



CITY OF BALDWIN PARK

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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City of Baldwin Park Opposes EPA's Hazardous Material Processing Site at Lario Park Near the City of Duarte

BALDWIN PARK, CA – The City of Baldwin Park strongly opposes the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) unilateral decision to designate unincorporated Lario Park, near the 210 freeway and the San Gabriel River, as a collection and processing site for hazardous materials from the Eaton Fire, including lithium electric vehicle batteries.

The EPA has outlined its operational plans, which include plastic-lined processing areas, spill control measures, continuous air monitoring and dust suppression protocols. Materials will be processed daily and transported via stake-bed trucks using back roads to avoid Interstate 210. While these precautionary measures have been detailed, they were presented without prior consultation with neighboring communities.

Baldwin Park's primary concern is the health and safety of our 72,000 residents. The EPA's decision to establish this processing facility without prior consultation with local jurisdictions shows a concerning lack of transparency and community engagement. The City is particularly concerned about the proximity of the processing site to residential areas, potential environmental impacts on air quality and groundwater and transportation routes for hazardous materials through Baldwin Park communities. The City is also opposed to the lack of advanced notification throughout the site selection process.

"While we fully support the recovery efforts for communities affected by the Eaton Fire, we cannot accept the establishment of a hazardous material processing site that could potentially impact the well-being of our residents," stated Baldwin Park Mayor Alejandra Avila. "The absence of any meaningful consultation with affected cities prior to this decision is unacceptable. We are in firm opposition of these efforts, and we will not allow these decisions to go unchallenged."

Baldwin Park has joined forces with the neighboring cities of Duarte, Azusa and Irwindale to formally oppose this facility. Our unified position reflects our shared commitment to protecting our communities while ensuring that recovery efforts do not create new environmental hazards for other neighborhoods. Baldwin Park residents who share these concerns are encouraged to contact the EPA directly at 1-833-798-7372 and attend the upcoming Town Hall meeting being organized with the office of California state Sen. Susan Rubio (details forthcoming).

Learn more by reading the joint press release issued by the Cities of Azusa, Irwindale, Baldwin Park and Duarte: <https://www.accessduarte.com/home/showdocument?id=2634&t=638735633665250004>

About the City of Baldwin Park:

Baldwin Park is a nearly seven-square-mile, suburban community of 72,000 residents in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley. As the hub of the San Gabriel Valley, Baldwin Park is known for its ease of access and mobility, young and diverse residents, and vibrant, growing business community. For more information, visit baldwinpark.com or follow Baldwin Park on Facebook (@BaldwinParkCAGov), Instagram (BaldwinPark_CAGov), and Twitter (BaldwinParkCA_).

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