

**From:** Lisa Payne <lisa.payne@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 7:06 PM  
**To:** Patti.berman@dlanc.com  
**Cc:** Veronica Polanco; Angie Aramayo  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter concerning Fire Safety in DTLA

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Ms. Berman and Mr. Burnow,

Thank you and DLANC for expressing your concern about ensuring that the City prevent future incidents such as the two fires at Mateo and Boyd Streets last month. The Mayor shares your sense of urgency about taking the necessary steps to prevent such fires in downtown and throughout the City.

Since the fires, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) has aggressively taken multiple steps to eliminate the unsafe storage of hazardous materials in downtown Los Angeles, including:

- Convening a Task Force consisting of LAFD's Enforcement Inspectors from our Industrial Commercial Unit, CUPA (Certified Unified Program Agency), and Cannabis Unit to inspect, regulate, remove and/or eliminate dangerous hazardous materials above the legally allowable quantities from businesses and warehouses. (The Task Force will begin its efforts in and around the immediate vicinity of the Boyd Street fire but will expand coverage beyond this initial footprint.)
- Collaborating with multiple allied agencies in the design and execution of the hazardous mitigation effort, including LA county Health Hazmat, LA Department of Building and Safety, the City Attorney's Office, CAL OSHA, and LAPD.
- Providing increased training of inspectors to more rapidly identify, verify and stop the stockpiling of hazardous material.
- Providing increased training and resources to assist in the removal, maintenance and permitting processes needed to ensure safe storage and use of hazardous materials.
- Conducting an external survey of buildings to look for signs that there may be hazardous materials on site.

In addition, the Department of Cannabis Regulation (DCR) is coordinating closely with the LA Fire Department (LAFD) to ensure a proactive inspection strategy for licensed cannabis operators and applicants to assess compliance with the Building and Fire Codes. Unfortunately, the Boyd Street facility was not a licensed facility; LAPD is continuing to target unauthorized cannabis facilities.

For more information, please reach out to Veronica Polanco, [veronica.polanco@lacity.org](mailto:veronica.polanco@lacity.org), and Angie Aramayo, [Angie.Aramayo@lacity.org](mailto:Angie.Aramayo@lacity.org), the Mayor's Area Reps who cover downtown. They are both copied here and can provide you with information on the City's ongoing efforts to quickly identify and remove any unlawful hazardous materials from downtown.

Sincerely,

Lisa Payne



**LISA PAYNE**  
Director of Public Engagement  
Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Office (213) 978-0837

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: <[patti.berman@dlanc.com](mailto:patti.berman@dlanc.com)>  
Date: Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 3:19 PM  
Subject: Letter concerning Fire Safety in DTLA  
To: <[patti.berman@dlanc.com](mailto:patti.berman@dlanc.com)>

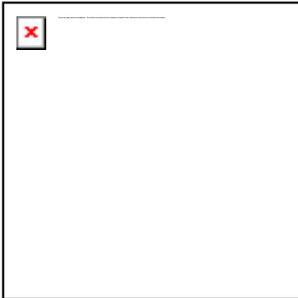
Thank you for your kind attention.

Patti Berman

*Patti Berman*

*President*

*Downtown L.A. Neighborhood Council*



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