

Notes on the Ad Hoc Committee on LA Recovery Meeting –  
Monday, April 21, 2025 (by Lorie Cudzil)

The following Palisades residents attended the meeting downtown: Kimberly Bloom, Lorie Cudzil, Don Iselin, Sue Kohl, Allison Holdorff Polhill, Jessica Rogers, Leeanne Sanderson, and Maryam Zar

The meeting was shorter than usual due to Mayor Bass's 12pm State of the City address already scheduled.

Most of the residents got up to speak on important issues we are facing:

- Very passionately asking about and pleading for the waiving of building and permit fees
- Asking for clarity about limitations and guidelines with respect to rebuilding, ie. Can you keep natural gas if you don't go over the 110%, and/or if you remove your foundation?
- Mosquitos in pools - we were told not drain pools until the debris is removed. What is being done about pools with standing water that is contributing to an increase in the mosquitos? Treatment of pools needs to be expedited.
- Getting insurance after we rebuild - We are asking the City to be our advocate when it comes to getting insured after we rebuild. We need clear guidelines and notifications of any new fire codes and building standards that will enable us to get insurance in the future.
- The investigation - No insurance company is going to come into the Palisades and insure us without a proper explanation of the city's failures on Jan 7th and Jan 8th. The Methodist Church, founding Palisades entity, was standing the morning of the 8th and burned to the ground that afternoon. We need to know how/why that happened.
- Continued environmental testing to make sure our air/land/water are safe.

Councilwoman Park thanked us for coming and bringing our concerns. She stressed how critical it is to continue giving our feedback as it will be used to inform legislation going forward.

Several Departments gave their reports to the Committee:

- The Board of Engineering said there is no damage to tunnels and bridges. 11 out of the 19 bulkheads need to be repaired. BOE has implemented repairs on 4 of those so far.

\*\* There was a landslide on Posetano Road in the Castellammare area. They've been working on it with ACE. BOE initially cleared enough debris to get access to Posetano. Then the Army came in and finished clearing the three houses that were burned up above. BOE is going to install a little structure at the base of the landslide to keep future debris from going onto the road. At the top of the landslide, there's going to be a need to repair

Posetano before BOE can reopen that to the two homes on the East side that were also destroyed.

- Streets LA - There have been reports of illegal dumping of trees onto private property. To report illegal dumping, call 213-847-6000. If you need help removing trees that are fire damaged, go to myLA311.
- Sanitation - Councilwoman Park pointed out that it is extremely concerning and upsetting that we on the West side are the repository for the watershed, for the entire region. So all the toxins and poisons and the garbage from all over LA moves through our waterways and ends up right out on the sand and in the water in Santa Monica Bay. She wants LASAN to work on a plan to make sure all the debris from the whole region does not get dumped onto Santa Monica beaches going forward. She wants this disaster to be a reason to keep our creeks and streams clean and free of debris. LASAN indicated that there is already a coordinated effort with the County to remedy all the problems.
- Lighting - 574 light poles need to be replaced. The Street Lighting dept will try to replace the lights and poles with “like for like” replacements wherever possible to keep the aesthetics the same.
- LADWP - They are continuing to test the water. There is free water testing for any resident who requests it.

Councilwoman Rodriguez asked LADWP to look into utilitarian lighting. She talked about how dark it is and how we need more light.