

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brad Brody  
**Date Submitted:** 04/05/2025 10:32 PM  
**Council File No:** 24-1600  
**Comments for Public Posting:** SEE BELOW

April 5, 2025

Honorable Commissioners.

I am addressing the LAFD CERT Program's continued support by the City of Los Angeles. With pending budget restrictions, it is crucial to consider the value and importance of the Community Emergency Response Team.

Although I know I'm preaching to the choir here, the fact that LAFD's CERT Program has the very real potential of saving lives while also providing valuable awareness training along with recurrent skills-building opportunities. Citizens that have completed the basic CERT training then become ambassadors to spread disaster preparedness awareness with their immediate circle of friends, family and neighbors. Communities outside of Los Angeles City avail themselves to training provided by LAFD CERT, both in-person and via Zoom courses. The Los Angeles Fire Department uniquely leads the field in CERT Training.

The LAFD CERT Call Out Team has proven it's worth as detailed in available statistics. The CERT Team's readiness and recurrent training performed by by this cadre of trained and vetted volunteers is outstanding. Fire Station security; manning hydration stations at large fires; working special events; assisting at LAFD functions; manning the Wildfire Camera System; and enhancing community outreach are all aspects that the LAFD CERT Call Out Team undertakes. As a former law enforcement supervisor, I can attest to the extraordinary efforts taken by the CERT Bureau Coordinators to run this immense volunteer organization. There are numerous hours of planning and preparations that are not captured as statistics. The enthusiasm and application to duties by CERT volunteers of all ranks is commendable.

Simply put, the LAFD CERT Program deserves the continued support of the LAFD and the City of Los Angeles. The CERT Program is an investment that will save lives and mitigate property damage that we in the Greater Los Angeles area are certain to encounter in future disasters.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Brody