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Dear Members of the Los Angeles State Delegation,

On behalf of the Sherwood Forest Homeowners Association, we write to urge you to put public safety first as the State continues to mandate increased housing density in established residential neighborhoods.

Current state laws allow dramatic density increases in neighborhoods that were never designed for such growth—many with narrow streets, limited evacuation routes, aging infrastructure, and high fire risk. Yet development is proceeding without proof these areas can safely evacuate residents during an emergency.

AB 747, passed in 2018, required cities to prepare evacuation capacity studies at least every eight years, but the law is mainly ignored. Funding a professional, comprehensive study may be costly, but we should not put a price tag on the safety and well being of our families.

As the State mandates more housing density, the State must also help fund these studies so cities can assess their ability to support new mandated housing. The State's budget constraints cannot justify ignoring this need.

Please amend and strengthen AB 747 now to ensure evacuation studies are funded by the state, updated regularly by cities and deficiencies in infrastructure are addressed and corrected before another emergency strikes. Public safety is the responsibility of the government, you must not ignore it. Safety and new housing development must be addressed together and neither can be ignored.

Please work together to get this done. Our families' safety and well being depend on you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Coffin', written over a horizontal line.

Patrick Coffin

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