CITY OF MALIBU

CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

July 10, 2026



Greetings Malibu,

Summer is well underway, and the City continues making meaningful progress on the priorities that matter most to our community: wildfire resilience, rebuilding, infrastructure improvements, and maintaining the exceptional quality of life that makes Malibu such a special place. I continue to appreciate the partnership of the City Council, City staff, residents, businesses, and community organizations as we work together to strengthen Malibu's future.

This month marks important progress in strengthening Malibu's infrastructure and public safety. Southern California Edison has begun construction on the Merlin Targeted Undergrounding Project, which will improve power reliability while helping reduce wildfire risk. The City also continues investing in wildfire preparedness through vegetation management, graffiti removal in the Palisades Fire area, and recognition on California's 2026 Fire Risk Reduction Community List. Wildfire preparedness remains a shared responsibility, and I encourage every resident to prepare now by maintaining defensible space, reviewing emergency plans, and signing up for emergency alerts. The best time to prepare is before an emergency occurs.

The City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget on June 22, preserving essential City services, supporting wildfire recovery, funding priority infrastructure projects, and strengthening the City's long-term financial stability as the community continues to recover from the fires.

Recovery from the Palisades Fire remains one of the City's highest priorities. Our Community Development team continues helping homeowners navigate every step of the rebuilding process through the Rebuild Center, monthly rebuilding meetings, expanded digital tools, and one-on-one assistance. Every new permit issued and every home that moves into construction represents another family taking an important step forward and serves as a powerful reminder of Malibu's resilience and community spirit as we recover together.

This edition also celebrates several milestones that reflect the strength of our community, including the opening of Malibu's new Skate Park, the dedication of the Charmlee Wilderness Park Nature Center in honor of Walt and Lucille Keller, the Community Development Department's technology innovation award, and the grand opening of Ela Greek Eats. These accomplishments, along with our many arts, recreation, and community events, demonstrate that Malibu continues moving forward while preserving the unique character that makes our community so special.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to Malibu. Together, we are building a safer, stronger, and more resilient community for generations to come.

Joe Irvin
City Manager

CITY COUNCIL AND MANAGEMENT





Staff Report

City Council Adopts Budget to Support Recovery and Protect Malibu's Financial Future

At its Monday, June 22 meeting, the Malibu City Council adopted the City's Fiscal Year 2026–27 Budget, taking an important step to protect Malibu's long-term financial health while continuing to support wildfire recovery and essential City services.

Following a series of disasters culminating in the 2025 Palisades Fire, the City relied on reserves to support the community's recovery while pursuing reimbursement from Cal OES and FEMA for eligible disaster-related costs. The adopted budget preserves core services, supports wildfire recovery efforts, and funds priority infrastructure projects while making thoughtful adjustments to align spending with revenues.

These actions will help ensure Malibu remains fiscally strong and prepared for future emergencies as the community continues to recover.







SCE Begins Undergrounding Project to Improve Wildfire Safety and Power Reliability

Southern California Edison (SCE) officially launched the Merlin Targeted Undergrounding Project in Malibu on Wednesday, June 24. The project will move overhead power lines underground to help reduce wildfire risk and improve electric reliability and it expected to be completed by the end of 2027.

The project includes Corral Canyon Road, Seabreeze Drive, Vista Mar Drive, and nearby neighborhoods. SCE plans to underground at least 212 miles of overhead power lines in high-risk areas by the end of 2028.

Undergrounding power lines helps protect the electric system from high winds and falling branches. It can also reduce the need for Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), helping residents stay connected during emergencies.

Councilmember Doug Stewart, City Manager Joe Irvin, former Assistant City Manager Rob DuBoux, representatives from LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath's office, LA County Public Works, and the Malibu Chamber of Commerce joined SCE to celebrate the project kickoff. For more information contact SCEprojects@sce.com or call 888-331-0010.

Learn More

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Malibu Fire Rebuild Continues to Move Forward

Malibu's recovery continues to move forward, and the City remains committed to helping fire-affected families rebuild. City staff are working to simplify the process, remove barriers, and provide guidance and support along the way.

As of July 10:

- 269 property owners have started the rebuild process with the City.
- 965 building permits have been issued for debris removal, repairs, damaged structures, and rebuilding.
- 349 planning approvals have been granted.
- 228 rebuild projects have completed the planning approval process.
- 41 building plans are under review.
- 81 rebuilding permits have been issued to begin construction.

Learn More

Rebuilding in Malibu is highly complex and challenging, due to the City's steep terrain, coastal location, and environmental regulations. City staff are evaluating temporary wastewater treatment options for beachfront properties while moving forward with the formation of an assessment district, which will require a vote by affected property owners.

Residents who have not yet started the rebuilding process can contact the Rebuild Center for support. Drop in, or call (310) 456-2489 ext. 400.



Nature Center at Charmlee Wilderness Park Dedicated in Honor of Walt and Lucile Keller

The Malibu Community Services Department held a ceremony to dedicate the Nature Center at Charmless Wilderness Park in honor of Walt and Lucile Keller on Tuesday, June 9.

Walt and Lucile played an important role in shaping Malibu for more than 50 years. From cityhood to environmental advocacy and civic leadership, their legacy has made a lasting impact on the community.

The City is grateful for all they have done for Malibu!

Watch the Video





Malibu Community Development Department Receives Award for Innovative Technology

The City of Malibu is proud to share that the Community Development Department received an Award of Merit from the Los Angeles Section of the American Planning Association in the Innovative Use of Technology category.

The award recognizes the City's work to modernize planning and permitting through its submission, "From Paper to Portal: Malibu's Innovative, Cost-Effective Digital Transformation of Planning & Permitting." These improvements help make City services more efficient, accessible, and customer-focused.

This recognition reflects the hard work and dedication of the Community Development team. The City also thanks Patricia Salazar for her valuable support, Dana Garza and Isabel Scheibelhut for representing Malibu at the APA Awards Gala, and Coli Turner for participating in the ceremony as an award presenter.

Congratulations to the Community Development Department on this well-deserved achievement.

Learn More



Planning Commission Summer Schedule

In keeping with longstanding tradition, the regular Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, July 6 was cancelled.

The Commission will resume its regular meeting schedule later this month unless otherwise noticed. Agendas, staff reports, and meeting information are available on the City's website.

Learn More



Beachfront Definition Code Amendments Advance to City Council

The City Council is expected to consider proposed amendments to Malibu's Local Coastal Program and Municipal Code that would formally define the term "Beachfront." The Planning Commission reviewed the proposal in May and recommended forwarding it to the City Council.

The amendment does not change existing City practices or development standards. Instead, it codifies Malibu's longstanding interpretation of the term, providing greater clarity and consistency for property owners, applicants, and the public.

View the Staff Report

View Meeting Recording



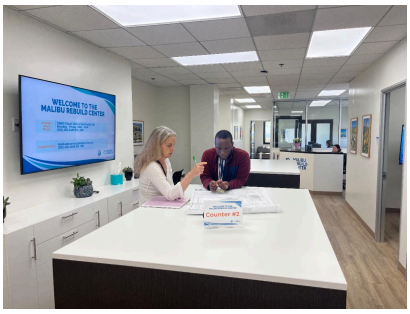
Rebuild Meeting Series Continues

The Community Development Department continues its series of rebuild meetings for families and building professionals. All meetings take place in the City Hall Council Chambers and will be **live-streamed on YouTube.**

- Design Professionals Meeting - Wednesday, July 15, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

To stay updated on future rebuilding events and meetings, and for fire rebuild information or assistance, visit **MalibuRebuilds.org** or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 400.

Upcoming Events



Community Development Director at Rebuild Center

Community Development Director Yolanda Bundy continues to hold office hours at the Malibu Rebuild Center Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, providing homeowners with direct access to planning and rebuilding assistance.

Appointments are encouraged and provide residents with an opportunity to discuss specific questions. To schedule an in-person appointment, email **ybundy@malibucity.org** or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 400 to check for availability.

Rebuild Center Hosts Partner Agencies

The Malibu Rebuild Center continues partnering with outside public agencies to provide homeowners with convenient access to recovery resources.

Upcoming services include:

- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** — Every Wednesday through August 5, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Los Angeles County Assessor's Office** — Monday, July 13 and Monday, August 10, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

These agencies provide assistance with disaster recovery loans, property tax relief, reassessment information, and other rebuilding resources for fire-impacted property owners.

Learn More





City Council Adopts Updated ADU Ordinance

On Monday, June 22, the City Council adopted **Ordinance No. 535**, updating Malibu's Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) regulations to comply with current California law while preserving important local development standards.

The ordinance improves clarity for homeowners by updating development standards, incorporating emergency fire access requirements, and clarifying how Malibu's Local Coastal Program applies to ADUs. It also establishes a setback exception for attached ADUs on beachfront lots rebuilding after wildfire, providing additional flexibility for eligible property owners.

The updated ordinance helps streamline the permitting process while ensuring consistency with state law and Malibu's local planning objectives.

Learn More

BUSINESS SUPPORT





Ela Greek Eats Celebrates Grand Opening in Malibu

Mayor Pro Tem Steve Uhring, Councilmembers Marianne Riggins and Haylynn Conrad, and representatives from the Malibu Chamber of Commerce joined Carlos Tomazos and Hans Mumper for a festive ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of Ela Greek Eats in Malibu.

Located just south of the Malibu Pier on Pacific Coast Highway, Ela Greek Eats brings the flavors of Greece to the coast with authentic favorites, including handcrafted gyros, fresh salads, moussaka, and spanakopita. The restaurant's name, "Éla," is a warm Greek expression meaning "Come on!" or "How are you?" and reflects the welcoming spirit of Greek hospitality.

As Malibu continues rebuilding together, new business openings are a meaningful sign of progress and resilience. The City remains committed to supporting local businesses and encourages owners to share openings, feedback, and support requests by contacting **BusinessSupport@MalibuCity.org**.

Watch the Video

PUBLIC WORKS



Malibu Skate Park Opens to the Community

Malibu officially opened the gates to its new Skate Park at Malibu Bluffs Park on Saturday, June 20, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The event also featured skate demos by X Games Los Angeles athletes, including Olympic medalist and Malibu local Tom Schaar.



The City applauds the persistence and dedication of the community, staff, commissions, and elected officials who worked together to make this park a reality for generations to come.

The Skate Park is free and open for all to enjoy 8:30 AM to sunset daily!

Learn More



Westward Beach Road Embankment Rehabilitation Project

The City's Westward Beach Road embankment repair project is nearing completion. The project addresses damage caused by winter storms following the Woolsey Fire, which increased stormwater runoff and flows in Zuma Canyon Creek and damaged the creek bed, road embankment, and roadway shoulder.
Work included installing rock riprap to protect the embankment, adding a 24-inch stormwater pipeline to collect runoff from the roadway, and completing shoulder and curb repairs. The project budget is $529,836, with funding from CAL OES and escrow credit.

Learn More







Graffiti Cleanup Continues in Palisades Fire Area

Graffiti removal continues in Malibu's Palisades Fire area. On Wednesday, June 24, crews removed graffiti from four additional fire-damaged properties through the City's Graffiti Cleanup Pilot Program.

The voluntary program helps remove graffiti from private properties within Malibu city limits that were impacted by the Palisades Fire and have graffiti visible from the street. The effort helps reduce blight, discourage vandalism, improve public safety, and support the community's recovery.

To date, the City has identified 61 eligible properties. Consent forms have been received from 29 property owners, 28 are pending, and graffiti has been removed from 11 properties. Three property owners declined to participate. The program runs through April 12, 2027, and property owner permission is required before work can begin. To get started, property owners must provide a signed Trespass Authorization to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

For help with a fire-impacted home or business, contact Code Enforcement at **Code@MalibuCity.org** or call City Hall at 310-456-2489. Graffiti in the public right-of-way can be reported to Caltrans at (213) 897-1200 or Malibu Public Works at 310-456-2489 ext. 39.

Learn More





Citywide Pavement Marking & Striping Refresh

The Public Works Department recently completed pavement marking and striping refresh work at various locations throughout the City to improve roadway visibility and enhance safety for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. Crews restriped faded lane lines, crosswalks, stop bars, and other traffic control markings to maintain compliance with roadway standards and support safe travel throughout Malibu.

This routine maintenance helps preserve critical transportation infrastructure and contributes to a safer and more efficient roadway network for the community.

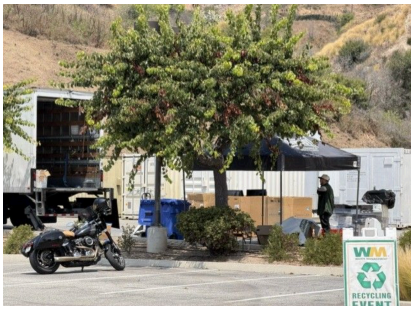


Annual Weed Abatement Program Enhances Fire Safety and Community Resilience

The City's Public Works and Community Services Departments started up their collaborative annual weed abatement efforts on City-owned properties and public rights-of-way throughout Malibu. This program plays a critical role in reducing wildfire risk by removing dry grasses, weeds, other fuel and creating defensible space.

It also improves emergency access, protects public infrastructure, and maintains the appearance and usability of public spaces. As Malibu remains highly vulnerable to wildfire threats, these coordinated efforts are an important component of the City's ongoing commitment to fire prevention, and the protection of residents, visitors, and natural resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL





City Hosted Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Drive-Thru Event

On Saturday, June 20, the City hosted a free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and E-Waste Collection Event at the upper parking lot of City Hall.

Around 70 residents safely disposed of household hazardous materials and recycled electronic waste, supporting Malibu's sustainable recycling goals. This event is part of Malibu’s ongoing HHW/E-Waste program, held on the third Saturday of February, April, June, August, and October.

Missed this event? Subscribe to MalibuCity.org/Calendar to receive updates on upcoming City Environmental Programs events.

Learn More

PUBLIC SAFETY





Chris Frost Receives 2026 Mike Treinen Public Safety Award

Congratulations to former City of Malibu Public Safety Commissioner Chris Frost on receiving the City's 2026 Mike Treinen Public Safety Award.

A Malibu resident for more than 60 years, Chris served on the City's Public Safety Commission for 22 years, including 10 years as Chair, and has long been a dedicated advocate for public safety. Today, he continues helping residents prepare for wildfires through the Malibu Community Brigade. His leadership has also strengthened partnerships with law enforcement, fire agencies, emergency responders, and public safety organizations that continue to benefit the community.

Watch the Award Presentation

During the award presentation, Mayor Bruce Silverstein praised Chris for his dedication, mentorship, and service to Malibu.
The annual Mike Treinen Public Safety Award honors the legacy of retired Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Treinen and recognizes individuals who go above and beyond to help keep Malibu safe.The City congratulates Chris Frost and thanks him for his lifelong dedication to the Malibu community.





Malibu Volunteers on Patrol Expand Their Fleet With New City-Funded Vehicle

The Malibu Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) program has added a new patrol vehicle, funded by the City of Malibu, to help volunteers better support the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and serve the community.

VOP volunteers assist with non-emergency patrols, parking enforcement, traffic and event support, and reporting accidents, fires, and suspicious activity. Their work helps sworn deputies focus on higher-priority law enforcement needs.

In 2025, Malibu VOP had 24 team members, five patrol vehicles, more than 6,500 volunteer patrol hours, and 1,800 hours supporting the Palisades and Franklin Fire responses. Volunteers also issued 8,600 parking citations, responded to 143 traffic collisions, and supported 16 community events. The VOP team is always looking for more volunteers.

Watch the Video

Learn More & Apply

FIRE SAFETY



Learn More

Malibu Earns State Wildfire Safety Recognition

The City of Malibu has been recognized on California's 2026 Fire Risk Reduction Community List, which highlights communities taking proactive, state-recognized steps to reduce wildfire risk. The designation recognizes Malibu's ongoing efforts in emergency planning, vegetation management, public education, defensible space, and coordination with fire agencies and community partners.

While no designation can eliminate wildfire risk, inclusion on the list may strengthen the City's competitiveness for wildfire prevention grants and support efforts to encourage insurance providers to recognize communities that invest in wildfire safety.

Wildfire preparedness is a shared responsibility. The City thanks residents, Firewise communities, partner agencies and staff for their continued commitment to helping create a safer Malibu.



Learn More

Prescribed Burn Conducted for Wildfire Safety in the Santa Monica Mountains

The Los Angeles County Fire Department conducted a prescribed burn on Friday, June 26 near Santa Maria Road and Mulholland Road above Topanga as part of a multi-agency fuel management project led by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Crews treated approximately 53 acres using a "mosaic" burning approach to help reduce wildfire risk, slow the spread of future fires, improve firefighter safety, and support ecosystem health. The City thanks its fire agency partners for their continued work to reduce wildfire risk and help protect the Malibu community.

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Malibu Surf Legend Award – Nominations Accepted Through July 10

The City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Commission is accepting nominations for the Malibu Surf Legend Award. The award is presented annually to honor an individual or group who has demonstrated excellence in surfing. It serves as a positive representative of the surf community, and has made a significant contribution to local surf culture.

Complete the nomination form by Friday, July 10.

Nominate Today



Cinemalibu: Outdoor Movies in the Park

Saturday, July 11
Movie begins at sunset; activities begin an hour before sunset
Malibu Bluffs Park
Complimentary

Enjoy an outdoor movie night at Malibu Bluffs Park, 24250 Pacific Coast Highway! Pre-movie activities begin one hour before sunset, and the movie starts at sunset. Bring chairs and blankets, and please remember that alcohol is not permitted.

Learn More



Summer Jubilations: Poetry Event

Saturday, July 11
6:00 PM
Legacy Park
Complimentary

Join Poetry Jubilations to celebrate joy in a time of whelming possibilities, to give voice to the true nature of vitality modeled on the natural world, and to attend to the power of love and joy. July's featured poets are Ricardo Means Ybarra, former Malibu Poet Laureate and Angel Diaz. The program also includes an open mic session, light refreshments, and conversation. An RSVP is not required.

Learn More



Legacy Park Art Walk in Partnership With Malibu Art Association

Sunday, July 12
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Legacy Park
Complimentary

Experience Malibu's vibrant arts scene this summer at the Legacy Park Art Walk. Coordinated by the Malibu Art Association and hosted by the City of Malibu Arts Commission, these free monthly events feature local artists showcasing and selling original artwork and prints inspired by Malibu's natural beauty.

Learn More



Super Science Workshop – Motion, Energy, and Engineering (Ages 6-12)

Sunday, July 12
12:30 – 2:00 PM
Malibu Bluffs Park
Complimentary, Pre-Registration Required

A fun, hands-on way to explore topics such as chemistry, physics, and biology through experiments and interactive activities. Children will be inspired, curious, and think critically. Instructed by TalentNook.

Register

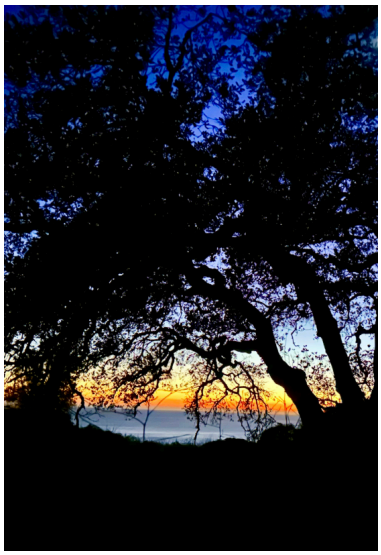


Wellness Workshop – Soundbath With Reiki Energy Healing (Ages 16+)

Thursday, July 16
5:00 – 6:30 PM
Malibu Bluffs Park
Complimentary, Pre-Registration Required

The Community Services Department will offer a complimentary Soundbath with Reiki Energy Healing workshop with The Mindry as part of the Wellness Workshop series. Learn ways to release tension and stress, balance energy in the body, and promote well-being.

Learn More



Charmlee Sunset Hike

Friday, July 17
7:00 – 8:30 PM
Charmlee Wilderness Park
Complimentary, Pre-Registration Required

Experience the park's natural surroundings, listen to nocturnal animals, and view the night sky. The hike is 90 minutes on uneven terrain. Online registration is required. Limited to 20 participants.

Learn More



Teen Poetry Workshop (Ages 12-17)

Monday, July 20
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Malibu Bluffs Park
Complimentary, Pre-Registration Required

Discover the power of your voice through creative prompts, group discussion, and guided exercises. Participants will explore different styles of poetry while learning techniques to express thoughts, emotions, and personal experiences. Instructed by Jolynn Regan and Ricardo Means Ybarra.

RSVP



Senior Center Trauma Resilience Workshop

Tuesday, July 21
1:00 – 2:00 PM
Malibu City Hall, Senior Center
Complimentary, Pre-Registration Required

Participants will explore the ways to manage stress and trauma through evidence-based tools to build resilience, strengthen coping skills, and support emotional well-being. Refreshments will be provided. For details and to register, contact (310) 456-2489, ext. 357

Learn More



Senior Luncheon – Back to the 70's

Thursday, July 23
12:00 – 1:30 PM
Malibu City Hall, Multipurpose Room
$5 per person, Pre-Registration Required

Enjoy a healthy lunch, entertainment, and socialize with friends. For details, contact (310) 456-2489, ext. 357.

Learn More



Senior Excursion – Hollywood History and Food Tour

Tuesday, July 28
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
$65 per person , Pre-Registration Required

Explore the history of Hollywood while enjoying tasty treats along the way. Pre-registration is required by Tuesday, July 21, though trips may fill before the registration deadline. The Senior Center offers monthly day trips to destinations throughout Los Angeles County. For more information, call (310) 456-2489, ext. 357.

Learn More

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

SUNDAY, JULY 12
Soccer Sundays - Malibu Bluffs Park, 9:00 AM - 12:15 PM

MONDAY, JULY 13
Regular City Council Meeting - City Hall, 5:30 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 21
Skateboarding Camp - Malibu Bluffs Park, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FRIDAY, JULY 31
Self-Defense Workshop - Malibu Bluffs Park, 6:00 PM

MALIBU REBUILDING UPDATES

Rebuild Website

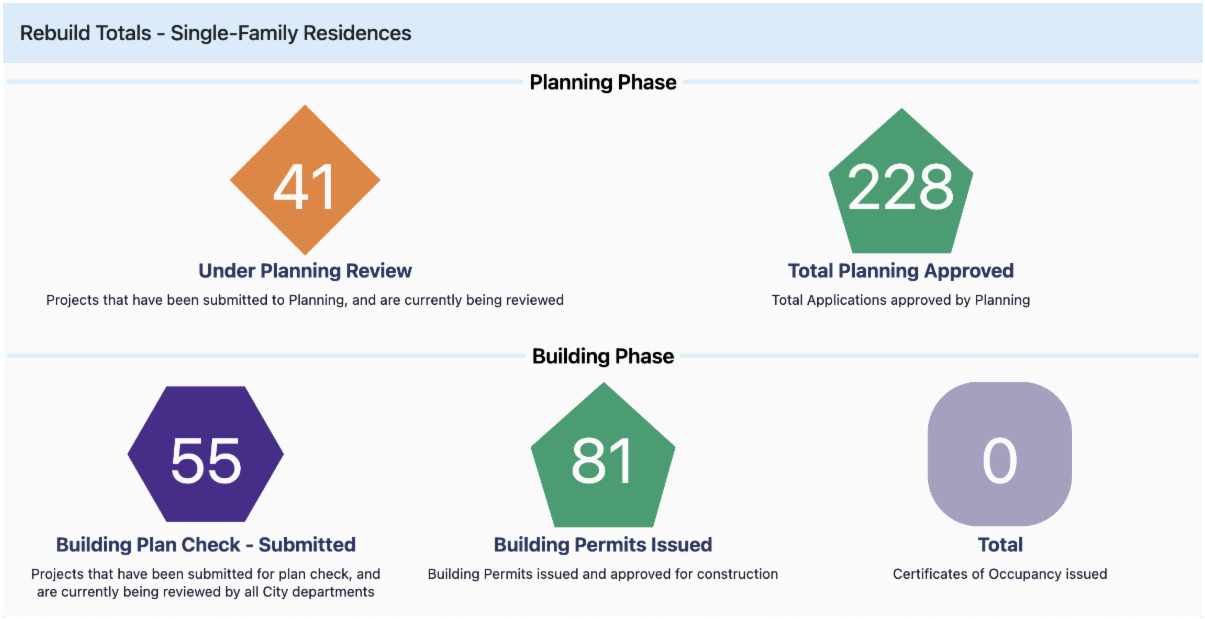
STATISTICS

For more Rebuild information & resources, see the Rebuild website.

Staff continue to work with homeowners at the Rebuild Center.

- Contact or Visit the Rebuild Center 23805 Stuart Ranch Road, Suite 240 Open Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Schedule an in-person or virtual appointment **on the website** or call 310-456-2489, ext. 400. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Palisades Fire Rebuild Dashboard Report
As of July 10:



SIGN UP FOR NOTIFY ME!

Sign up for City notifications to receive important updates about emergencies, road closures, community events, public meetings, and more—straight to your phone or email. Stay connected and be the first to know what's happening in your community!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MalibuCity.org
310-456-2489
PIO@MailbuCity.org
23825 Stuart Ranch Rd, Malibu CA, 90265

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