

Communication from Public

Name: Barry A Schulman
Date Submitted: 01/13/2026 07:45 PM
Council File No: 25-0006-S57

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, I respectfully urge you to vote “yes” to waive plan check and permit fees for all Pacific Palisades fire survivors, especially owners of condominiums, townhomes, mobile homes, and apartment buildings, which constitute the community’s remaining affordable housing. Waiving rebuilding fees for all Palisadians is a matter of equity. Failure to waive these fees will directly cause displacement. Rebuilding fees are not a minor inconvenience; they are a decisive barrier to recovery for multi-unit homeowners and renters. Residents of these housing types are disproportionately retirees, underinsured, and have limited access to credit. Without relief, many will never return. This displacement is already happening. Two condominium HOAs, representing 61 households, have been forced to sell their land because they could not afford to rebuild and at least two other developments are seriously considering doing the same. This is not an anomaly; it is a warning. Without immediate and universal fee relief, more multi-unit housing will fail, more land will be sold, and more affordable housing will be permanently lost. The City Administrative Officer’s estimate of the cost to waive fees is fundamentally flawed. The revised \$278 million figure assumes that 100-percent of all fire-affected properties will rebuild at 150-percent of their original size. This assumption is contradicted by decades of post-fire rebuilding data in California, which shows that only about 40-percent of properties original owners. Multi-unit housing typically is rebuilt at original size due to insurance limits, HOA rules, zoning constraints, and financing realities. Plan check and permit fees for multi-unit housing represent a negligible portion of overall rebuilding costs and are a small percentage of those for single-family homes and duplexes yet are enough to prevent recovery for the most vulnerable residents. Why forsake us for so little? Worse yet, denying this relief is fiscally unsound. Approximately 60-percent of all properties will be sold and rebuilt by new owners, generating an estimated \$166.8 million in permit and plan check fees. This represents new revenue for the city that would not exist had the fire not occurred. Please do not try to profit off our tragedy! Los Angeles is one city. This is not a request to subsidize a single neighborhood; it is about preventing displacement, preserving housing diversity, and ensuring recovery does not favor only

those with the greatest financial means. Preventing the loss of multi-unit housing in Pacific Palisades reduces pressure on already scarce housing citywide, protects the tax base, and supports jobs. Should disaster strike your district tomorrow, your constituents would expect fairness, urgency, and leadership. Pacific Palisades residents deserve the same. I urge you to stand for equity, prevent permanent displacement, and vote “yes” to waive plan check and building permit fees for all impacted Palisadians, especially owners of condominiums, townhomes, mobile homes, and apartment buildings. Sincerely, Barry Schulman 1641 Michael Lane Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Alford

Date Submitted: 01/14/2026 06:09 AM

Council File No: 25-0006-S57

Comments for Public Posting: We did not ask for the emotional, financial, and physical disruption of the fires. The City did not and is not responding appropriately. We respectfully request that permit fees be waived, as they have been in Malibu and Altadena. To add the additional burden of payment for rebuilding will change the fabric of our community.