

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 20, 2025

Robert Fenton
Regional Administrator
Region 9
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street SW, 8th Floor
Washington, CV 20472

Re: Debris Removal Along Sunset Boulevard

Dear Regional Administrator Fenton,

Thank you for your determination, as communicated to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services on March 28, 2025, that certain "residential commercial properties that contain at least one owner-occupied home" be included in the Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) program; while other commercial properties could request inclusion in the PPDR program should they justify the presence of certain factors, including "an immediate threat to public health and safety due to debris."

We write to highlight the "public health and safety" issues posed by the presence of debris along Sunset Boulevard. Sunset Boulevard is a major point of entry to the Palisades and home to numerous residents. It is also home to several small apartment buildings that are not owner-occupied, but whose owners have described "barriers to the commercial entity completing debris removal independently," along with lack of insurance coverage—both factors FEMA has identified as key to consideration for inclusion in the PPDR program.

FEMA has retained the flexibility necessary to examine debris removal needs in individual cases. Therefore, We request that when considering the PPDR eligibility for commercial properties that otherwise meet the requirement factors, that FEMA give strong consideration due to the role that a major thoroughfare like Sunset Boulevard plays in the ability of the community to complete its safe and complete recovery.

We also request that you provide a breakdown of the total number of commercial properties, not including owner-occupied residential commercial properties, impacted by the Palisades Fire that have 1) been approved for inclusion in the PPDR program, 2) that have applied for but have been denied inclusion in the PPDR program, and 3) that have applied for inclusion in the PPDR program and whose requests are still pending. Please indicate the number of such requests for properties on Sunset Boulevard.

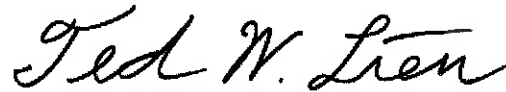
Thank you for your attention to these concerns and for sharing any updates and clarifying information with residents, homeowners, and the public.

Thank you as well for FEMA's ongoing work to help constituents impacted by the Palisades Fire recover from that disaster. FEMA and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have, in particular, devoted tremendous resources to the expeditious removal of debris from the Pacific Palisades.

Sincerely,



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress



TED W. LIEU
Member of Congress