

MOTION

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

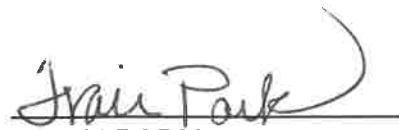
The wildfire that erupted in the Pacific Palisades on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, burned more than 23,000 acres and almost 7,000 structures. Wildfires dramatically increase the potential for mudslides and debris flow because the fire creates a waxy impermeable layer on the soil that causes water to move downslope at greater speeds. There have been three significant rain storms since the fires with last week's rains being the most severe. These rains have caused mudslides and debris flows that have brought down hazardous ash, soil, and debris from the burn scar into the ocean and onto our beaches.

In the wake of the fire and the subsequent rains, Los Angeles' coastal communities have expressed concerns about beach and ocean health and safety. The City of Los Angeles should help disseminate the most recent guidance and advice from ocean water quality experts. This situation also presents an opportunity to chart a new path forward for the region with better communication and more transparency about ocean water quality, marine health, and beach safety.

The City Council ought to extend an invitation to experts on ocean water quality at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the County Department of Beaches and Harbors to present the latest information on the quality of ocean water now in the aftermath of the wildfire, as well as the most recent guidance on how individuals should protect themselves and their families. The City's Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) also performs their own testing and therefore should also be a part of this dialogue.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Bureau of Sanitation, and request both the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Department of Beaches and Harbors, to present before the City Council the most recent and relevant data on ocean water quality conditions, testing and guidance to ensure the health and safety of the public and the well-being of the beaches and marine life from the hazardous debris created by the Palisades Fire.

PRESENTED BY:


TRACI PARK
Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:


ABHI SINGH
Councilman, 11th District


FEB 21 2025

ORIGINAL