

Communication from Public

Name: Will Wright

Date Submitted: 01/27/2025 05:10 PM

Council File No: 25-0043

Comments for Public Posting: Subject: Supporting a Professional Certification Program for Expedited Rebuilding in Los Angeles On behalf of AIA Los Angeles and AIA California, we express our strong support for the development and implementation of a "Professional Certification" program to expedite the rebuilding process for communities impacted by the recent wildfires. We understand the urgency of this situation and the critical need to facilitate swift and safe recovery for affected residents. We believe a well-structured Professional Certification program can streamline the permitting process without compromising public safety or the quality of construction. We commend the proactive leadership of Mayor Karen Bass, Councilmember Nithya Raman, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, and other officials in recognizing the importance of this initiative. AIA Los Angeles and AIA California are committed to working collaboratively with LADBS, Planning, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful development and implementation of this program. We will actively support our design professional members throughout this process to ensure their participation and valuable input in creating a system that effectively balances efficiency with the necessary safeguards for public health and safety. We look forward to a productive dialogue and a collaborative effort to expedite the rebuilding process while upholding the highest standards of quality and safety for all. Please reach out to me if I can be of any further assistance. Truly yours, Will Wright Director, Government & Public Affairs AIA Los Angeles



January 27, 2025

The Honorable Bob Blumenfield
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for Professional Certification

Dear Chair Blumenfield and Committee Members:

On behalf of AIA California's 11,000 dedicated design professional members, we support our local AIA Components and the many others working to assist in recovery and rebuilding after the recent fires. We recognize the critical importance of facilitating rapid, safe, and cost-effective rebuilding and recovery efforts for the communities impacted.

Among the concepts being considered is the development of a Professional Certification program. We believe this program can simplify and speed up the issuance of the necessary building permits without compromising public health, safety, and welfare. We applaud the quick actions of Mayor Bass, Councilperson Blumenfield, and others in calling for detailed consideration of Professional Certification. We look forward to supporting our design professional members as they collaborate with LADBS and Planning in the careful development of a program that can streamline permitting while also avoiding unintended negative consequences for the project owners and those working on their behalf.

We stand ready and willing to help. Please let us know how AIA California can best support these initiatives, whether through providing technical expertise, participating in task forces, or assisting with public outreach. We would be happy to coordinate further discussions.

Thank you for your leadership in addressing the challenges posed by this emergency. We look forward to working together to rebuild these communities stronger and safer. If you have any questions, please reach out to Scott Terrell, Director of Government Relations at sterrell@aiacalifornia.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Scott Terrell'.

Scott Terrell
Director of Government Relations

The American Institute of Architects

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Communication from Public

Name: Casey Hughes

Date Submitted: 01/27/2025 06:50 PM

Council File No: 25-0043

Comments for Public Posting: I fully support Raman and Blumenfield's motion to explore a citywide self-certification program to directly or indirectly expedite permits. The burdensome building permitting process is a major factor in our housing crisis, which has been worsened by the tragic fires. Kudos to Raman and Blumenfield for addressing LA's crippling building permitting process! Casey Hughes, Principal, Casey Hughes Architects