

**AMENDED DECLARATION OF A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY DUE TO IMPACTS OF CRITICAL
FIRE EVENTS AND WINDSTORM CONDITIONS IN THE CITY OF PASADENA**

Issue Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Amend Date: Monday, February 24, 2025

WHEREAS, significant wildfires occurred on January 7, 2025, within Los Angeles County, including the Eaton Fire in Altadena and Pasadena, which have resulted in widespread damage to property, disruption of services, and potential short and long-term health risks to the residents of our community; and

WHEREAS, mobile air monitoring test results from testing conducted on January 31, 2025 by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) were within background levels and below national standards and state health thresholds; and

WHEREAS, environmental testing at nine city facilities conducted on February 17 and February 21, 2025 by the City of Pasadena did not detect asbestos and all lead measurements were below the United States Environmental Protection Agency Dust Lead Action Level, a strict standard established to protect children in homes and childcare centers; and

WHEREAS, the immediate threat to human health and safety posed by fire and wildfire smoke has subsided as of the date of this amendment, allowing air quality to improve and recovery efforts to be launched to assess the community for potential environmental contaminants in public and private settings; and

WHEREAS, the fires are suspected to have cast potential contaminants into the air and have since settled on the ground but in unknown locations and concentrations, requiring coordination with county, state, and federal agencies to adopt a regional approach for measuring, interpreting, and sharing air, soil, and water testing results, so that the Pasadena Public Health Department may issue public health guidance to reduce potential risk of exposure; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 101040 authorizes the Local Health Officer to take any preventative measure that may be necessary to protect and preserve public health from any public health hazard during a declared State of Emergency and Local Emergency;

WHEREAS, section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, states that the “Local Health Officer or Director may declare a local health emergency in the jurisdiction of any area thereof” affected by hazardous waste which is an imminent threat to the public’s health;

NOW, THEREFORE, A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY IS HEREBY DECLARED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040 AND 101080 AND PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 8.04.010, in the City of Pasadena. This declaration is issued to achieve the following goals:

1. Reduce potential risk of exposure to environmental contaminants that may be present in ash and particulate matter caused by the wildfire conditions;

2. Ensure safe removal of toxic substances and debris from private properties that pose a substantial present and potential hazard to human health and safety and to the environment unless managed properly (e.g. lithium batteries, paint, other toxic substances); and
3. Position the City of Pasadena to access state and federal funding and other resources that support local efforts to protect public health.

Parveen Kaur, M.D.

Parveen Kaur, M.D.
Acting Health Officer
City of Pasadena

2/24/2025

Issue Date