

MOTION

In 2019, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 747 (Levine), requiring cities and counties to review and update their safety elements following the adoption of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. This review includes evacuation route identification, capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios, including wildfires, tsunamis, and other natural disasters.

While the City adopted its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in September 2024, it has yet to update its safety element as required by AB 747. Given the growing frequency and intensity of wildfires, particularly in high-risk areas like the Pacific Palisades, Brentwood, and other parts of the wildland-urban interface in Council District 11 and across our City, fulfilling this mandate is urgent and critical to ensuring the safety and resilience of our communities.

The Palisades Fire underscored just how vulnerable our hillside communities remain. With limited ingress and egress options, the evacuation on January 7, 2025 was chaotic, with unclear instructions, and residents trapped in gridlocked traffic, many of whom fled on foot leaving their vehicles behind, which further delayed and impeded the fire response and ongoing evacuation. Many were forced to flee with little to no warning, and several evacuation routes were overwhelmed within minutes. This real-world stress test highlighted longstanding concerns about our emergency preparedness and the adequacy of existing evacuation infrastructure. This event, in addition to the July 29, 2025 Tsunami Advisory - which impacted coastal neighborhoods also lacking in adequate emergency evacuation routes - reaffirms the urgent need to comply with AB 747 and update the City's emergency planning to reflect current realities.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of City Planning, in coordination with the Emergency Management Department, Los Angeles Fire Department, Police Department, Department of Transportation, and any other relevant departments, to report back within 30 days on:

1. The City's current status of compliance with AB 747, including a summary of existing evacuation plans or assessments, updates, or modifications related to evacuation route planning.
2. A list and evaluation of all evacuation routes in high-risk areas within Council District 11, including an assessment of:
 - a. Route capacity and bottlenecks, including consideration of density
 - b. Physical safety hazards
 - c. Viability under various emergency scenarios, including but not limited to wildfires, earthquakes, and tsunamis
 - d. Traffic and choke-point mitigation plans and strategies
 - e. Plans for community education and evacuation simulations and drills
 - f. Alternate routes and emergency ingress and egress
3. Plans to improve evacuation route infrastructure, signage, traffic control, and public education.


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4. A timeline and funding strategy for completing any remaining updates required under AB 747.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer to report back in 30 days regarding state and federal grant funding to support evacuation infrastructure improvements and community resilience planning efforts, especially in neighborhoods identified as high-risk zones under Cal Fire's recently updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps.

PRESENTED BY:



TRACI PARK

Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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