



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

NEWS RELEASE



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Contact: Tiffany Martinez

Tiffany.Martinez@santacruzcountyca.gov

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TO ABSORB 4LEAF INC. SERVICES AS CONTRACT ENDS

Santa Cruz County announces that the contract extension with 4Leaf Inc., a consulting firm that provided essential permitting services to the community affected by the CZU Fire and recent storms through its Recovery Permit Center (RPC) will sunset on Tuesday, December 31, 2024.

Starting January 1, 2025, services provided by the RPC, will be transitioned to the Department of Community Development & Infrastructure's Planning Division and will continue to be offered to the public. The transition reflects a strategic adjustment as demand for the service has declined over the past three years.

Since the implementation of the RPC, significant progress has been made in addressing the permitting needs of residents recovering from the CZU Fire and recent storms. So far, the RPC has approved 264 residential rebuild permits, with 127 homes now occupied and 134 more under construction.

A total of 486 pre-clearance applications have been submitted, and 369 have been approved. Of the total pre-clearance applications submitted, 363 were issued to original property owners and 123 were issued to new property owners. Similarly, of the 264 building permits issued, 222 were granted to original property owners and 42 to new property owners.

Following the transition, CZU fire victims will continue to receive priority access to permitting processes, including expedited reviews, dedicated walk-in appointments and consultations, and reduced permit fees. The transition underscores the County's commitment to adapting its services to meet the evolving needs of the community.

Residents looking to receive services offered by the Recovery Permit Center can schedule an appointment online at: <https://bit.ly/4lpsn0K>

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