

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: As a community advocate, I support the budget request from LAFD. Given Mayor Bass' multiple failures to address and lead recent fires, her absence from the country despite high wind warnings, her losing trust among Angelenos, LAFD needs more budget than the police. In view of recent fires, mayor's press conferences sound more like public relations presentations than those of a concerned person, she seems not to have direct contact with constituents; she seems distant and unconnected to the trauma experienced by ordinary citizens. The Fire Department's executive leadership has offered an array of excuses for its alleged delay in responding to the fire's initial outbreak. According to several former high-ranking LAFD officials, the department failed to pre-deploy engines in high-risk areas. Officials. Including Chief Crowley, claimed pre-deployment was hindered by budget cuts reducing the number of mechanics to keep reserve units ready for action. However, the LA Times found the majority of reserve units were ready for duty but left uncalled for until the fire was out of control. To cut a very long story short, LAFD needs these funds, and more.