

**19. North County Disaster Recovery**

Recommendation as submitted by Supervisor Barger: Instruct the Director of the Office of Emergency Management to activate the Recovery Section of the County Emergency Operations Center and coordinate with County Departments to take all necessary actions to effectuate the recovery phase for the communities impacted by the Lake and Bobcat fires (Fires); and instruct County Departments to take the following actions, and any other specific actions necessary to recovery, within the umbrella of the Recovery Section, to:

Instruct the Directors of Public Health, Public Works and the Office of Emergency Management, and the Fire Chief, to conduct an evaluation on the ability to expedite the safe removal of fire debris and effectively mitigate the negative health effects of exposure to hazardous waste;

Instruct the Directors of Public Health, Mental Health and Public Social Services to conduct a needs assessment and evaluate the implementation of public health, mental health and eligible social service resources to mitigate the negative effects experienced by those affected by the Fires;

Instruct the Acting Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Development Authority and Acting Director of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services to conduct an assessment on the ability to provide eligible housing and community-based services to mitigate the loss experienced by those impacted by the Fires;

Instruct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to suspend all fees for copies of real property records recorded with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for any individuals who lost such records as a result of the Fires and direct the Acting Chief Executive Officer to reimburse the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk for said suspension of fees;

Request the Assessor and instruct the Treasurer and Tax Collector to inform affected property owners of the importance of filing a Misfortune and Calamity Claim, including the impact to the deferral of the first installment property taxes due December 10, 2020;

Instruct the Treasurer and Tax Collector to ensure that payment is deferred, without penalty or interest, for those affected by the Fires until the Assessor reassesses property in accordance with State law; and report back to the Board in 90 days on the number of affected property owners who filed Misfortune and Calamity Claims, as well as the number of property owners that requested a cancellation of late payment penalties;

Instruct the Acting Director of Consumer and Business Affairs to conduct outreach to residents impacted by the disaster and provide information regarding price gouging and consumer best practices, tenant protections and business recovery resources;

Find that public interest and necessity demand immediate emergency action to repair and harden public infrastructure including public roads, bridges, roadway drainage, water supply facilities and flood control facilities; remove sediment at debris basins, debris dams and major dams and reservoirs; construct temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures and structures; and find that these emergency actions cannot be delayed by a formal competitive solicitation for bids;

Authorize the Director of Public Works, on behalf of the County, and acting as the Road Commissioner, Chief Engineer of the County Flood Control District and County Engineer, to carry out the following emergency activities:

Coordinate with the National Forest Service and any other property owner, as needed, to restore and modify damaged infrastructure, including the construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures, required as a result of the fire;

Trim or remove fire-damaged trees adjacent to any County roads, bridges, flood control facilities and water supply facilities within the fire area and, if any of the trees are within Significant Ecological Areas, work with the Director of Regional Planning to secure permits or exemptions, if applicable, for said work, with particular emphasis on addressing impacted Joshua Trees;

Restore damaged road and flood control infrastructure, and construct temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures required as a result of the fire;

Conduct outreach to impacted residents and provide engineering advice on mitigation of impacts from potential debris flows;

Develop strategies and action plans for potential mudflow events, including maintenance and road closure plans;

Analyze and map debris flow hazards and develop strategies and action plans for potential mudflow events, including maintenance and road closure plans;

Acquire the necessary rights-of-way and permits, and enter into agreements including, but not limited to, cooperative agreements with the United States Forest Service, as necessary to conduct these emergency actions;

Submit grant applications and conduct any necessary actions, including negotiating and executing grant agreements and signing requests for reimbursements to the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the California Office of Emergency Services, in order to secure Federal and State funds for emergency infrastructure repairs and rehabilitation, and debris flow protection measures, as necessary;

Fully utilize existing resources, and apply increased resources as necessary, to assist property owners in the reconstruction of structures damaged or destroyed by the fire; the Departments of Regional Planning, Public Health, Fire and Public Works assistance will include streamlined coordination, plan review and permit issuance for project compliance with County's building codes and all building requirements and assistance will also include enhanced community outreach to affected property owners through local information workshops and one-on-one consultation;

Supplement and extend for up to 12 months existing professional service contracts, such as geotechnical, design, inspection, environmental and survey, by up to an additional \$2,000,000 each, not to exceed a maximum additional aggregate amount of \$35,000,000 to support the Department of Public Works' emergency recovery activities, and up to an additional \$1,500,000 each, with a not to exceed maximum additional aggregate amount of \$20,000,000 for other existing support service contracts, such as field security, debris removal and disposal, haul-truck services and operated heavy equipment contracts, to support emergency repairs to County facilities and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures required as a result of the Fires; and

Supplement the existing road emergency repair contracts by up to an additional aggregate amount of \$5,000,000 to support emergency repairs to County facilities and construction of temporary and permanent debris mitigation measures required as a result of the Fires;

Find that the proposed removal of sediment from debris basins, debris dams, and major dams including Cogswell, Morris, San Gabriel, Santa Anita, Sawpit, and any additional dams which may be impacted by the Bobcat Fire, the construction of rail and timber structures and other temporary flood control facilities, and any other directly related and immediate action, including maintenance and repairs required to prevent or mitigate the emergency, are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act;

Authorize the Director of Public Works to perform force account work, to negotiate and amend existing emergency and as-needed contracts on behalf of the County, in an amount not to exceed an aggregate total of \$30,000,000 for the necessary equipment, services and supplies, in order to repair road facilities damaged by the Fires;

Instruct the Director of Public Works to report back to the Board on a regular basis, as required by Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code, on what actions have been taken and verify the need to continue these emergency actions;

Instruct the Director of Public Works to work with Southern California Edison to expedite and establish a streamlined permitting process to install temporary power solutions and associated infrastructure within the public rights-of-way and on County properties and establish a similar process that includes the Department of Regional Planning for private property;

Instruct the Director of Public Works to work with the Director of Public Health to identify and streamline permitting for necessary actions to repair existing septic systems and water wells;

Instruct the Director of Regional Planning to identify potential exemptions from current regulations governing land use restrictions that may impact the recovery and rebuilding efforts;

Direct the Acting Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Directors of Public Works and Regional Planning, and the Fire Chief, to build online resources, specific to the impacted communities, that provide step-by-step instructions on the recovery and rebuilding process; and

Direct the Acting Chief Executive Officer to send a five-signature letter to Governor Gavin Newsom thanking him for his support for additional resources with the response efforts, to request his continued support for financial assistance with recovery efforts in Los Angeles County, and to request the State to proclaim a state of emergency for the Lake Fire. (20-5572)

**Interested person(s) submitted written testimony.**

**After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Barger, seconded by Supervisor Kuehl, this item was duly carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Supervisor Solis, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor Kuehl, Supervisor Hahn and Supervisor Barger

**Attachments:** [Motion by Supervisor Barger](#)  
[Five-Signature Letter](#)  
[Report](#)  
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)  
[Audio](#)

## **20. Los Angeles County Shelter Crisis Declaration**

Recommendation as submitted by Supervisor Barger: Find that pursuant to Government Code Section 8698 et seq., a significant number of persons within the County are without the ability to obtain shelter, which has resulted in a threat to those persons' health and safety; adopt a resolution declaring that the shelter crisis previously declared to exist within the County remains in effect for an additional year, during the period from October 31, 2020 through November 1, 2021; authorize the Acting Chief Executive Officer to designate additional County public facilities to be occupied by homeless persons for emergency housing during the period of the declared shelter crisis, in connection with, and as a result of the Board's shelter-crisis declaration, the provisions of any State or local regulatory statute, regulation or ordinance prescribing standards of housing, health or safety shall be suspended with respect to any County public facilities that are owned, operated, leased or maintained by the County and are designated for use as emergency housing pursuant to the Board's shelter crisis declaration, to the extent that strict compliance would in any way prevent, hinder or delay the mitigation of the effects of the shelter crisis; find that the recommended actions are either not a project or are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act; and take the following actions:

In place of such suspended housing, health or safety standards, the County's additional public facilities that are made available for temporary housing for homeless persons during the declared shelter crisis will be