

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF BUDGETS
OFFICE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES
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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life.*

January 10, 2025

Ms. Elissa Konove
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, California Division
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Konove:

Under the provisions of Section 125, Title 23 of the United States Code, this is a Letter of Intent by the California Department of Transportation to request Emergency Relief (ER) funds to assist in the cost of repairing damages on Federal-aid highways in California caused by wildfires in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

Beginning on January 7, 2025, the Palisades fire began in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, spreading rapidly due to high winds, low humidity and dry conditions. In addition, between January 7, 2025 and January 9, 2025, the Eaton Fire, Kenneth Fire and Hurst Fire each began burning in Los Angeles and Ventura counties under similar conditions.

Although, due to limited access, no damages have yet been reported for highway infrastructure, our office is monitoring and in addition to the Palisades fire, we may include the Eaton, Kenneth, and Hurst fires under the ER Application, as warranted. The preliminary damage estimate information will be gathered as soon as possible by the State and Local agencies affected. Additional information will be provided with the subsequent ER Application under Disaster CA25-2 Early January 2025 Wildfires.

Under separate cover, the Office of Federal Resources will be submitting the ER Application, along with the Governor's Proclamation(s) and Damage Survey Summary Report, to provide the Division Administrator with a basis to make a finding that the disaster is eligible for ER funding.

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If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Shawn Hart, Division of Maintenance at (916) 997-0646, or myself at (279) 234-2578 or by e-mail at fardad.falakfarsa@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Fardad Falakfarsa

FARDAD FALAKFARSA
Chief
Office of Federal Resources

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c: Peter Pangilinan, Senior Transportation Engineer, Project Delivery Districts 1 and 2 Federal Highway Administration
Ei Mon Kyaw, Transportation Engineer, Project Delivery, Federal Highway Administration

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bc: Matthew Schmitz, Director, Project Delivery, Federal Highway Administration
Shawn Hart, Acting Chief, Office of Emergency Management and
Infrastructure Protection, Headquarters, Division of Maintenance, Caltrans
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