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WILDFIRES

L.A. County will buy firefighting copter



A Sikorsky Firehawk helicopter is on display during the Los Angeles County Fire Department annual contract aircraft media day at Van Nuys Airport in 2022. The county has ordered a new helicopter. **HANS GUTKNECHT — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER**

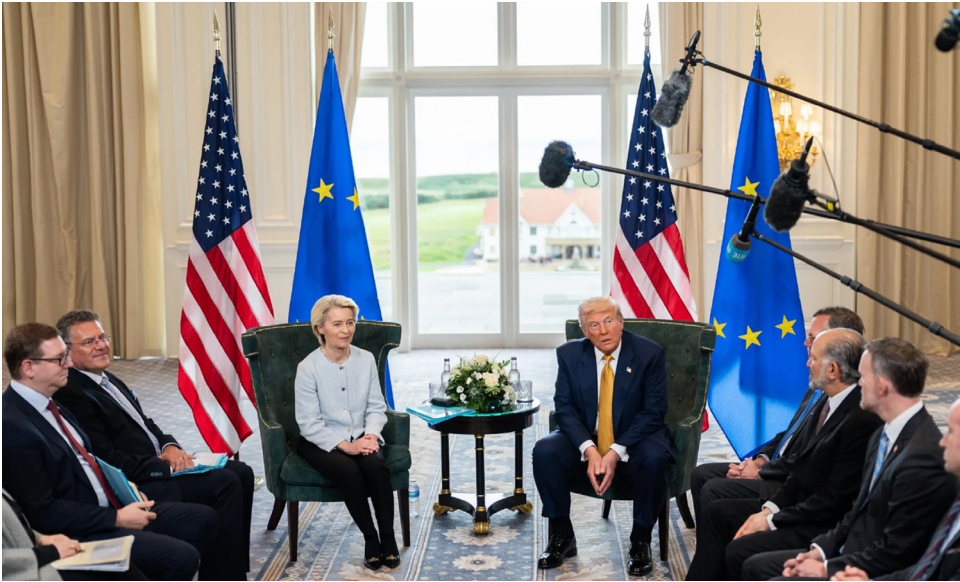
\$43.1M purchase, including 15% tariff, similar to current models being used

By Steve Scauzillo
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Los Angeles County Supervisors approved the purchase Tuesday of a Sikorsky S-70i Firehawk, a specially equipped helicopter for battling wildfires, at a cost of \$43.1 million. Fire Chief Anthony Marrone, in a letter to the board, said that includes the add-on cost of a 15% tariff that is expected to be imposed on the high-tech aircraft.

The tariff is applied on all goods imported into the United States from the European Union, according to a deal made by the Trump administration with the EU in July 2025. The trade pact also includes investments by the EU in American energy and military equipment, a deal made under the threat of escalating tariffs, according to a report from the World Economic Forum.

The precise cost of the



President Donald Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at the Trump Turnberry golf course in Turnberry, Scotland, in 2025, where a 15% tariff on goods imported from the EU was imposed. **TIERNEY L. CROSS — THE NEW YORK TIMES**

tariff could not be specified, Marrone wrote, until the final payment is made. So the final cost to taxpayers may be adjusted later, according to the motion. The L.A. County Fire Department did not respond to requests for comment.

“The recommended

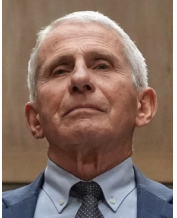
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CONGRESS

Panel OKs plan to charge Fauci

Senate committee will send findings to DOJ to prosecute doctor for taking the Fifth

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg
THE NEW YORK TIMES



Fauci

The Senate Homeland Security Committee voted along party lines Thursday to hold Dr. Anthony Fauci in contempt of Congress for his refusal to answer questions at a hearing last week, clearing the way for the committee to ask the Justice Department to prosecute him.

The vote to adopt a formal resolution holding Fauci in contempt does not address Republicans’ core allegation, that he funded research in China that set off the coronavirus pandemic and lied about it to Congress. Fauci vigorously denies that assertion.

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WAR IN EUROPE

Ukraine strikes more oil facilities deep inside Russia

By Illia Novikov
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine hit more oil facilities deep inside Russia in overnight attacks, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Thursday, as Kyiv kept up its campaign to undermine Moscow’s wartime economy and embarrass the Kremlin.

The repeated strikes have caused fuel shortages and rattled Russians. Ukrainians, meanwhile, are enduring regular barrages that Kyiv’s depleted air defenses are struggling to counter amid Moscow’s 4-year-old full-scale invasion.

The Kyiv region observed an official day of mourning Thursday after a Russian missile and

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RIALTO

Camera surveillance program puts local police on late-night television

By Jeff Horseman
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Like those they surveil, Rialto police got their own close-up — only the department’s was aired on late-night TV.

The police force and its use of private security cameras, including those outside a hotel pool and inside fast-food restaurants, became comedic fodder on the Sunday episode of HBO’s “Last Week Tonight With John Oliver.”

As part of a larger look at police surveillance technology, including a company named Fusus that shares private camera footage with law enforcement, host and comedian John Oliver mentioned Rialto and what he said was a city policy requiring new businesses to give police access to their security cameras in order to get a permit.

“Opening a small business is already hard enough,” Oliver said. “There’s cash flow issues, hiring and firing and of course, dealing with Yelp! reviews that say, ‘Woman at the front desk had a weird eye. Scared my son! He is 9!’

“But now, you also have to decide if opening your nail salon is worth being a narc on passersby.”

Capt. Lamont Quarker, a Rialto police spokesperson, took issue with



Comedian John Oliver discusses — and mocks — how Rialto police use private security cameras during Sunday’s episode of “Last Week Tonight With John Oliver.” **COURTESY OF YOUTUBE**

how the department was portrayed on the show, saying it did not “accurately reflect how the Rialto Police Department utilizes this technology or the safeguards that govern its use.”

“Certain new developments” can get conditions of approval from the city tied to using Fusus, Quarker said, but no business has been stopped from opening because it won’t share camera footage.

Police meet with business owners

“to explain how the technology works, what access the police department does and does not have and the privacy safeguards that are in place,” he said. “Our experience has been that once business owners better understand the program, many choose to participate because they recognize the public safety benefits.”

Officials are considering rule

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CLEAN ENERGY

Rep. Kamlager-Dove calls for impeachment of Trump budget chief over canceled funding

By Linh Tat
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Vought

A Los Angeles lawmaker is seeking to impeach White House budget director Russell Vought, following recent revelations that the Trump administration acknowledged in court documents to canceling funding for clean energy projects in Democratic states “based solely” on their political leanings, including how the majority of voters in those states voted in the 2024 presidential election.

California was among the 16 states targeted and, according to the office of Democratic Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove, more than six dozen projects in California risk losing funding as a result.

On Thursday, Kamlager-Dove introduced articles of impeachment against Vought, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, on charges of alleged abuse of power and “failure to faithfully execute the laws of the United States.”

“Vought has repeatedly and openly broken the law to stroke Trump’s fragile ego. The administration’s own admission that it terminated federal funding to states that voted against Trump in 2024 is just the latest example,” Kamlager-Dove, a member of the House Judiciary Committee, said in a statement.

“These nakedly partisan schemes to punish Democratic voters ultimately hurt families and workers of all political stripes. ... Vought’s blatant abuse of power and complete disregard for the Constitution warrants immediate removal by Congress,” she added.

A White House spokes-

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