the Directors of the Departments of Regional Planning, Public Works, Public Health, and Fire to report back in writing in 7 days with recommendations to identify additional permitting requirements, including provisions of the Los Angeles County Building Code, the Los Angeles County Fire Code, and Title 21 and Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code, that can safely be suspended or streamlined to accelerate rebuilding and make it more affordable.
3. Direct the Director of Regional Planning to prepare and submit amendments to the Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Plan to the Coastal Commission to add regulations allowing temporary housing, as defined by the County Disaster Recovery Ordinance, and other minor modifications that do not impact coastal resources, on a parcel where a legally-established single-family residence or legally-established employee housing in the Coastal Zone was irreparably damaged or destroyed by the Palisades Fire.
4. Direct County Counsel to return to the Board at the January 21, 2025 meeting with draft a resolution providing: (1) eviction protections specific to tenants with an additional person(s) or unauthorized pet(s) as a result of the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events; and (2) to temporarily allow Short-Term Rentals hosts to have multiple Short-Term Rental (STR) listings at a time, to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and Junior ADUs to be used for STR, and other necessary associated amendments to allow increased Short-Term Rentals to house households displaced by the fires.
5. Request that the Los Angeles County Development Authority, in collaboration with the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative, report back to the Board in 7 days on opportunities to share information on available short and/or long-term housing stock available for residents whose homes were impacted by the fires. This should include the compilation of a housing resource list for any available properties throughout the County for short and/or long-term housing needs, and publicly posted on the LA County Recovery website: [recovery.lacounty.gov](https://recovery.lacounty.gov/).
6. Direct the CEO to provide the Board a list of ARPA enabled funding currently allocated to departments by program category, including unspent funding to date by program that could potentially be considered to assist individuals impacted by the fires, and report back in writing in 7 days.
7. Direct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to suspend all fees for copies of all vital records and real property records recorded with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for any individuals who lost such records as a result of the Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Kenneth Fire, and other related fires within the County.
8. Direct the CEO to reimburse the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for said suspension of fees, as listed above.
9. Direct the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA), in collaboration with DEO, to conduct robust education, outreach, and enforcement of County and State anti-price gouging laws (related to essential goods and services, hotel rooms, rental housing, and emergency supplies by more than 10 percent), and worker protections and report to the Board in writing in 120 days on progress, outcomes, and impact of this outreach work.
10. The provisions of the California Penal Code section 396 subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) to limit price-gouging in the rental market and in hotels and motels and to continue its protections against eviction; and the provisions of County Code Chapter 8.09 shall remain in effect until February 6, 2025, pursuant to Penal Code section 396 (g), and may be extended by the Board every 30 days as necessary if complaints of price gouging continue or increase, to protect the lives, property, and welfare of the residents of the County.
11. Direct the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), in collaboration with the Chief Executive Office (CEO), and to the extent feasible, the City of Los Angeles and other local municipalities and agencies, to coordinate government funded workforce relief initiatives related to the January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Events.
12. Direct DEO, in partnership with relevant County departments and leveraging their network of America’s Job Centers of California and Community Based Organizations, to increase awareness and access to existing unemployment insurance and disaster unemployment assistance and other critical resources for workers who have lost wages due to the fire disaster and its impacts, prioritizing workers with the highest socioeconomic need.
13. Direct DEO and DCBA in coordination with federal, state, and local partners and key stakeholders, to conduct a culturally competent and linguistically appropriate education and outreach campaign to those in the County affected by the fires to raise awareness about available relief resources and facilitate access to funds for eligible victims, businesses, and workers.
14. Recommend that the Los Angeles County Office of Education work with affected school districts to coordinate the continuation of education for students whose schools have been damaged or destroyed or who have been displaced by this emergency, provide coordination and support for transportation needs for displaced students, and provide coordination and support to rebuild or repair impacted schools.

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