



Patrick Coffin
President, Sherwood Forest Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 33542
Granada Hills, CA 91344
patrick@islandtechnologies.net
310-261-8785

January 19th, 2026

Dear Mayor Bass and Members of the City Council,

As residents of Los Angeles, we are deeply concerned that the State's ongoing push for dramatically increased housing density is proceeding without sufficient consideration for public safety. The City's responsibility to protect its residents is being compromised.

Proposals to increase density by as much as tenfold are being advanced in areas that were never designed to support such growth. Many of these neighborhoods are served by substandard streets, lack sidewalks, are within high fire hazard severity zones, and have limited or inadequate evacuation routes. Despite these clear deficiencies, these areas remain eligible for intensified development.

In 2018, AB 747 became law, requiring cities to prepare comprehensive evacuation capacity studies evaluating multiple emergency scenarios. To date, the City of Los Angeles has failed to complete such a citywide capacity study. This omission is both troubling and unacceptable, particularly as new state housing laws further accelerate development pressures.

Public safety cannot be treated as an afterthought. Council File 25-0848 approved by the City Council in October 2025 specifically called for an emergency evacuation capacity study in compliance with AB 747.

We urge you to ensure that this critical study that complies with AB 747 is completed without further delay and that the public is informed of its progress and findings.

The City must address evacuation capacity, fire risk, and infrastructure limitations so that density is only added where it can safely be added. Failing to do so invites catastrophe whether from wildfire, earthquake, or another emergency natural or manmade and places residents at unnecessary risk.

We ask you to act now, decisively, and transparently, to fulfill your duty to protect the safety and welfare of the people of Los Angeles by completing these capacity studies while adding more affordable housing.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Coffin', written in a cursive style.

Patrick Coffin

patrick@islandtechnologies.net

310-261-8785

President, Sherwood Forest Homeowners Association