

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Letter of Support for the LAFD CERT Program submitted by Elaine Alaniz (WNNC)

**Date Submitted:** 02/13/2025 10:14 AM

**Council File No:** 24-1600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Letter of strong support for the Los Angeles Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. This initiative plays a vital role in enhancing community safety, providing residents with the training and resources needed to respond effectively during emergencies and disasters. The CERT Program empowers local residents to take an active role in disaster preparedness, improving the overall resilience of our neighborhoods. It fosters a sense of community collaboration and readiness, ensuring that we are not only prepared individually but can also support one another during challenging times. I strongly encourage continued support for this valuable program, as it directly contributes to the safety and well-being of all members of our community.

January 9, 2025

Westlake North Neighborhood Council  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

ATTENTION: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

**Motion in support of the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) Board of Fire Commissioners File No. 24-1600 Section Emergency Operations and Specialized Resource Impact - Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Unit**

Honorable City Councilmembers and Board of Fire Commissioners,

The Westlake North Neighborhood Council (WNNC) fully supports the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Unit, its mission, its professional staff and their dedication to the City of Los Angeles. As outlined in File Report No. 24-117, the LAFD CERT Unit plays a crucial role in providing essential community education on emergency preparedness, prevention, and recovery. The LAFD CERT Unit offers significant benefits to our community, helping us to prepare for, respond to and recover from incidents. The community benefits extremely from these community training programs specially now that our City is limited in resources.

There have been multiple fires and other critical incidents within the Westlake North area where the preparedness skills promoted by the LAFD CERT Unit were put to use by community members. These efforts have proven to be indispensable and are more urgently needed now more than ever.

In recognition of the importance of the LAFD CERT Unit, the Westlake North Neighborhood Council is hosting LAFD CERT community education classes both in English and Spanish. We understand the significance of educating and training our community in emergency preparedness to ensure their safety and resilience.

The Westlake North Neighborhood Council respectfully urges the City Council and the Board of Fire Commissioners to approve and allocate the necessary Overtime Variable Staffing Hours (V-Hours) required to continue supporting the vital work of the LAFD CERT Unit.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Respectfully,

Rebecca M. Alvarado (Treasurer ), Elaine Alaniz (President)

*Rebecca M. Alvarado*     *Elaine Alaniz*  
Westlake North Neighborhood Council

[www.westlakenorthnc.org](http://www.westlakenorthnc.org)

