

**PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**  
(PWMAA)



Public Works Mutual Assistance Agreement and You

Presented by:  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

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**PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**  
(PWMAA)

**PURPOSE**

PWMAA was established as a means for public works agencies to communicate directly with one another in order to facilitate the mutual assistance process




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**HISTORY**

Early 80's: State OES (now Cal EMA) begins a grassroots effort to establish a Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement for Public Works

Along with the support of OES, the League of California Cities, the County Supervisors Association of California and the American Public Works Association expressed mutual interest in the establishment of an Agreement between public works agencies throughout California

1989: Los Angeles and Orange County executed the Agreement

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**BACKGROUND**

Public Works agencies had long recognized a need for a formal mutual aid agreement  
PWMAA is based on fire and law mutual aid




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TODAY ...

**19 counties** and **149 cities** have become signatories to the Agreement

Ultimate goal for the PWMAA is to become a truly statewide Agreement

Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
current administrative coordinator




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**WHY IS THE PWMAA IMPORTANT TO YOU???**

In a major disaster, public works resources are vital in the response to life safety and protection of property

Public works agencies speak the same language – equipment needs

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**BASIC TENETS OF PWMAA**

- Local emergency must be proclaimed
- Jurisdictions are expected to reasonably commit their own resources first
- Requesting party agrees to pay all reasonable costs of assisting party
- Assistance between operational areas must follow SEMS
- Assistance is voluntary



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**HOW TO BECOME A PWMAA MEMBER ...**

- Obtain approval from Board of Supervisors/City Council
- Assign a PWMA Coordinator
- Provide copy of executed PWMAA to the PWMAA Administrative Coordinator (Los Angeles County Department of Public Works)



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**ASSISTANCE REQUEST PATHS**

- City to City (same Operational Area)
- City to Operational Area
- Operational Area to Operational Area



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**PWMAA USE IN PAST DISASTERS**

- 1991 Sierra Madre Earthquake
- 1992 Landers/Big Bear Earthquake
- 1994 Northridge Earthquake
- 1998 El Nino Storms
- 2005 Storms



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

[www.pwmaa.org](http://www.pwmaa.org) – Official website

[info@pwmaa.org](mailto:info@pwmaa.org) – Information by email

(626) 458-7340 – Information by phone

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