



Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Yolanda Bundy, Environmental Sustainability Director

Approved by: Steve McClary, City Manager

Date prepared: July 26, 2023 Meeting date: August 14, 2023

Subject: Woolsey Fire Fee Waiver Program Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file an update on the Woolsey Fire Fee Waiver Program.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

WORK PLAN: This item was included as item 2a in the Adopted Work Plan for FY 2022-23. Staff continue to work on ongoing projects and normal business while the FY 2023-24 Work Plan is finalized.

DISCUSSION: The 2018 Woolsey Fire destroyed at least 465 single-family homes in Malibu. In response to the disaster and as an unprecedented act, the City Council directed staff to develop a budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20 to allow the waiving of certain Woolsey Fire rebuild fees and to refund any permit fees paid in Fiscal Year 2018-19.

The City Council approved several measures to assist property owners with rebuilding.

- Resolution No.19-30 waiving permit fees in Fiscal Year 2019-20 for like-for-like and like-for-like plus 10% Woolsey Fire primary residence rebuilding.
- Resolution No. 20-10 to clarify and extend the fee waiver program through December 30, 2020.
- Resolution No. 20-32 to supersede and replace Resolution 20-10 to extend the fee waiver deadlines through June 30, 2021.
- Resolution No. 21-10 to supersede and replace Resolution No. 20-32 to extend the fee waiver deadlines through June 30, 2022.
- Resolution No. 21-62 to supersede and replace Resolution No. 21-10 extending the fee waiver program through December 30, 2023. Fee waiver applications

were required to be received by June 30, 2023. All required Planning applications were required to be deemed complete by June 30, 2023 and all required building permits are required to be pulled by December 30, 2023.

Note: Per Malibu Municipal Code Section 17.60.020(C), Planning Verification approvals to rebuild nonconforming homes and structures without having to bring the structure into compliance or seek variances expire five years from the date of the Woolsey Fire; therefore, the deadline to obtain building permits for those categorized projects is November 8, 2023. Homeowners are encouraged to obtain building permits or request an extension. Extensions may be granted by the Planning Commission when the request demonstrates that due to unusual circumstances, the deadline creates an undue hardship.

Staff coordinated in-person meetings and produced education and outreach materials to keep residents apprised of updates to the fee waiver program and all deadline extensions. Most recently in 2023, the City launched a robust outreach campaign containing a press release, newsflash, print and electronic advertising, an item in the City Manager's Update, and social media posts across all platforms including NextDoor, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Prior to the June 30th deadline requiring rebuild projects to be deemed complete by Planning, every effort was made to broadcast this time-sensitive information. Staff will continue these public outreach efforts until the Council directs otherwise.

Rebuild projects have continued to take priority despite the COVID-19 pandemic due to the dedication of staff and the City's adaptation to online data management systems and electronic submittals. Approximately 104 of the damaged or destroyed properties are in various stages of the development process and 129 are now under construction. Some property owners may not have submitted their project considering the delays related to insurance claims or lawsuit settlement procedures. The graph (Exhibit A) shows the status of the rebuild projects.

- 365 projects have been submitted
 - 53 projects in Planning review
 - 51 projects in Building Safety review
 - 129 single-family homes under construction
 - 132 single-family homes completed
- 100 projects have not yet been submitted

To date, the City has waived approximately \$5.17 million in project fees associated with the Woolsey Fire. This does not include an additional \$800,000 for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing permits for the homes under construction. And of the 100 unsubmitted projects, 69 original property owners have not started rebuilding. The unsubmitted project fee waivers are estimated to be an additional \$2.8 million for an estimated total of \$8.77 million. The Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 includes

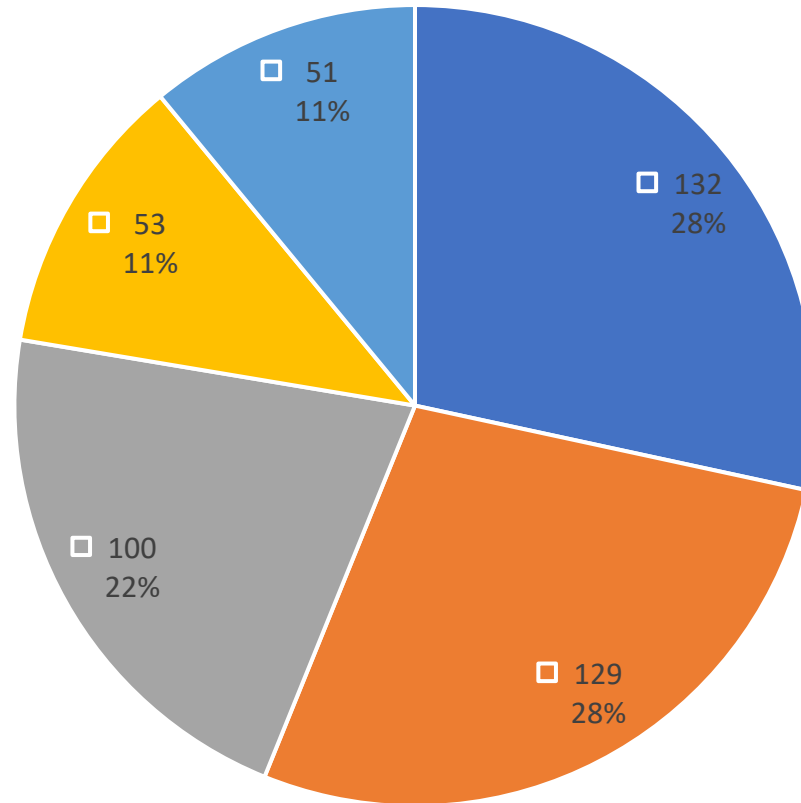
sufficient funding for all Woolsey services required to prioritize the remaining rebuild projects and is not reliant on revenue from permit fees.

City staff monitors any changes in ownership prior to issuing certificates of occupancy. The City recovers fees previously waived for properties that have changed ownership since the time of the fire and are no longer eligible for the fee waiver program.

ATTACHMENTS: Woolsey Rebuild Project Graph

Woolsey Fire Rebuild Projects 2019-2023

■ Complete ■ Under Construction ■ Not Submitted ■ In Planning Dept ■ In Building Plan Check



Woolsey Fire Rebuild Projects 2019-2023

