CATCHING UP WITH CA COMMU





MAY 30, 2025



COUNTY ADVOCACY- RELATED ACTIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADVOCACY AND DISASTER RECOVERY ROUNDTABLE









In a concerted effort to advance Los Angeles County's federal legislative priorities, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chief Executive Officer Fesia Davenport, and senior leadership from multiple County departments traveled to Washington, D.C., where they engaged in a robust advocacy mission. Their agenda focused on securing federal support for key initiatives, including wildfire disaster recovery, public health infrastructure, Medicaid funding, and housing affordability. These engagements took place over two and a half days and were aimed at strengthening partnerships and influencing policy decisions that directly impact County residents.

A significant highlight of the visit was the Disaster Recovery Roundtable cohosted by the County, held inside the U.S. Capitol. Organized in collaboration with Congressmembers Judy Chu and Brad Sherman, the event drew strong participation, including U.S. Senator Alex Padilla and 12 members of California's congressional delegation. The roundtable provided a forum for County officials to articulate the operational and fiscal challenges faced in the aftermath of recent wildfires. LA County Firefighter Ronnie Evans offered a powerful firsthand account of the personal and professional toll of wildfire response, recounting how he lost his childhood home in Altadena and was forced to evacuate his own family, while simultaneously serving on the front lines of the fire.











Upcoming Board of Supervisors' meeting dates and agendas can be found <u>here</u>.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The County is also advocating on the following legislation:

FEDERAL

• SUPPORT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (H.R.) BILL 2725 (LAHOOD) - THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CREDIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2025

<u>H.R. 2725</u> would modify and enhance the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program to facilitate the production and preservation of affordable housing nationwide. These changes would accelerate the financing of affordable housing in the County. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here.</u>

STATE

 SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 745 (IRWIN) - ELECTRICITY: UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE UNDERGROUNDING: FINANCING

AB 745 would, until December 31, 2035, permit the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to issue bonds to investor-owned utilities (IOUs) for underground utility infrastructure. This bill would expand resources for undergrounding utility infrastructure, mitigate fire risks, and may complement the CPUC's Rule 20A program. Additional details regarding this position are available here.

• SUPPORT SENATE BILL (SB) 27 (UMBERG) - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE, RECOVERY, AND EMPOWERMENT (CARE) COURT PROGRAM

<u>SB 27</u> would provide CARE Courts more discretion over holding concurrent hearings and impose requirements to hold concurrent hearings. This bill would ensure legal representation for respondents during streamlined CARE Court procedures and better serve those in urgent need of treatment. Additional details regarding this position are available <u>here</u>.

• SUPPORT SB 275 (SMALLWOOD-CUEVAS) - ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDER LIST SB 275 would provide CARE Courts more discretion over holding concurrent hearings and impose requirements to hold concurrent hearings. This bill would ensure legal representation for respondents during streamlined CARE Court procedures and better serve those in urgent need of treatment. Additional details regarding this position are available here.



SUPPORT SB 453 (STERN) - MICROGRID INCENTIVE PROGRAM

SB 453 would require that by January 15, 2026, each electrical corporation provide the CPUC with the status of any awarded or unallocated funds collected for the Microgrid Incentive Program and enable the CPUC to direct the unallocated funds to vulnerable areas. This bill could incentivize the development of microgrids in vulnerable communities within the county to improve energy resiliency. Additional details regarding this position are available here.





Los Angeles County

Medical Debt Relief Program

<u>Launched in December 2024</u>, the LA County Medical Debt Relief Program provides financial relief for qualifying County residents by purchasing and eliminating medical debt. CHECK YOUR MAILBOX! Debt relief letters started going out to LA County residents on May 19, 2025. This first wave of letters will be sent to over 134,000 residents, erasing \$183 million of medical debt.

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS: If your medical debt has been relieved, you will receive a letter in the mail from Undue Medical Debt/County of Los Angeles. If you receive a text, phone call, or email, it is a scam. The Department of Pubic Health will never ask you to provide information or payment in exchange for medical debt relief.



HEAT ADVISORY

High Temperatures Forecast for Parts of LA County

Public Health reminds everyone to take precautions to avoid heatrelated illness and recommends the following actions be taken on days with high temperatures:

- **Stay Hydrated**: Drink plenty of water to keep hydrated throughout the day. Your body loses water more rapidly through sweating to cool itself down.
- **Think Ahead, Plan, and Protect**: If you need to go outside, avoid going out during the hottest hours.
- Car Safety: Cars get very hot inside, even with the windows 'cracked' or open. Call 911 if you see a child or pet in a car alone in a car.
- **Recognize Heat Illness**: Be aware of the symptoms of <u>heat-related illness</u> like heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke is a medical emergency.
- Check on People More At-Risk: Regularly check on those who are sick or have chronic conditions, older adults, pregnant people, children, those who live alone, pets, and outdoor workers and athletes.
- **Prepare for Power Outages**: Visit your power company's website or contact them y phone to determine if you are scheduled for a rolling power outage.



DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY RESOURCES



Disaster Recovery Centers: Last Day to Visit Current Locations is Saturday, May 31st

Starting June 2nd, County services will continue to be available to those impacted by the Palisades and Eaton fires at two new locations. Centers will be open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- One-Stop Rebuilding Center 1828 Sawtelle Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025
- Altadena Community Center 730 E. Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001

Upcoming Deadlines:

- May 30th SBA Physical Damage Loans
- May 31st City of Malibu's Small Business Micro Grant Stabilization Program
- June 1st Debris Removal Permit
- June 3rd at Noon <u>Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA)</u> Altadena Disaster Relief Small Business Loan Program
- June 6th Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business Recovery Fund Grant
- June 6th The LA County Department of Arts and Culture Free Temporary Artwork Storage
- June 10th Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- July 7th Foreclosure Relief for Wildfire-Affected Homeowners

Additional Resources: • LA County Recovers • Department of Mental Health

- <u>Disaster Recovery Center Information</u> Video: Public Health Town Hall
- Resilient Rebuild Resource Guide Now Available

One Stop Permit Centers: • LA County - Eaton/Palisades

- City of Los Angeles
- City of Malibu
- City of Pasadena

ATTENTION JOB SEEKERS!

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and its employment partners invite you to attend the Department's Summer Job Fair on Thursday, June 26, at the West County GAIN Region I Office, located at 5200 W. Century Blvd. LA, CA 90045.

The job fair will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Arrive early, bring your resumes, dress for success, and be ready to interview. Call (424) 414-5223 for more information.

Find My District

✓ Federal & State Bill Tracker













WEST COUNTY GAIN REGION I

Summer





Thursday, June 26, 2025 9:00am - 12:00pm

West County GAIN Region I

5200 W. Century Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045