

**RESOLUTION** *RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS*

**WHEREAS**, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed or pending before a local, state or federal government body or agency must have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and.

**WHEREAS**, wildfires in urban areas have caused tremendous loss of life and property in the hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars. In addition, it upends peoples lives, creates economic hardship to those individuals and organizations impacted; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department, there are approximately 102,000 people exposed to conditions of a High Fire Severity Zone and over 19,000 structures located within High Fire Severity Zones; and

**WHEREAS**, hillside communities located in high fire severity zones that have experienced a wildfire later become susceptible to the dangers of landslides potentially triggering additional evacuations; and

**WHEREAS**, the destruction caused by the Pacific Palisades Fire, which is an ongoing event, has yet to be fully assessed but has resulted in the loss of life and decimated neighborhoods of homes and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the topography of Pacific Palisades, as with many communities in High Fire Severity Zones, make emergency evacuation difficult because of the high volume of people trying to simultaneously leave their homes and businesses with limited egress routes; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the physical limitations of existing evacuation routes, those routes may be further obstructed by people being forced to abandon their vehicles, as occurred in the Pacific Palisades Fire, which slowed people's evacuation and hampered first responders ability to respond to the wildfire; and

**WHEREAS**, the addition of dense residential and mixed-use developments within or immediately outside a high fire severity zone may impede evacuation efforts by having even more people trying to access to limited evacuation routes; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of California and the City of Los Angeles have a housing crisis that have encouraged denser developments throughout the State and City through Density Bonus Law, Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) and now the Citywide Housing Incentive Program (CHIP); and

**WHEREAS**, unquestionably hundreds of thousands of additional housing units for people of all incomes are needed to make housing more affordable, particularly to the rent burdened, and



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**WHEREAS**, special consideration should be given to high fire severity zones and those areas immediately outside High Fire Severity Zones to ensure that dense developments that bring additional residents are not an impediment to established evacuation routes; and

**WHEREAS**, Density Bonus Law should be amended as to require documentation of the impacts that additional residents would have on existing evacuation routes that would be used by residents of the development and the existing surrounding residents to ensure that evacuation routes are not overwhelmed during a wildfire or other catastrophic emergency, and

**WHEREAS**, should it be found that a development utilizing Density Bonus Law creates a negative impact on the evacuation route used by future residents of the development and surrounding residents, the development may be required to reduce the residential units of the development up to the point of not being able to utilize the additional density. Should a development not be able to increase residential units beyond the base density, a developer shall be able utilize incentives and waivers found within Density Bonus Law with the exception of increased density;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that by the by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT and/or SPONSORSHIP for any legislation that results in amendments to the State Density Bonus Law to ensure that evacuation routes within High Fire Severity Zones and those areas immediately outside High Fire Severity Zones are not overwhelmed by dense development that impedes the safe passage of people fleeing life threatening circumstances

PRESENTED BY:

  
TRACI PARK  
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BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



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