PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE CHAIR OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND REQUEST FOR A STATE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code provides that the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) may proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Board is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Board finds that beginning on the evening of October 10, 2019, conditions of disaster and extreme peril to the safety of persons and property arose as a result of the Saddle Ridge Fire that began in the City of Los Angeles impacting the communities of Sylmar, Granada Hills and Porter Ranch and surrounding areas, which has created conditions that are beyond the control of local resources; and

WHEREAS, the Saddle Ridge Fire has burned over 7,500 acres, leading to wide spread evacuations of residents, necessitating multiple human and pet sheltering operations. The Saddle Ridge Fire poses threats to high voltage power lines supplying power to the area and has caused the closure of multiple schools. Fire conditions caused the closure of three major freeways. In order to combat the Saddle Ridge Fire, there has been a need for mutual aid assistance from throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence of a local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED by the Chair of the Board that a local emergency exists in Los Angeles County, and that if the Board does not take action to ratify this emergency proclamation within seven days of its issuance, it shall have no further force or effect; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the County; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Director of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Los Angeles County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Date: October 11, 2019

Janice Hahn

Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors