

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dean and Jasmin

**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 09:20 AM

**Council File No:** 24-1600

**Comments for Public Posting:** "I would like the CERT Unit to continue operating with no less than 8 full-time Fire Fighter Instructors under the guidance and direction of the LAFD, where CERT was originally conceived. If Los Angeles cannot sustain a successful CERT Program and provide free disaster preparedness to its citizens, the optics and faith in our City will be diminished, just as Los Angeles steps onto the world stage for the NBA All-Star 2026, FIFA World Cup (2026), Super Bowl LXI (2027) and the 2028 Summer Olympics. Keep CERT in its entirety, and show the world that we are ready for anything"

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andrew Schulman

**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 11:23 AM

**Council File No:** 24-1600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I request that you DO NOT decrease the funding for the CERT program. It's of vital importance to the disaster readiness/preparation of LA's many neighborhoods.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amy Steinberg

**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 02:30 PM

**Council File No:** 24-1600

**Comments for Public Posting:** For the good of our community, I'd like the CERT Unit to continue operating with no fewer than 8 full-time Fire Fighter Instructors under the guidance and direction of the LAFD, where CERT was originally conceived. If Los Angeles cannot sustain a successful CERT Program and provide free disaster preparedness to its citizens, the optics and faith in our City will be diminished, just as Los Angeles steps onto the world stage for the NBA All-Star 2026, FIFA World Cup (2026), Super Bowl LXI (2027) and the 2028 Summer Olympics. Keep CERT in its entirety, and show the world that we are ready for anything! Thank you for your attention.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jean-Paul Issock  
**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 04:16 PM  
**Council File No:** 24-1600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Happy New Year, I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program in our community. As a resident of Westchester for many years, a property manager overseeing over 130 properties locally, a pilot, a former U.S. Army service member, and a dedicated volunteer—including over a decade with CERT and roles as Assistant Scoutmaster and Committee Chair for Troop 927—I have witnessed firsthand the profound benefits this program provides. The CERT program has been an invaluable resource for our community, equipping residents with the skills and confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations. From earthquakes and power outages to car accidents, CERT training prepares individuals to act decisively, potentially saving lives and mitigating the impact of disasters. This program helps people understand how to react when a car accident happens, or when a stroke or heart attack occurs—all situations I have unfortunately witnessed firsthand and been able to render aid. When an earthquake happens, I am checking on neighbors. We need more like-minded volunteers, not fewer, creating them. I am also deeply concerned about the proposed reduction of CERT instructors from eight to only two. Such a significant decrease in staffing would drastically reduce the program's effectiveness and its ability to train and prepare community members. The reach and impact of CERT depend on having a robust team of instructors to provide comprehensive and timely training to as many participants as possible. Our family—myself, my spouse, and our two children—has participated in CERT, reflecting our collective commitment to community safety. This program fosters a sense of empowerment and responsibility that extends far beyond individual households, creating a network of trained and capable individuals who can provide critical support in times of need. While I understand that budget constraints and policy decisions often necessitate difficult choices, I urge you to consider the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of the CERT program. It represents a small investment with a substantial return in terms of community resilience and safety. Few initiatives provide such a direct and tangible benefit to the well-being of our residents. I respectfully request that you advocate for the continued funding

and support of the CERT program. Its value to our community cannot be overstated, and I am confident that with your leadership, we can ensure its longevity for the benefit of all. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss this further or hear more about my experiences with CERT. Respectfully,  
Jean-Paul Issock ROC Property Management Troop 927  
Committee Chair/ASM

Happy New Year,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program in our community. As a resident of Westchester for many years, a property manager overseeing over 130 properties locally, a pilot, a former U.S. Army service member, and a dedicated volunteer—including over a decade with CERT and roles as Assistant Scoutmaster and Committee Chair for Troop 927—I have witnessed firsthand the profound benefits this program provides.

The CERT program has been an invaluable resource for our community, equipping residents with the skills and confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations. From earthquakes and power outages to car accidents, CERT training prepares individuals to act decisively, potentially saving lives and mitigating the impact of disasters. This program helps people understand how to react when a car accident happens, or when a stroke or heart attack occurs—all situations I have unfortunately witnessed firsthand and been able to render aid. When an earthquake happens, I am checking on neighbors. We need more like-minded volunteers, not fewer, creating them.

I am also deeply concerned about the proposed reduction of CERT instructors from eight to only two. Such a significant decrease in staffing would drastically reduce the program's effectiveness and its ability to train and prepare community members. The reach and impact of CERT depend on having a robust team of instructors to provide comprehensive and timely training to as many participants as possible.

Our family—myself, my spouse, and our two children—has participated in CERT, reflecting our collective commitment to community safety. This program fosters a sense of empowerment and responsibility that extends far beyond individual households, creating a network of trained and capable individuals who can provide critical support in times of need.

While I understand that budget constraints and policy decisions often necessitate difficult choices, I urge you to consider the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of the CERT program. It represents a small investment with a substantial return in terms of community resilience and safety. Few initiatives provide such a direct and tangible benefit to the well-being of our residents.

I respectfully request that you advocate for the continued funding and support of the CERT program. Its value to our community cannot be overstated, and I am confident that with your leadership, we can ensure its longevity for the benefit of all.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you would like to discuss this further or hear more about my experiences with CERT.

Respectfully,

Jean-Paul Isock  
ROC Property Management  
Troop 927 Committee Chair/ASM

# Communication from Public

**Name:** SoL Scope  
**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 05:30 PM  
**Council File No:** 24-1600  
**Comments for Public Posting:** See Attachment Below

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Honourable Members of the City Council:

I wish to join in with many others who have requested action on your part to stop the proposed reduction in the L A Fire Department CERT unit staff. I have gone through the CERT training provided by the fire department staff and it was invaluable in order to prepare for the inevitable emergency (whether earthquake or fire) to strike Los Angeles. My neighbours and I are now preparing a community group based on the CERT training I received. We understand the limited LAFD resources available in a major disaster and the need of member of the community to be prepared to deal with problems on their own. Reduction in the staff available for training will reduce the number of people, such as myself, who have been trained in first aid, search and rescue, and dealing with hazards arising from an emergency.

Thank you, Sol Scope

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lee Ann Kennedy  
**Date Submitted:** 01/05/2025 05:54 PM  
**Council File No:** 24-1600  
**Comments for Public Posting:** See attachment

## PUBLIC COMMENT LAK

Honourable Members of the City Council:

I wish to join in with many others who have requested action on your part to stop the proposed reduction in the L A Fire Department CERT unit staff. I have twice completed the CERT training provided by the fire department staff and it was invaluable in order to prepare for the inevitable emergency (whether earthquake or fire) to strike Los Angeles. I have followed the advice provided to prepare for an emergency and have recommended the program to friends and neighbors. My neighbors and I are now preparing a community group based on the CERT training I received. We understand the limited LAFD resources available in a major disaster and the need for community members to be prepared to deal with problems on their own and to help others. Reduction in the staff available for training will reduce the number of people, such as myself, who have been trained in first aid, search and rescue, and dealing with hazards arising from an emergency. When the next earthquake occurs, without trained CERT volunteers, the impact to Los Angeles will be enormous.

Thank you