

PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

June 17, 2025

Caltrans District 7 Attn: Lauren Walike, Caltrans Public Information Officer

Via email to <u>lauren.walike@dot.ca.gov</u> and <u>repave.405@dot.ca.gov</u>

Re: PPCC Request to Postpone the Caltrans 1-405 Repaving Project through the Sepulveda Pass

Dear Caltrans District 7/Ms. Walike:

Since 1973 Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) has been the voice of Pacific Palisades – the coastal/hillside community in Los Angeles that was devastated by the unprecedented, massive Palisades Fire in January 2025.

As you may know, thousands of Palisades residents became refugees from the Palisades Fire and were forced to move to other addresses throughout Los Angeles and the wider region. Many of these residents regularly travel on the I-405 through the Sepulveda Pass and have experienced the heavy traffic congestion which many believe is due in large part to PCH closures and the ongoing debris removal in Pacific Palisades. Our community is concerned that until PCH fully reopens and the debris removal is complete, traffic congestion may worsen with the repaving of the freeway expected to begin soon.¹

Therefore, after discussion at the regularly scheduled public PPCC meeting on June 12, 2025, the PPCC Board unanimously passed the following motion:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC), a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), urgently requests that Caltrans delay the I-405 Pavement Rehabilitation Project (<u>https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-7/district-7-projects/d7-405-repave-project</u>) until after:

All lanes of Pacific Coast Highway are reopened, and
All Palisades fire debris removal is complete.

PPCC believes that this delay is reasonable, given that the project is expected to take four years, and we ask that Caltrans accommodate this important request.

PPCC further requests that Councilmembers representing WRAC member councils (Park, Yaroslavsky, Hutt and/or Raman) bring a resolution in Council to effectuate this request on behalf of the City.²

We respectfully urge Caltrans' cooperation with our request that the repaving project through the Sepulveda Pass be delayed until PCH is fully reopened and all Palisades fire debris removal is complete.

Post Office Box 1131, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

¹ Although reopened, PCH is frequently subject to lane closures due to ongoing debris removal or other construction/ remediation projects; debris removal in the Palisades is not expected to be completed until late August at the earliest.

² This is a modified version of a motion recommended to the 14 member councils of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) by the WRAC Board. The motion to date has been passed by 6 member councils; once 8 member councils pass the motion, it will become an adopted position of WRAC.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sue Kohl

Sue Kohl, President Pacific Palisades Community Council www.pacpalicc.org

cc (via email): Honorable Ben Allen, CA State Senator Honorable Jacqui Irwin, CA State Assemblymember Honorable Traci Park, City Councilmember, CD 11