

# Blue Ribbon Commission on Climate Action and Fire Safe Recovery

In order to support a more resilient and sustainable recovery from the 2025 LA County Wildfires, Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath is convening an independent commission of these leading experts to volunteer their time to inform recommendations for LA County's recovery and rebuilding effort that prioritizes resiliency to natural hazards.



Matt Peterson  
(Chair)

CEO, LA Cleantech Incubator; Former Chief Sustainability Officer (City of Los Angeles)

Matt Petersen is CEO of the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI), advancing a green economy. Former LA Chief Sustainability Officer, he created the Sustainable City pLAN. He chairs Climate Mayors, and serves on multiple boards, including Habitat for Humanity LA, Center for Environmental Health, the Sir Edmund Hilary Institute for International Leadership, and the Council on Foreign Relations.



Fran Pavley  
(Vice Chair)

State Senator (Ret.), Environmental Policy Director, USC Schwarzenegger Institute

Fran Pavley served 29 years in elected office, including as California State Senator and Agoura Hills' first mayor. She authored landmark climate laws (AB 1493, AB 32, SB 32) and led efforts on groundwater, ocean, and forest protection. She now directs environmental policy at the USC Schwarzenegger Institute.



Martin Adams

General Manager (Ret.), LA Department of Water and Power

Martin Adams, former General Manager and Chief Engineer of LADWP, oversaw water systems, clean energy upgrades during his 40+ years there. A native of Burbank and Loyola Marymount University alum, he now serves on the President's Infrastructure Advisory Council and industry-related and community boards involved in water, hydrogen and healthcare.



Marissa Aho

Former Chief Resilience Officer for Los Angeles and Houston; Director Executive Climate Office King County, WA.

Marissa Aho, AICP serves as the Climate Director for King County, Washington. She began her public service career as the first Chief Resilience Officer for the city of Los Angeles, then served as the first Chief Resilience Officer for the city of Houston after Hurricane Harvey.



Ted Bardacke

CEO, Clean Power Alliance

Ted Bardacke is CEO of Clean Power Alliance, the preferred electricity provider for 35 communities across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and the largest green energy provider in the United States. Prior to becoming CPA's first employee in 2018, Ted was Director of Infrastructure for the City of Los Angeles.



Ron Frierson

Director of Economic Development, Amazon; Board Chair, LA Economic Development Corporation

Ron Frierson is Director of Economic Development for Amazon in the Western U.S., leading investment projects in six states. Formerly, he served as Director of Economic Policy for LA Mayor Garcetti, overseeing key initiatives like the COVID-19 relief fund. Ron has 20+ years of experience in private and public sector economic development.



Mark Gold

Former California Deputy Secretary for Oceans and Coastal Policy; Director for Water Scarcity Solutions, NRDC.

Mark Gold is Director of Water Scarcity Solutions at NRDC, focusing on water management in California. Formerly Executive Director of the Ocean Protection Council, he led coastal protection efforts and served at UCLA and Heal the Bay. He also represents Santa Monica on the MWD and is an adjunct professor at UCLA for more than 15 years.



Russell Goldsmith

Former Chairman City National Bank; Chairman, Forest Management Company

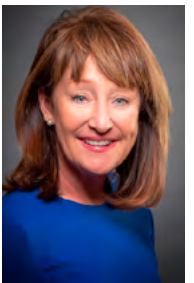
Russell Goldsmith is Chairman of Forest Management Co. and Co-Chair of Symbiotic Capital, a global life-science credit firm. Former Chairman/CEO of City National Bank, Goldsmith also represented the 12th Federal Reserve District on the Fed Board's Advisory Council. He still serves the Aspen Institute Board of Trustees, Cedar-Sinai Board of Directors, and Council on Foreign Relations.



Laurie Johnson

Former Chief Catastrophe Response and Resiliency Officer, California Earthquake Authority

Laurie Johnson is an award-winning urban planner specializing in disaster recovery and catastrophe risk management. For over 30 years, she has combined her unique blend of professional practice and research in earth science, urban planning and public policy to help communities and organizations address the complex challenges posed by earth and climate hazards.



Mary Leslie

President, Los Angeles Business Council

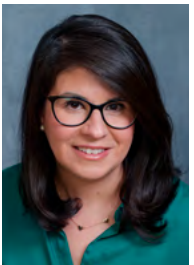
Mary Leslie is Chair of the California Independent System Operator and serves on A Sustainability Leadership Council, LA Cleantech Incubator Board of Directors, Los Angeles Conservation Corporation Board of Directors, UCLA Advisory Committee for the Luskin Center for Innovation, and is a member of the Pacific Council of International Policy. As LABC President since 2001, she's led efforts on housing, sustainable development, and workforce opportunities.



Rudy Ortega

Tribal President, Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Rudy Ortega Jr. is the Tribal President of the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. He oversees the Tribe's affairs and has led efforts in land conservation, cultural preservation, and climate action, serving on multiple boards including the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and LA Climate Emergency Mobilization Committee.



Veronica Padilla

CEO, Pacoima Beautiful

Veronica Padilla serves her community with Pacoima Beautiful. She holds degrees in Geography/Environmental Studies and Urban Planning from UCLA and has worked in government and private sectors in housing and GIS work. Veronica served as a LA Planning Commissioner and now sits on the SCAQMD Governing Board and Measure W Watershed Council and Measure A Oversight committee. Her goal is to improve community welfare and create an equitable, healthy, safe environment.



Jonathan Parfrey

CEO, Climate Resolve

Jonathan Parfrey is executive director of Climate Resolve. From 2008 to 2013, Parfrey served as commissioner at LADWP. Parfrey founded the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation. Since 2016, Parfrey's served on the State of California Climate Adaptation Technical Advisory Council.



Tracy Quinn

CEO, Heal the Bay

Tracy Quinn serves as President and CEO of Heal the Bay, a nonprofit that uses science, policy, education, and community engagement to protect and restore the coastal waters of Greater LA. Tracy is also a licensed civil engineer in California.



Laurie Schoeman

CIO, Partners for the Common Good

Laurie Johnson is an award-winning urban planner specializing in disaster recovery and catastrophe risk management. For over 30 years, she has combined her unique blend of professional practice and research in earth science, urban planning and public policy to help communities and organizations address the complex challenges posed by earth and climate.



Donna Shen Tripp

Partner, Craig Lawson & Co.

Donna Shen Tripp, Partner at Craig Lawson & Co., has 25+ years of experience in community planning and housing. She's served in various leadership roles, including at HUD, and currently co-chairs VICA's Land Use Committee. Donna is a member of the Urban Land Institute's (ULI's) national Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Product Council and also teaches in the MRED program at USC.



Ben Stapleton

Executive Director, US Green Building Council, California

Ben Stapleton is a recognized sustainability leader with a focus on building teams and designing programs to deliver impactful results. As Executive Director for the U.S. Green Building Council California his work is focused on coordinating an ecosystem leveraging the built environment as the entry point and connective fabric to help make California a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable place for all.



Roy Wright

CEO, Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety

To stop the cycle of human suffering striking families and communities following severe weather, Roy Wright leads a team of scientists and risk communicators at IBHS who deliver strategies to build safer and stronger homes and businesses. He is a property insurance expert and resiliency leader. For two decades, Roy has served in roles that put him on the ground in the immediate aftermath of weather-driven and climate-related disasters, leading the charge for more survivable homes and businesses.



David Wilson

City Manager, West Hollywood

With 25+ years of experience in various key roles in West Hollywood and in redevelopment and housing, David Wilson's leadership is rooted in a commitment to collaboration, innovation and exceptional service. A graduate of UC Berkeley, USC and programs at UVA and Harvard, Mr. Wilson leads with a focus on performance, accountability and responsiveness to community needs.



Cecilia Estolano

Former CEO, LA City Community Redevelopment Agency

Cecilia Estolano is a leading expert on contemporary urban planning issues with experience in economic and workforce development, land use, environmental equity, and urban revitalization across the country. A champion of public education, she has served in various government and higher education roles in LA City, California, and the US EPA.