

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jane S Permaul

**Date Submitted:** 01/19/2026 01:30 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0006-S57

**Comments for Public Posting:** I understand the Permit Fees Waiver is coming up for reconsideration tomorrow by the Finance Comm. and hopefully shortly thereafter by the Council. I urge you to vote YES, in waiving all permit fees for ALL Palisadians whose homes and businesses have been destroyed by the Palisades fire. I, along with many others, have shared our reasoning in the first round and I am glad that the Council is reconsidering your analysis of the financial impact. The bottom line is that financially the City will not lose revenue, if not regain, as soon as a building is rebuilt. But, more importantly, it is essential to waive the fee burden in order to rebuild the community which has been lost. PLEASE NOTE FOR THOSE DISTRICTS THAT SEEM TO NOT BENEFIT FROM A WAIVER, IN FACT, THESE DISTRICTS HAVE IN THE PAST BENEFITTED, BY VIRTUE THAT CD11 GENERATE MORE REVENUE FOR THE CITY. THE SOONER CD11 CAN RECOVER, THE SOONER THE CITY CAN REGAIN ITS FINANCIAL AND STABILITY IN ALL THE COUNCIL DISTRICTS. Thank you for your attention and hopefully your compassion for one victimized district which is struggling to recover.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Daphne Gronich  
**Date Submitted:** 01/19/2026 06:39 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0006-S57

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our family lost our home in the Palisades Fire and are trying to rebuild. We are rebuilding because we have to and were burned out, not because we chose to do so. We urge you to approve the permit fee waivers for all affected Palisadians who lost their single family homes, condos, townhomes and places of business in the Fire. We are not asking you to approve fee waivers for investors and outside parties - = ONLY for those wishing to rebuild their properties (or to rebuild a home at a new address in the Palisades) within the eligibility criteria (with only prorated fees if the build is larger than the eligible rebuild). Too many Fire survivors may not be able to afford to rebuild without the fee waivers due to insufficient and/or delayed insurance proceeds. Permit fee waivers are consistent with past practices in LA and across the state, including after the Northridge earthquake and other catastrophic events, and consistent with what the County of LA is doing for Eaton Fire survivors and those who lived in the unincorporated (County) areas affected by the Palisades Fire. If a disaster struck your Council District area tomorrow, your constituents would expect fairness, urgency, and leadership, and we are confident that our Councilmember would support measures like the ones we are requesting be approved for your constituents. Palisades Fire disaster survivors, who have paid taxes for years and who were burned out deserve the same. We are all Angelenos and our City and its City Council should approve the waivers. We urge you to vote to waive plan check and building permit fees for all impacted residents (but NOT outside investors who were not actually burned out in the Fire).. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Grant Skibitzke

**Date Submitted:** 01/19/2026 07:58 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0006-S57

**Comments for Public Posting:** Subject: Please Waive Plan Check and Building Permit Fees for All Pacific Palisades Fire Survivors Dear Council members I respectfully urge you to vote yes on waiving plan check and building permit fees for all Pacific Palisades fire survivors, including owners of condominiums, townhomes, mobile homes, and apartment buildings that make up much of the community's remaining affordable housing. On January 7, 2025, thousands of Angelenos lost their homes overnight to a catastrophic fire. They did not choose this loss, yet they now face city fees simply to rebuild. For many, especially seniors and residents of multi-unit housing, these fees are not incidental—they are a decisive barrier that will force displacement. Without universal fee relief, our most vulnerable residents and much of the community's affordable housing will be permanently lost. Waiving rebuilding fees is a matter of fairness and common sense. The City Administrative Officer's \$278 million estimate of potentially waived fees is based on unrealistic assumptions—that every affected property will rebuild at up to 150% of its original size. Decades of post-fire rebuilding data in California show that only about 40% of properties are typically rebuilt by original owners, and most rebuilds are close to original size due to insurance limits, zoning rules, HOA restrictions, and financing constraints. The estimate significantly overstates any potential loss. This figure is not a cost; it is a theoretical maximum revenue estimate. Under realistic assumptions, the City will still collect substantial new revenue from post-fire rebuilding. If roughly 60% of properties are sold and rebuilt by new owners, the City would generate an estimated \$166.8 million in permit and plan check fees—revenue that would not exist without the fire. Waiving fees for original owners does not deprive the City; it accelerates recovery. Los Angeles is one city. This is not a request to subsidize a single neighborhood—it is a choice about whether the City will allow displacement to cascade across the housing system. Preventing the loss of houses and multi-unit housing in Pacific Palisades reduces pressure on already scarce housing citywide, protects the tax base, and supports jobs. If a disaster struck your district tomorrow, your constituents would expect fairness, urgency, and leadership. Pacific Palisades residents deserve the same. For these reasons, I urge you to vote in favor of waiving plan check and

building permit fees for all Pacific Palisades fire survivors.  
Sincerely, Grant Skibitzke 1015 Hartzell St Pacific Palisades, CA  
90272

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Abundant Housing LA  
**Date Submitted:** 01/19/2026 09:52 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0006-S57  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Abundant Housing LA supports Option 3 in CAO report on fee waivers for Rebuild projects.



1/19/2025

LA City Council Budget and Finance Committee

**Re: Fee Waivers for Rebuilding of Properties Damaged in January 2025 Fires (CF 25-0006-S57): Support Option 3**

Dear Budget and Finance Committee Members,

I write on behalf of Abundant Housing LA in support of Option 3 in the City Administrative Officer's 1/16/26 report on fee waivers for rebuilding of fire damaged properties. Please vote to waive plan check and building 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 of Palisadians from the neighborhood they love, and will exacerbate the region-wide supply crisis. Rebuilding fees are not a minor inconvenience; for multi-unit homeowners and renters, they are a decisive barrier to recovery. Residents in these housing types are disproportionately retirees, underinsured households, and people with limited access to credit. Without relief, many will never return.

This displacement is already happening. Two condominium/townhome HOAs—representing 61 households—have been forced to sell their land because they could not afford to rebuild. 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.

Los Angeles is one city. This is not a request to subsidize a single neighborhood—it is a choice about whether the City will allow displacement to cascade across the housing system. Preventing the loss of multi-unit housing in Pacific Palisades reduces pressure on already scarce housing citywide, protects the tax base, and supports jobs.

Finally, Abundant Housing LA encourages **expanding fee waiver eligibility for multi-family projects that add density**. Encouraging greater density can increase project feasibility for some rebuilds and make it easier for returning (and new) residents

to settle in Pacific Palisades. Greater density will also support the return of a thriving commercial village in the community.

Sincerely,

**Scott Epstein**

Director of Policy and Research

Abundant Housing LA