

INVITATION TO ENGAGE

Neighborhood Listening Session and Visioning Exercise:

“Charrette”

To begin thinking about

Resilient Rebuilding in Pacific Palisades

Organized by the [Palisades Recovery Coalition](#) and [Resilient Palisades](#) with assistance from [RAND](#)

In the wake of the devastating fire, the Palisades Recovery Coalition proposes a series of community-based visioning exercises to help residents think through a more resilient Pacific Palisades, as we rebuild. In partnership with volunteers from RAND’s Pardee Center for Longer Range Futures and supported by Resilient Palisades, the Palisades Forestry Committee, the American Red Cross, Architecture for Communities for Los Angeles (ACLA), and hosted by the American Legion, these neighborhood workshops will facilitate a structured approach to visioning.

Goals of Visioning Charrette:

- Encourage Palisadians to think about the future they would like to have for their community
- Generate ideas on what needs to be done to enable such a future
- Begin civil and respectful conversations on how to best balance among competing goals

Kickoff Event: [RSVP here](#)

Date: Saturday, June 28

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: The American Legion, Post 282 (Pacific Palisades)

Focus Area: Marquez Knolls, Las Casas, Grenola and N Marquette

Outreach will be conducted via organizational emails, word of mouth, MKPO, block captains, Pali Strong WhatsApp groups, neighborhood chats, and word of mouth.

Visioning Charrette Format:

- Welcome and Framing by RAND staff and Community Leaders
 - Discuss a vision for the Palisades, 10 years from now
- Breakout Sessions on topics including:
 - Rebuilding homes (all dwellings) quickly and resiliently
 - Infrastructure for fire-safe neighborhoods
 - Affordable, insurable, and sustainable communities
- Report Back and Discuss Ideas



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The trusted voice on the recovery of Pacific Palisades

Summaries of the discussions will be available after the event. These summaries will share the ideas put forth and reflect the debates from each breakout session, but not participants' names.

FAQ:

What is a Charrette?

A **charrette** is an informal but intensive collaborative planning session where a group of stakeholders—in this case, community members—come together to develop solutions to a specific design or planning challenge.

Key Features of a Charrette:

- **Time-Bound:** Usually conducted over a few hours to several days.
- **Collaborative:** Encourages input from a diverse group of participants.
- **Creative and Iterative:** Often includes discussion, sketching, modeling, and real-time feedback.
- **Goal-Oriented:** Aims to produce a clear, actionable vision by the end of the session.

In the context of recovery or urban planning, charrettes are used to **co-create visions**, identify priorities, and ensure that **community voices are central** to the development process.

What is the Design of the Charrette?

The charrette will be hosted in Pacific Palisades at the American Legion and will open with a brief **plenary presentation** to ground participants in the context of the fire, recovery goals, and community capacity. This will be followed by **facilitated breakout groups** for participatory design and resilience thinking. Each group will address a set of structured questions, including:

- What are your top priorities as you contemplate rebuilding?
- How do you envision greater resilience in your neighborhood?
- What features—natural, social, or structural—do you want preserved or improved?
- How can this recovery process leave your community stronger?

How will we wrap up the session?

We will ask:

- You've imagined your neighborhood 10 years from now. What does it look like?
- What concessions did you make in order to rebuild?
- What elements of your new, post-fire, community do you value most?

Each breakout group will have a facilitator and a “scribe” who will make note of discussion points and shared ideas. These will be compiled into a summary report that can be shared with participants and used to inform future sessions.

