



March 5, 2025

Cameron Hamilton  
Acting Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street, SW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20472

Kelly Loeffler  
Administrator  
Small Business Administration  
409 Third Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20416

Re: Request for extension of the FEMA and Small Business Administration Deadlines

Dear Acting Administrator Hamilton and Administrator Loeffler,

On behalf of The American Institute of Architects, an association representing over 100,000 design professionals with over 11,000 California (AIA California) members, we urge you to extend the FEMA and Small Business Administration (SBA) application deadlines for victims of the recent wildfires in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. The current deadlines are too short, with many individuals and businesses unable to apply by the March 10, 2025 cutoff due to delays in processing, website issues, and necessary fraud investigations. Local governments are stretched thin, struggling to provide recovery services, and an extension would offer the necessary time for impacted communities to access critical aid, including housing, medical, and business recovery grants, as well as loans for rebuilding.

The Palisades and Eaton fires were not fully contained until February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Consequently, many of those affected were not even able to begin assessing damage until after that date. We understand that California Governor Newsom, as well as the entire California Congressional Delegation, have already made a similar request.

The IRS has also extended tax filing deadlines for wildfire victims, allowing them until October 15, 2025, to file and pay taxes. In line with this, we strongly urge FEMA and SBA to extend their deadlines to December 31, 2025, to give affected individuals and businesses the time needed to navigate the recovery process.

AIA California's members, practicing architects, are assisting in rebuilding efforts, ensuring that properties meet updated resilience standards. An extension of the FEMA deadline would support the timely processing of recovery applications and expedite the rebuilding process.

We respectfully ask for your support in securing this extension for the benefit of all those affected by the unprecedented wildfires.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.  
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Terrell".

Scott Terrell  
Director of Government Relations  
AIA California

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander Cochran".

Alexander Cochran  
Chief Advocacy Officer  
AIA National

CC:

Governor Gavin Newsom (CA)  
Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA)  
Senator Adam Schiff (D-CA)  
Representative Doug LaMalfa (CA-1)  
Representative Jared Huffman (CA-2)  
Representative Kevin Kiley (CA-3)  
Representative Mike Thompson (CA-4)  
Representative Tom McClintock (CA-5)  
Representative Ami Bera (CA-6)  
Representative Doris Matsui (CA-7)  
Representative John Garamendi (CA-8)  
Representative Josh Harder (CA-9)  
Representative Mark DeSaulnier (CA-10)  
Representative Nancy Pelosi (CA-11)  
Representative Lateefah Simon (CA-12)  
Representative Adam Gray (CA-13)  
Representative Eric Swalwell (CA-14)  
Representative Kevin Mullin (CA-15)  
Representative Sam Liccardo (CA-16)  
Representative Ro Khanna (CA-17)  
Representative Zoe Lofgren (CA-18)  
Representative Jimmy Panetta (CA-19)  
Representative Vince Fong (CA-20)  
Representative Jim Costa (CA-21)  
Representative David Valadao (CA-22)  
Representative Jay Obernolte (CA-23)  
Representative Salud Carbajal (CA-24)

Representative Raul Ruiz (CA-25)  
Representative Julia Brownley (CA-26)  
Representative George Whitesides (CA-27)  
Representative Judy Chu (CA-28)  
Representative Luz Maria Rivas (CA-29)  
Representative Laura Friedman (CA-30)  
Representative Gil Cisneros (CA-31)  
Representative Brad Sherman (CA-32)  
Representative Pete Aguilar (CA-33)  
Representative Jimmy Gomez (CA-34)  
Representative Norma Torres (CA-35)  
Representative Ted Lieu (CA-36)  
Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove (CA-37)  
Representative Linda Sanchez (CA-38)  
Representative Mark Takano (CA-39)  
Representative Young Kim (CA-40)  
Representative Ken Calvert (CA-41)  
Representative Robert Garcia (CA-42)  
Representative Maxine Waters (CA-43)  
Representative Nanette Barragan (CA-44)  
Representative Derek Tran (CA-45)  
Representative Lou Correa (CA-46)  
Representative Dave Min (CA-47)  
Representative Darrell Issa (CA-48)  
Representative Mike Levin (CA-49)  
Representative Scott Peters (CA-50)  
Representative Sara Jacobs (CA-51)  
Representative Juan Vargas (CA-52)