

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Non  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 25, 2025 2:32 PM  
**Subject:** wildfires

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the corrupt pasadena government is saying the wildfires were small and not a big deal

they are also not being transparent (what a surprise...not surprised)

which apartment addresses were destroyed by the wildfires?

taxpayers have a right to transparency

1/27/2025  
Item A

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Victor Caballero  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 26, 2025 10:37 AM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Use of Leaf Blowers

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Please include this as public comment related to

**A. UPDATE – CITY RESPONSE TO WINDSTORMS AND FIRES - CITY MANAGER AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS STAFF**

Hello,

I was stunned to read that a revised order was issued by the LA County Health Dept allowing the use of leaf blowers in : "non burn areas".

The amount of ash in our surrounding communities miles away from the burn area is substantial, hazardous and toxic.

It makes no sense that the revised order was issued. Meanwhile at the DRC even the reps working for the County had no knowledge of this.

While Pasadena has a ban on gas blowers right in front of the Home Dept on Foothill a person was running a gas blower at 10am on a Saturday. Blowing toxic plumes of ash into the air..

Our government can do better to protect its residents.

I hope that Pasadena will continue to enforce the ban on leaf blowers until testing proves that the toxicity of the ash is low enough to allow their use. And strictly enforce the ban on gas blowers.

Regards,  
Victor Caballero

**1/27/2025**  
**Item A**

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Harrison Cavallero  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 26, 2025 10:09 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Demands for clear guidelines on remediation

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There is growing support for clearer guidelines for remediation. standards after the Eaton Fire. Please address what the city plans to do on this front to address these concerns and specifically the demands laid out for testing, remediation, and insurance.

The community is converging on some clear demands from this petition:  
<https://www.change.org/eaton-fire-remediation>

Here is a summary of the petition:

## Remediation Standards

- 1.
- 2.
3. Set
4. clear rules for how far cleanup must be from homes to prevent recontamination.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
8. Remediation
9. should only happen after structures with fire damage have been properly cleaned up within a certain radius of any home, school or property without direct fire damage.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
13. The
14. standard for remediation should be to the standard for Human Habitation not OSHA standards.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
18. Any
19. steps, rules, guidelines recommended by experts avoid remediation before cleanup which will simply recontaminate nearby properties.
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.

1/27/2025  
Item A

- 23. Clear
- 24. guidance to homeowners, schools and insurers on the risks and safety conditions in homes within a certain distance of significant fire damage to structures and the ongoing risk as cleanup gets underway.
- 25.
- 26.
- 27.
- 28. Clear
- 29. guidelines for tenants and landlords for remediation.
- 30.

## Testing

- 7.
- 8.
- 9. Define
- 10. minimum guidelines for testing.
  - 11.
  - 12.
  - 13.
  - 14. Testing
- 15. should happen before remediation and include testing for all substances known or expected to be in the air by the public health and environmental agencies (lead, arsenic, asbestos, etc.).
  - 16.
  - 17.
  - 18.
  - 19. Testing
- 20. may determine the type of cleanup or whether cleanup is even tenable.
  - 21.
  - 22.
  - 23.
  - 24. Define
- 25. at what levels for certain substances a property and its contents are a "total loss", severe damage, moderate etc. for each substance.
  - 26.
  - 27.
  - 28.
  - 29. Soil
- 30. testing and remediation if necessary should be required for homes, parks, schools with proximity to significant damage.
- 31.

## Insurance and Restoration Companies

- 12.
- 13.

14. Establish

15. clear criteria for what is salvageable and not.

16.

17.

18.

19. Establish

20. clear guidelines for how to deal with porous materials and the effectiveness of CDRN and other processes for addressing textiles and porous materials with substantial smoke damage.

21.

22.

23.

24. Establish

25. clear protections for ALE and loss of use for home owners with smoke, soot and ash damage.

26.

Harrison



**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Rashna D  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 1:23 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Rivas, Jessica  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting 1/27/25 - Public Comment for Agenda Item A

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Hello City Council Members,

Due to the fires and windstorm smoke damage and poor air quality have left many homes temporarily or permanently uninhabitable. While outdoor air will improve on its own, indoor environments with smoke and ash damage need professional restoration and environmental testing. A huge number of people have been made homeless and these events have put a strain on the rental market, which was already tough prior to the disaster. To ensure all Pasadena renters are guaranteed security and safety, I along with the Pasadena Tenants Union urges the City Council do the following:

1. Enact an emergency rent freeze for all rental units in Pasadena.
2. Enact an emergency eviction moratorium for all tenants in Pasadena.
3. Perform inspections and environmental testing (for lead, mercury, asbestos, other heavy metals, VOCs, PAHs, HCl, and other potential toxins) at a representative sample of rental units that were in the evacuation zones and downwind of the fires.
4. Establish a mandatory timeline for landlords to remediate smoke and ash damage to restore habitability, including financial penalties if remediation is delayed.
5. Mandate temporary relocation assistance (independent of the eviction process) paid by landlords, for renters who will need to relocate for fewer than 30 days during remediation.
6. Provide air purifiers with combination HEPA/activated carbon filters to all Pasadena residents.

From my personal experience, this fire tragedy has been very traumatizing. I was in the evacuation zone for the first week and I could see the flames in the distance from my porch. I live about a mile from where the fire came down on Lake Avenue and had a lot of smoke and ash inside my home. If I had so much ash and smoke, I can only imagine how much worse it must be for others who are closer to the fire zone. I'm concerned about particles that have settled in the air ducts or inside the house that I am unable to see. I've suggested to my landlord to consider having the air ducts cleaned, but it does not seem he's willing to and recommended I use an air purifier.

Homeowners have been granted mortgage relief through legislation that was recently passed and I think renters should also get the same rent relief. Enacting the above mentioned measures will provide safe, healthy homes for tenants and will ensure the homelessness and housing crisis isn't worsened by the devastating Eaton Fire tragedy. Pasadena should lead the way in being a city that first and foremost takes strong measures to protect the most vulnerable people in our community, which are tenants.

Thank You,  
Rashna Dordi - District 5 Resident

**1/27/2025**  
**Item A**


**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Joel Yoshonis  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 3:05 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Jones, Justin  
**Subject:** Eviction moratorium and rent freeze

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Councilmember Jones,

I am a resident in district 3. Our apartment complex was downwind from the fire. I urge the City Council to enact an emergency rent freeze and eviction moratorium for all tenants in the City of Pasadena in light of the catastrophic effects of the Eaton Fire. We need inspections and environmental testing in areas within mandatory evacuation zones as well as areas downwind from the fires.

Thank you,  
Rev. Joel Yoshonis

--  
Joel Yoshonis

**1/27/2025**  
**Item A**



## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Brigitte Rooney  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 3:17 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Item A, Council Meeting 1/27/25

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Council Members,

My name is Dr. Brigitte Rooney, and I am a 10-year renter in Pasadena, very close to Woodbury (in District 1). This email is long, but I do hope you read it in its entirety.

Thank you for your hard work on relief efforts since the fires. You were not required to be disaster experts or environmental health experts when you took your seats on the council. I know you are working hard to get up to speed on many different aspects of post-disaster work that typically require years of study and experience in order to become experts. This is no small challenge.

Thankfully, my home is standing and has not been burned. However, there is a lot of toxic ash and smoke inside my home and it is not healthy nor inhabitable. I have a PhD in atmospheric physics and chemistry, and specifically studied the production and distribution of pollutants from combustion (including the Paradise Camp Fire of 2018). Our landlord informed us that "Once the outside air is clear of smoke smell & ash, then the inside will be fine soon." This is objectively false. I have also done tests at my home that show the ash does contain lead and tests done by other community members nearby show the presence of other contaminants in the home as well.

I am appalled and deeply concerned about the messaging some landlords (including Blake Boyd and Simon Gibbons) are putting out there doubting the health impacts of these types of fires. There is a wealth of existing studies and literature that show emissions and ash from fires that burn urban areas (like the Eaton fire) pose serious short-term and long-term health risks. I have included a number of those studies below (2021 Marshall fire in Colorado - destroyed 1,084 structures, 2018 Camp fire in Paradise - destroyed 18,804 structures, 2023 Hawaii fires in Lahaina - destroyed 2,207 structures, the World Trade Center attacks). It is also known that these events can impact the health of those nearby, **not only** the first responders. Paul Wennberg recently told council that the outdoor air is improving, however specific steps must be taking to improve indoor air and remediate contaminants that made their way indoors. It has also been shown that merely opening windows and ventilated **will not resolve the poor indoor air quality or resolve contaminants from ash that got inside.**

According to the American Lung Association, more that 14% of people in the US have a chronic lung disease. According to the American Heart Association, more than 48% of of people in the US have a cardiovascular disease. Our area has many elderly residents, pregnant residents, and children. There are very few people are actually at low risk of negatively health impacts from this disaster. At the end of my comment I've included some selected quotes from reputable sources that highlight the health concerns post wildland/urban fires, please do read them. While many of these studies focus on ash inside the



burn zone or in the rubble of destroyed structures, we know that ash has made it's way into many homes near the fire line.

Tenants need protections now more than ever.

I ask the City Council to do the following:

1. Enact an emergency rent freeze for all rental units in the City of Pasadena.
2. Enact an emergency eviction moratorium for all tenants in the City of Pasadena.
3. Perform inspections and environmental testing (for lead, mercury, asbestos, other heavy metals, VOCs, PAHs, HCl, and other potential toxins) at a representative sample of rental units that were in the mandatory evacuation zones or downwind of the fires.
4. Establish a mandatory timeline for landlords to remediate smoke and ash damage to restore habitability, including financial penalties if remediation is delayed.
5. Mandate temporary relocation assistance (independent of the eviction process) paid by landlords for renters who will need to relocate for fewer than 30 days during remediation.
6. Provide air purifiers with combination HEPA/activated carbon filters to Pasadena residents.

Thank you,  
Brigitte Rooney

### **Selected quotes from reputable sources that highlight the health concerns post wildland/urban fires-**

#### **Interview with Dr. Diana Felton, chief of Hawaii State Department of Health's Communicable Diseases and Public Health Nursing Division:**

"Ash from 100 properties tested four months after the Aug. 8, 2023, fire revealed elevated levels of arsenic, lead, antimony, cobalt and copper, all of which are known to cause serious, long-term health problems. Ash from the fires in and around Los Angeles, which have destroyed more than 10,000 structures and killed at least 25, probably is laced with similar contaminants, Felton said."

#### **Caltech Professor Paul Wennberg says:**

"Most of the material burned in the Eaton fire was structural, not living biomass. Given the age of these buildings, there is a lot of lead from previous painting. Burning of cars also released lead and other metals. Some of the older homes contained asbestos. Consistent with this, preliminary data from particulate samplers located in Pico Rivera, south of Caltech's campus in Pasadena show significant amounts of both chlorine (from burning plastics like PVC) and lead in the air."

"Many homes that are within or adjacent to the fire, however, have very large amounts of contamination both inside and outside."

**Caltech Professor Mike Brown posted to BlueSky:** "Just had a sample of the Eaton Fire ash that is in my driveway run on the department XRF. Is there titanium (new house paint)? Yup. Lead (old house paint)? You betcha. Heavy metals? Check. Treat that ash like it's toxic folks (because it is)"

**From the California Air Resources Board's Camp Fire Air Quality Data Analysis (Paradise "Camp" fire of 2018)**

"More specifically, smoke from structural fires, such as residential, commercial, and industrial fires, contains more than a hundred dangerous toxins and poisonous gases, including carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide. Carcinogenic compounds from the burning of household materials within structures, such as benzo(a) pyrene, toxic dioxin compounds, and benzene, have been reported. PM2.5 can be inhaled into the deepest recesses of the lungs and the association between PM2.5 and heart and lung effects is well documented in scientific literature."

"Adverse health effects from exposure to wildfire smoke include increases in severity of respiratory problems, such as asthma, increases in emergency department visits for heart attacks and strokes, and increased risk of premature death."

"During the 2007 San Diego wildfires, emergency department visits increased by 34 percent for respiratory conditions in general and by 112 percent for asthma in particular, compared to pre-wildfire periods. During the 2003 heavy wildfire smoke conditions in Southern California, there was a 34 percent increase in asthma hospital admissions."

"Ash deposited on surfaces indoors and outdoors can be inhaled if it becomes airborne during clean up, and exposure to ash and other products of the fire can irritate the eyes, nose, or skin and cause coughing and other health effects. Ash inhaled deeply into lungs may trigger an asthma attack or make it difficult to breathe for those with other respiratory diseases. In general, ash from burned structures is considered more hazardous than forest ash."

"Particulate matter from wildfire is a complex mixture that typically contains elements that are highly toxic."

**From CIRES researchers find compromised indoor air in homes following Marshall Fire (Marshall Fire in Colorado 2021, destroyed 1,084 structures)**

"Key findings of the sampling included:

- Aromatic VOCs like benzene, toluene, and naphthalene, which pose risks to human health, were highest at the beginning of data collection. VOC concentrations were much higher indoors than outdoors.
- Concentrations of aromatic VOCs were similar to those recorded in urban Los Angeles in the 1990s.
- The aromatic VOCs initially declined rapidly and then more slowly during the five-week study.
- However, the rate at which the VOCs declined was slower than expected."

" "Based on prior research, we had expected these VOCs to disappear from the home within hours, but it took weeks," de Gouw said. "What this means is we don't understand very well how and where these chemicals get trapped inside a home." "

"When windows were opened, VOC levels dropped. However, after closing the windows, the VOC concentrations went back up."

**From the Pasadena Public Health Department's Press Release on 1/15/25 - Public Health Emergency Declared**



"Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) Acting Health Officer, Dr. Parveen Kaur, has declared a local public health emergency due to the widespread impacts of Eaton Fire, including the presence of ash and particulate matter in the air throughout the community."

**From the Pasadena Public Health Department's Press Release on 1/10/25 - Safety Precautions and Ash Exposure Prevention**

"Being around ash may irritate your eyes, nose, or skin; and can cause coughing, asthma attacks, difficulty breathing, and other health effects."

**From the Pasadena Public Health Department's Press Release on 1/22/25 - Pasadena Health Officer Issues Order to Protect Community from Eaton Fire Debris**

"The Health Officer Order is a preventative measure in helping protect and preserve the community's health, during the aftermath of Eaton Fire. Exposure to hazardous debris and ash may lead to acute and chronic health effects and cause long-term public health and environmental impacts. Improper handling of fire debris can expose workers to toxic materials, and improper transport and disposal of fire debris can spread hazardous substances throughout the community. Uncontrolled hazardous substances and debris also pose significant threats to public health through inhalation of dust particles."

**From CDC's Page on World Trade Center Health Program, Toxins & Health Impacts**

"The document references scientific, peer-reviewed literature of over 350 hazards that may have been present at the disaster areas and related sites... Exposure to some of these hazards has been linked to aggravating, contributing to, or causing various short- and long-term health conditions covered by the WTC Health Program, such as:

- Acute traumatic injuries (like burns, sprains, and fractures);
- Aerodigestive (airway and digestive) disorders (like asthma, GERD, and sleep apnea);
- Many types of cancers;
- Mental and behavioral health conditions (like PTSD, depression, and substance abuse); and
- Musculoskeletal disorders (like carpal tunnel syndrome and low back pain)."

"Survivors who lived, worked, and attended school in Lower Manhattan, some who remained throughout and some who returned to their lives in the disaster area, started reporting illnesses as well."

**From 20 Years Later: The Lingering Health Effects of 9/11 - Review by a registered nurse & Asbestos.com**

"2-8 years after the attacks: Respiratory issues continue to increase: Asthma rates steadily increased among those exposed to the toxic cloud around Ground Zero. Of residents who participated in the WTC Health Registry, 8% were newly diagnosed with asthma five to six years after 9/11. "

"2-10 years after the attacks: Cancer diagnoses begin: Leukemia, prostate and thyroid cancer rates increased among first responders."

"2-16+ years after the attacks: Higher rates of cardiovascular disease: WTC toxic dust exposure has been shown to damage the heart and the blood vessels surrounding it. High levels of exposure to the carcinogenic fumes have been directly linked to heart disease-related mortality."

"11-20+ years after the attacks: Cancer cells lying in wait: Some cancers take more time than others to incubate in the human body and reveal themselves. Longer latency times for cancers such as mesothelioma mean that cases have only just started to trickle in."

**Links:**

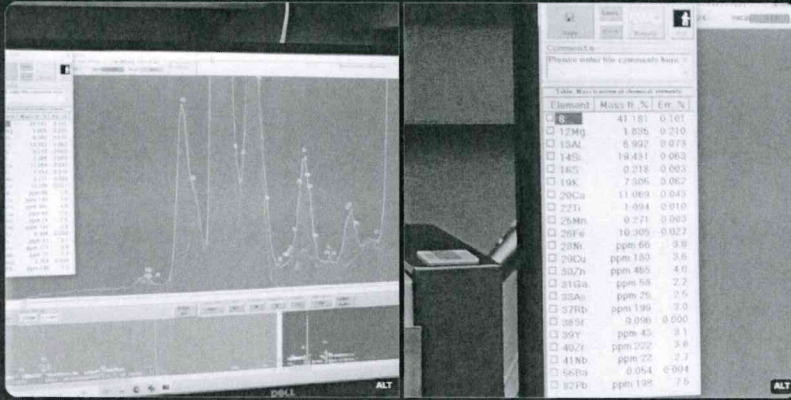
1. [Caltech Professor Offers Insights on Hazards of Smoke and Tips for Cleaning After Fires \(Pasadena Now, Weekendr\)](#)
2. [Caltech Professor Mike Brown Sampled Eaton Fire Ash at his home and found titanium, lead, and heavy metals in the ash.](#)
3. [Researchers find compromised indoor air in home following Marshall Fire \(urban Colorado fire of 2021\)](#)
4. [Residual impacts of a wildland urban interface fire on urban particulate matter and dust: a study from the Marshall Fire \(Colorado "Marshall" fire of 2021 - \\_\\_\\_ burned\)](#)
5. [Camp Fire Air Quality Data Analysis](#) by the California Air Resources Board (Paradise "Camp" fire of 2018)
6. [CDC Page on World Trade Center Health Program, Toxins & Health Impacts](#)
7. [20 Years Later: The Lingering Health Effects of 9/11](#)
8. [Pasadena Public Health Declares Local Health Emergency Due to Impacts of Eaton Fire](#)
9. [Pasadena Health Officer Issues Order to Protect Community from Eaton Fire Debris](#)
10. [Safety Precautions and Ash Exposure Prevention](#) (from the Pasadena Public Health Department)
11. Table 3 in [this paper](#) shows an extensive list of studies on the health impacts of the World Trade Center attacks on first responders, WTC workers, and members of the public in the surrounding area. ("Health effects of World Trade Center (WTC) Dust: An unprecedented disaster with inadequate risk management", Lippman et al, Critical Reviews in Toxicology, 2016.)
12. [Caltech Professor Michael Lamb will present on The Science of Post-Wildfire Debris Flows on January 29. A video will be made available on YouTube.](#)
13. [Hawaii Official Winces as LA Residents Ignore Health Risks to Survey Ruins from Honolulu Civil Beat](#)
14. [Lahaina Ash Characterization Testing Show Elevated Levels of Toxic Substances from the Hawaii Department of Health](#)
15. [Maui Wildfire Exposure Study](#) by the University of Hawaii



Mike Brown  
@plutokiller.com

Follow

Just had a sample of the Eaton Fire ash that is in my driveway run on the department XRF. Is there titanium (new house paint)? Yup. Lead (old house paint)? You betcha. Heavy metals? Check. Treat that ash like it's toxic folks (because it is)




January 17, 2025 at 11:49 AM Everybody can reply

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Jason Duran Dillard  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 26, 2025 10:12 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Tenant's Rights

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To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Jason Dillard and I live at [redacted] in Pasadena with my wife and our two young children.

Our landlord of three years gave us a notice of eviction this past Wednesday, 22 January.

We live a few blocks downwind of the fire and were mandated to evacuate. When we returned home our place was covered in ash and soot and still smells like fire.

Because the scientific community seems to be in agreement that the smoke and ash that hit our neighborhood was toxic and dangerous, the homeowners on our street have used their homeowners insurance to pay for inspections and remediation.

Because we are renters and because we could not work when we were evacuated, we do not have enough money to have our home tested and remediated. We have asked our landlord for help, but she has refused and is evicting us instead.

She claims that she is evicting us so that she can move into the home. But, she has brought realtors and photographers into our house and is now telling us that she will hold open houses here for three hours on Sundays.

We understand that Pasadena has laws in place to protect tenants during normal times. But these are not normal times. My children have no school because of the fire. We don't know if it's safe to breathe the air in our own home. Will they be affected by lead or asbestos or some other toxin if I allow them to play in the grass in our backyard? Is it safe to bathe?

And, when we're evicted, how far from this life we've made in Pasadena do we have to go in order to afford a new rental? Hardly any decent rental units are available around here. Prices have skyrocketed and huge numbers of families are fighting for the same overpriced homes.

We've worked hard to pay the rent. We've never been late. For a long time now, we've put up with mold on the wall in my son's room. He's seven years old and it's next to the bunkbed he may no longer use. Our toilets rarely flush. Our roof leaks. The dishwasher and laundry machine do not work.

The Pasadena Tenants Union has set up a forum for tenants to voice their concerns at tomorrow's City Hall Meeting. It will be Agenda Item A. Please listen and please help us.

My family still has a roof over their head's. We still have a home for at least ninety days. But, many tenants, many of whom who have lived and worked in Pasadena for many generations, who have played a large role in making Pasadena the great city that it is, do not. Please take us seriously and help preserve our rights as tenants.

Thank you for your time and attention.


Jason Dillard

**Iraheta, Alba**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 4:00 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Wood burning ban?

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I notice some residents are starting to use their chimneys again and are spreading ash and smoke despite the EPA's clean up efforts. Should the use of chimneys in Pasadena/Altadena be banned due to potentially spreading the toxic ash that may have deposited in these structures? It's my understanding the clean up process is estimated at 1 year and this seems counterproductive to improving health and safety after the fires.

Sincerely,  
Concerned



## Iraheta, Alba


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**From:** Charles Xu  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 3:46 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Public comment on January 27 council meeting agenda

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Dear council,

My name is Charles Xu and I am a resident of District 1. Our house was just two blocks outside the Eaton Fire perimeter and certified by FEMA inspectors to be uninhabitable due to toxic ash and smoke. Our landlord Joe Jan is systematically flouting his legal responsibilities by dragging his feet on the remediation work necessary to restore it to habitability, despite being fully covered by his home insurance policy. His attempt to cut corners is endangering our health and safety and forcing us to spend thousands of dollars out of pocket.

In order to punish this and even more egregious behavior by the parasitic landlord class in Pasadena, we demand the following policy measures:

1. Enact an emergency rent freeze for all rental units in the City of Pasadena.
2. Enact an emergency eviction moratorium for all tenants in the City of Pasadena.
3. Perform inspections and environmental testing (for lead, mercury, asbestos, other heavy metals, VOCs, PAHs, HCl, and other potential toxins) at a representative sample of rental units that were in the mandatory evacuation zones or downwind of the fires.
4. Establish a mandatory timeline for landlords to remediate smoke and ash damage to restore habitability, including financial penalties if remediation is delayed.
5. Mandate temporary relocation assistance (independent of the eviction process) paid by landlords for renters who will need to relocate for fewer than 30 days during remediation.
6. Provide air purifiers with combination HEPA/activated carbon filters to Pasadena residents.

Best,  
Charles

**A. Windstorm and Eaton Fire**

Pasadena needs to conduct an independent review of evacuation policies and emergency alert notification systems like Los Angeles County will be undertaking.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors January 28, 2025 Agenda item 10:

*Recommendation as submitted by Supervisors Barger and Horvath: Instruct County Counsel, in consultation with the Sheriff, Fire Chief and the Director of the Office of Emergency Management, to retain a consultant with subject matter expertise, to review the evacuation policies and emergency alert notification systems utilized by the County and its partners in responding to the Palisades and Eaton Fires, to review what the County, including the Sheriff, Fire Chief, and the Director of the Office of Emergency Management, did in terms of the evacuation efforts...<sup>1</sup>*

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Yadi  
Pasadena City Council Meeting  
January 27, 2025

**A. Windstorm and Eaton Fire**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/199710.pdf>

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER AND  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH

JANUARY 28, 2025

**AFTER ACTION REPORT FOR THE JANUARY 2025 WINDSTORM AND CRITICAL  
FIRE EVENTS**

The January 2025 windstorm and critical fire events are set to be one of the largest natural disasters in U.S. history, and one of the most destructive disasters in Los Angeles County. Severe windstorms resulted in multiple wind-driven destructive fires, with the Eaton and Palisades Fires devastating communities with significant loss of life and structures. As of January 20, 2025, the Eaton and Palisades fires resulted in 27 confirmed deaths and more than 15,000 structures destroyed.

Protection of life is always the top priority for first responders during a fire. Los Angeles County Departments worked together with other emergency partners, to assess the trajectory of the fire, weather conditions, and topography in order to identify threatened areas to initiative effective evacuation orders and effectively fight the fire – ensuring the safety of residents and providing for structure defense where possible. Questions have arisen about the process used for evacuations, and the partners involved in issuing evacuation orders.

A review and assessment of existing emergency notification systems must be conducted to understand what was done and what the County should do moving forward. This analysis and report should be conducted by a third party to ensure an independent review.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct County Counsel, in consultation with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), Los Angeles County Fire Department (Fire), and the Chief Executive Office's Office of Emergency Management (CEO-OEM), to retain a consultant with subject matter expertise, to review the evacuation policies and emergency alert notification systems utilized by the County and its partners in responding to the Palisades and Eaton Fires; to review what the County, including LASD, Fire, and CEO-OEM, did in terms of the evacuation efforts;

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MOTION

SOLIS	_____
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and prepare and present a progress report back to the Board in writing in 90 days, and every 90 days thereafter until the consultant has completed a comprehensive review, subject to review by County Counsel.

# # #

KB:mv



## Iraheta, Alba

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**From:** Ash Riveire <[ash.riveire@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ash.riveire@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 4:56 PM  
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Here is a copy of my comment in case I have to shorten it.

Have a nice evening  
Ash

Hi there, my name is Ash, I'm a tenant in district 2 and I've been renting in Pasadena for six years. I've commented at a couple of these meetings in the wake of the fires to try to give some insight as to where tenants are at right now and the most pressing problems. In my opinion the most immediate danger is the first of the month. Rent is going to be due, and a large swath of people will be paying a full month's rent for an uninhabitable unit that their landlord refuses to return to habitability. Furthermore, because evacuation is expensive, many people are going to come up short on rent. Let's not worsen this disaster by allowing even more people to be displaced. We need a rent freeze and an eviction moratorium. We keep asking for them because the danger has not passed and they are still necessary.

I've also heard from many tenants that a lot of landlords have been dragging their heels on smoke remediation for things that they are responsible for, like cleaning out the ducts. To my understanding the law is vague here on what constitutes a reasonable time frame for making the unit safe to inhabit. City Council should establish a mandatory timeline for remediation, and enforce it. This is no joke, we're talking about carcinogens.

There are also some other concrete steps that City Council could take right now to make sure affected homes are safe to live in. For starters, environmental testing at a sample of buildings in the evacuation zone, to get a picture of what the conditions are in the average apartment. Everyone has been getting really conflicting information on what to do about the ash and smoke in their homes, and whether the air is even safely breathable inside. We need to establish how much of our city is safe right now. We know that there is lead, mercury, and asbestos loose in the environment, and just about everyone needs an air purifier as well. That is one easy and common sense action to take, providing air purifiers for people who don't have one.

That's my comment, thank you for your time.