

# LIONS AND TIGERS AND LANDSLIDES, OH MY!

*Crisis Management and Communication*  
2024 Cal Cities City Managers Conference





**Jon Barilone**  
Principal  
Tripepi Smith



**Greg Grammer**  
City Manager  
Rolling Hills Estates



**Alexa Davis**  
Assistant City Manager  
Rolling Hills Estates

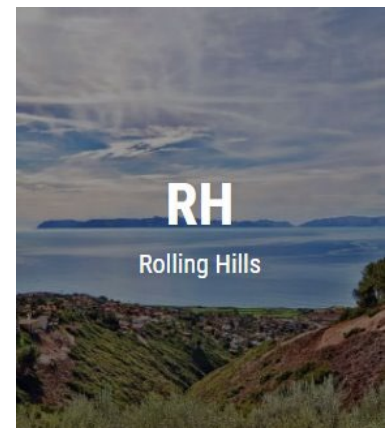


**Ara Mihranian**  
City Manager  
Rancho Palos Verdes





# Where is the Palos Verdes Peninsula?



# Lions





# How it started:

Hi Alexa,

Someone posted a Ring camera photo of a **mountain** loin over the weekend stating that it was taken near Ernie Howlett park. It seems like a bogus prank.

Is this a Hoax? Is the City aware of any further information regarding this report?

Thank You.

William Cook



# How it went:

**City of Rolling Hills Estates**   
Published by Hootsuite · October 28, 2019 · 

The City received a still image of a mountain lion reported to be in Rolling Hills Estates. While a mountain lion on the Palos Verdes Peninsula region is highly unusual, we take these reports seriously and have immediately contacted the appropriate State and County agencies. We are working with them to investigate and validate the report.

As with any wildlife that poses public safety concerns, please report sightings or activity to California Department of Fish and Wildlife- South Coast Region at (858) 467-4201 or the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commission/Weights and Measures Department/Pest Management Division at (626) 575-5462.

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**Robert Schwent**  
Just don't kill it please. Sure would be interesting to know if it followed the river down to here.



## News & Updates

### Reported Mountain Lion Photo - Under Review

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## News & Updates

### Update: Reported Mountain Lion Photo

The City has received information that the still image of a mountain lion on our trails is not genuine. Nevertheless, we treat all matters regarding public safety seriously and proceeded to make contact with relevant agencies to determine the veracity of the image.

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5:26 PM · Oct 28, 2019

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1

2



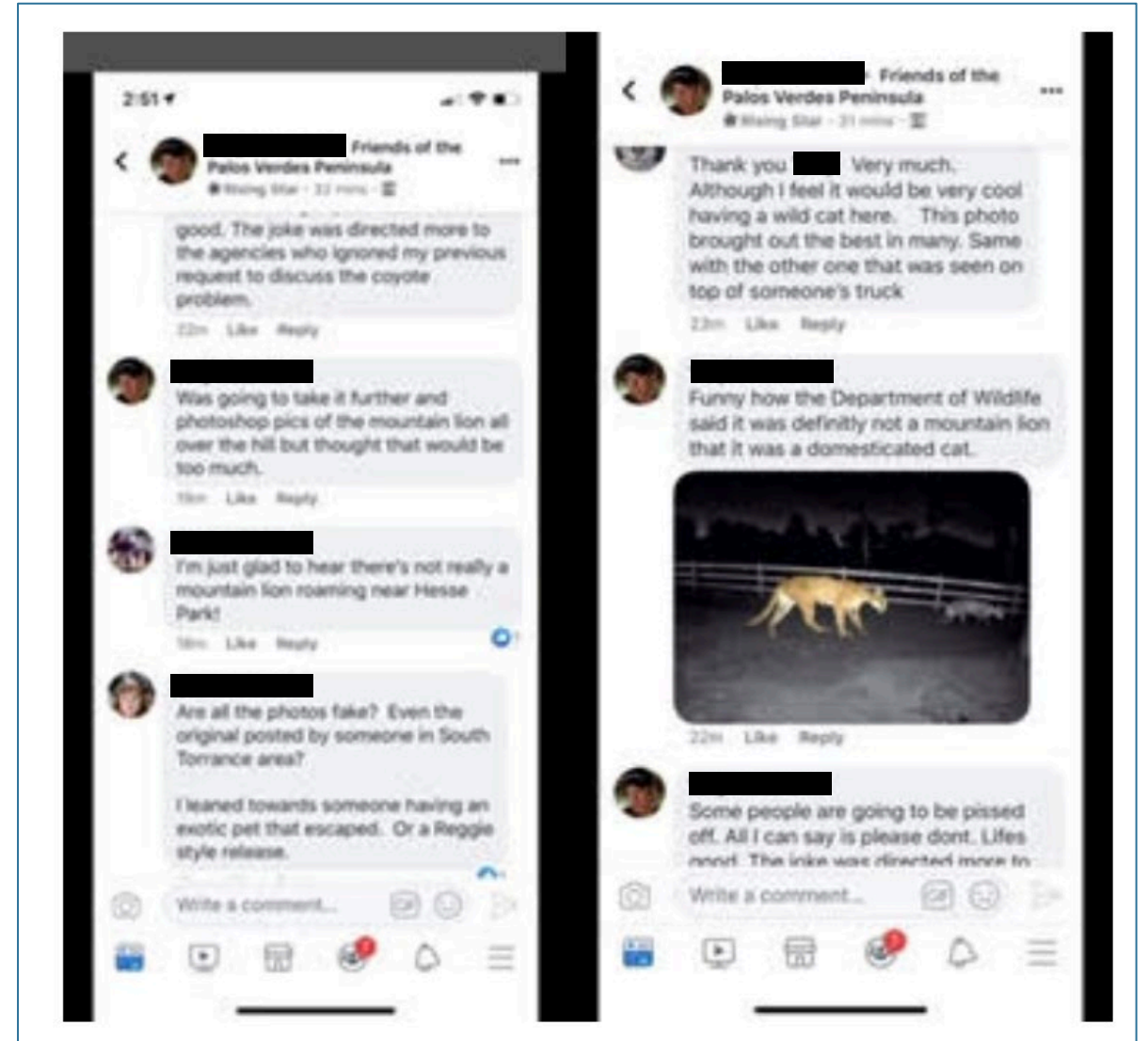


# How it ended:

Just saw that [REDACTED] made the whole thing up!

He was the source of the original photo.

I'm pissed and shocked by this and just spoke with Detective Kwon at LASD.

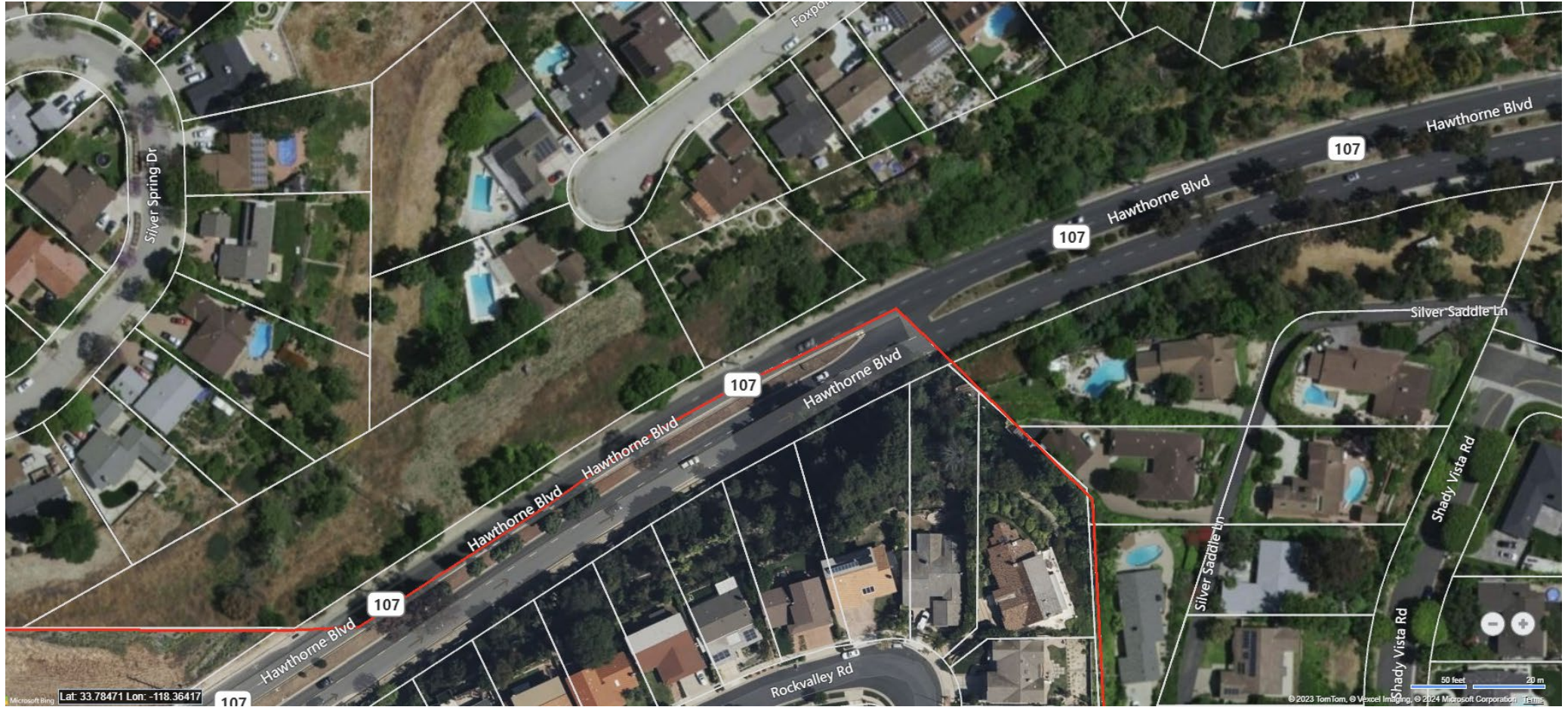


# Tigers





# On City Borders





# LASD Statement

**LA County Sheriffs** ✓  
@LASDHQ


This morning @LMTLASD responded to a roll-over collision in which @TigerWoods was injured. Please see our statement...

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
On February 23, 2021, at approximately 7:12 AM, LASD responded to a single vehicle roll-over traffic collision on the border of Rolling Hills Estates and Rancho Palos Verdes. The vehicle was traveling northbound on Hawthorne Boulevard, at Blackhorse Road, when it crashed. The vehicle sustained major damage.  
  
The driver and sole occupant was identified as PGA golfer, Eldrick "Tiger" Woods. Mr. Woods was extricated from the wreck with the "jaws of life" by Los Angeles County firefighters and paramedics, then transported to a local hospital by ambulance for his injuries.  
  
The traffic investigation is being conducted by investigators from LASD Lomita Station.

11:28 AM · Feb 23, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

2,042 Retweets 1,819 Quote Tweets 1,413 Likes

# RHE Mayor Statement

**Alexa Davis** <alexad@ci.rolling-hills-estates.ca.us>  
to fox11news@fox.com ▼

Tue, Feb 23, 2021, 3:57 PM ★ ↩ Reply ⋮

Good afternoon:

You are more than welcome to come to City Hall grounds to shoot B-roll. Due to COVID precautions, City Hall offices are not open to the public. There is no one available for an interview, however please see a statement from our Mayor, Steve Zuckerman, below:

*The City is aware of the traffic accident involving Tiger Woods that occurred along Hawthorne Boulevard this morning. We wish Mr. Woods a speedy recovery and thank our first responders for their work. An incident investigation is currently in process, therefore any further inquiries must be directed to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.*

Best regards,

*Alexa Davis*

# Joint Media Statement

The Cities of Rolling Hills Estates and Rancho Palos Verdes acknowledge the L.A. County Sheriff's Department and its local Lomita Station for their efforts in completing the investigation of the recent traffic collision involving Tiger Woods.

We are pleased that the vehicle black box provides a clear and objective account of the events of that morning. As noted by the Sheriff's Department, this crash was caused by excessive speed and driver error, resulting in the inability to negotiate the curve in the roadway.

Above all, we are grateful no one else was injured in this unfortunate collision, and we continue to wish Mr. Woods a full recovery.



# Perpetuation of "Dangerous Road" Myth

My name is Erin Snodgrass and I'm a reporter with Insider (previously Business Insider). I'm looking into the Tiger Woods crash that occurred in Rolling Hills Estates late last month.

I'm reaching out to see if you, as a City Council member, would be available for a quick conversation about that stretch of road (Hawthorne Boulevard and Blackhorse Road). There have been multiple reports detailing the dangerous nature of that particular bend and I'm wondering if the City has had any involvement/history with that stretch of road (ie. resident complaints, traffic proposals, high number of accidents etc.)

Please let me know if you're willing to chat with me about this subject, and if so, what the best times to connect might be.

I appreciate your consideration and thanks in advance,

**Erin Snodgrass**

LA News Fellow

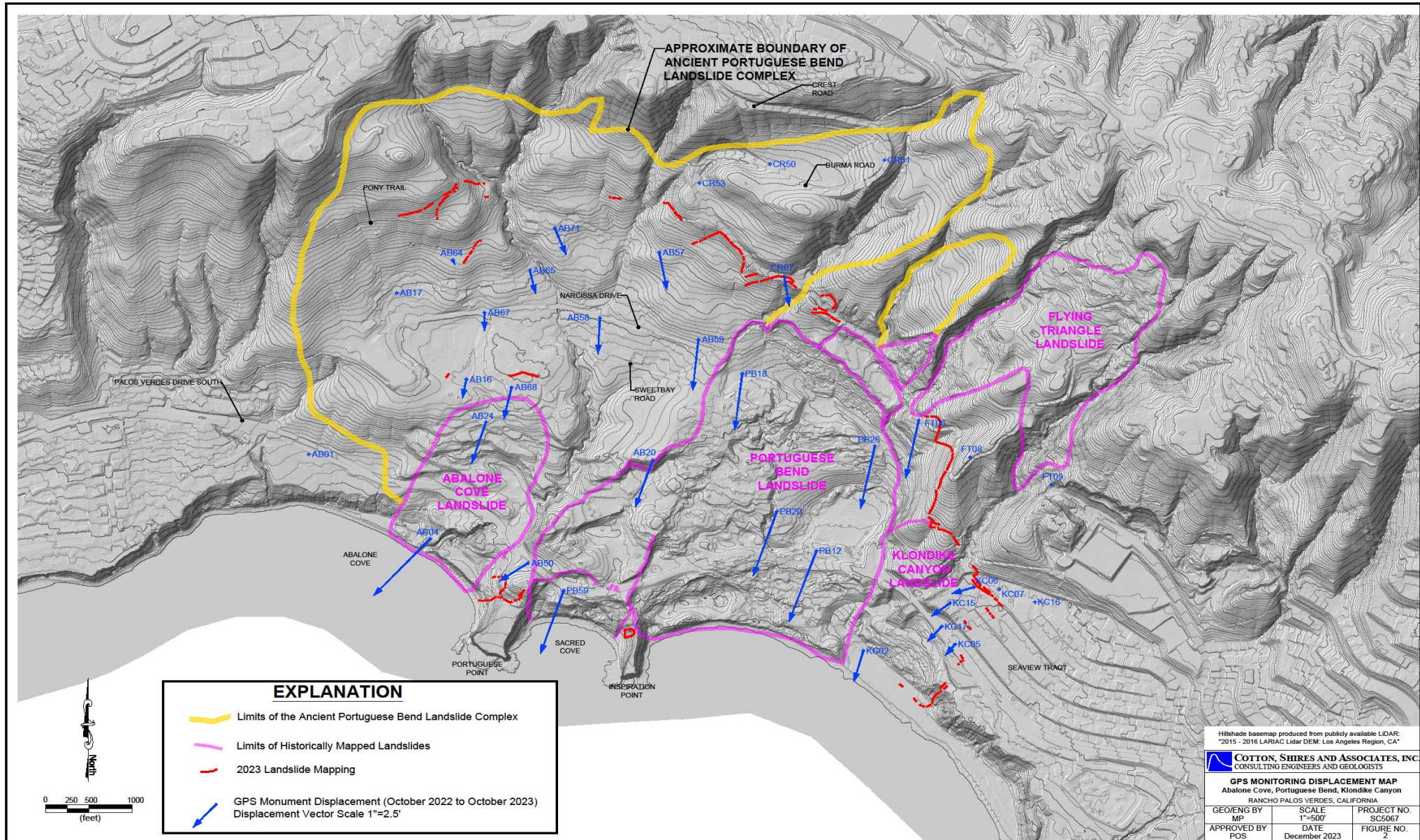
**INSIDER**



# Landslides









# Los Angeles Times

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 latimes.com



**THE CITY** of Rancho Palos Verdes is grappling with what to do about luxury properties atop an active landslide in the Portuguese Bend area that has opened fissures and caused homes to buckle and drift.

## In L.A. County, a city looks to avert geological disaster

Can Rancho Palos Verdes stop land from sliding into the sea?



**DESPITE DEALING** with a shifting foundation, Portuguese Bend resident Peter James Carrasco does not intend to leave his home.

## Donors step up to help defend Ridley-Thomas

Councilman awaiting corruption trial has amassed \$15 million to pay for legal team.

By Matt Hamilton and Katie Leggett

When a federal grand jury indicted Mark Ridley-Thomas on corruption charges, the veteran Los Angeles politician protested his innocence and vowed to fight. There was one problem: How would he pay for his lawyers?

Ridley-Thomas had few assets beyond his home and a rental property in Leimert Park. The lifelong civil servant lost his income after the City Council suspended him, and the city controller halted his salary and benefits. And under city rules, he could not find another job without resigning from office.

Then a network of supporters opened their wallets. During the 18 months since criminal charges were unveiled, these donors have helped him amass nearly \$15 million in two defense funds and allowed him to retain an elite legal team that has won courtroom victories for Google, Activision Blizzard and Kaiser Permanente.



**L.A. COUNCILMEMBER** Mark Ridley-Thomas has tapped a network of supporters to pay for his defense.

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## El Niño storms bring worry about Palos Verdes landslide

By Susan Valot • Jan. 02, 2024 ENVIRONMENT

Before the full trail closures in the Portuguese Bend Reserve in Rancho Palos Verdes, crews work to fill fissures that started opening in spring of 2023, after a winter of heavy rains.

Photo by Susan Valot.

A slow-motion landslide that's damaged homes and led to the [closure of more than half the hiking trails in Portuguese Bend Reserve](#), the large and popular recreation area on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, shows no signs of stopping.

In fact, after creeping quietly along during the many recent years of drought, the land



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# International News, Overnight

The New York Times

## *In Southern California, Hilltop Homes Sink Into a Canyon*

A landslide destroyed a dozen homes and forced residents to flee a wealthy city on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The effects of torrential winter storms may be to blame.

Share full article



A landslide destroyed 12 homes and forced evacuations in a neighborhood in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. The homes are falling into a canyon. Mark Abramson for The New York Times

## Landslide destroys luxury homes in Southern California neighborhood: 'Can actually hear the snap, crackle, and pop'



Thao Nguyen  
USA TODAY

Published 2:08 a.m. ET July 11, 2023 | Updated 1:05 p.m. ET July 11, 2023



### Landslide destroys luxury homes in Southern California neighborhood

Luxury homes in Southern California shifted off of their foundations during a landslide. Ariana Triggs, Associated Press

A landslide over the weekend ripped luxury homes off their foundations in Southern California, prompting a dozen properties that were at risk of falling down a nearby canyon to be evacuated.

The landslide began Saturday in Rolling Hills Estates, California, an affluent and mostly residential city about 27 miles south of Los Angeles. Residents then noticed cracks appearing in structures and the ground.

Los Angeles County Fire Department officials red-tagged twelve homes as unsafe, displacing 16 residents who were only given 20 minutes to evacuate. While evacuation remained limited to the 12 homes on Monday, Assistant City Manager Alexa Davis said 10 were still actively moving and another 16 were being monitored.



Los Angeles Times

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## Full coverage: Rolling Hills Estates landslide damages homes, forces evacuations



Homes severely damaged by a landslide along Peartree Lane in Rolling Hills Estates. (Robert Gauthier / Los Angeles Times)



CNN

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## Residents evacuated as homes slide down Los Angeles County hillside following 'significant land movement'

FOX NEWS

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LOS ANGELES

## California homes evacuated, destroyed by landslide in Los Angeles County: officials

Residents were given 20 minutes to pack up their belongings and leave



By Andrea Vacchiano · Fox News

Published July 9, 2023 8:18pm EDT Updated July 11, 2023 2:38pm EDT







# QUESTIONS?



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