

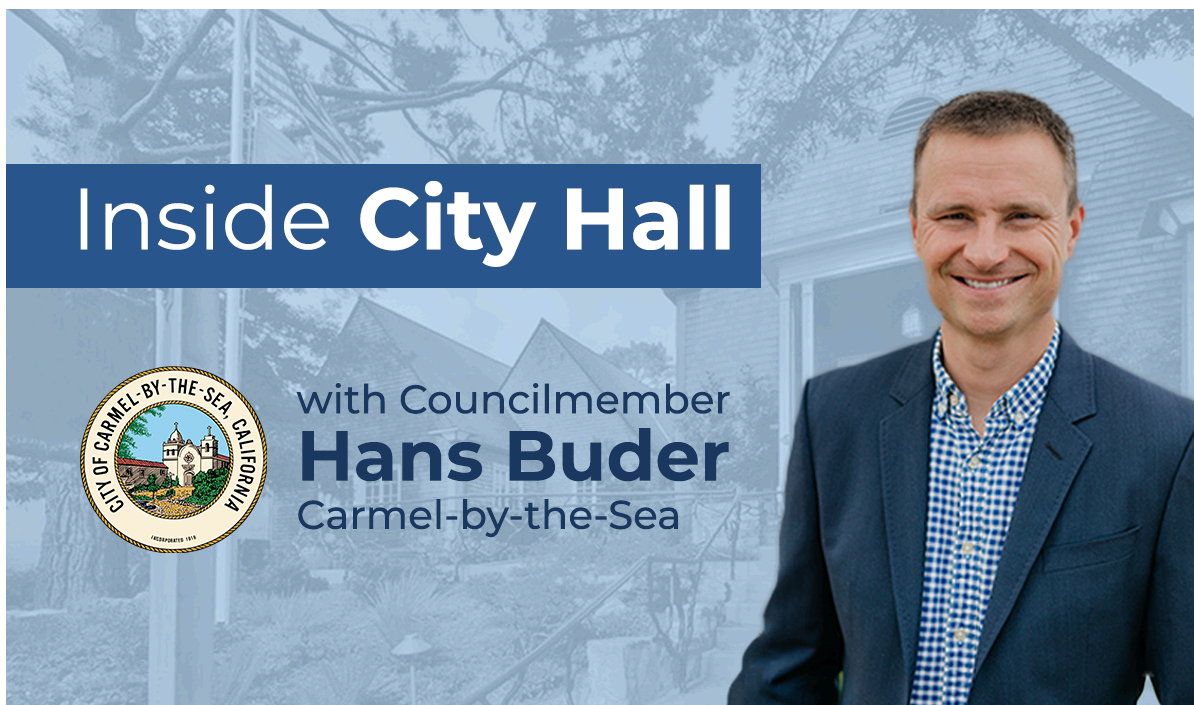


## Frustrating news on the power situation

1 message

**Hans** <hbuder@ci.carmel.ca.us>  
Reply-To: hbuder@ci.carmel.ca.us

Thu, Dec 25, 2025 at 3:05 PM





Dear neighbors,

I apologize for cluttering your inboxes with another email, but, given the situation, when I get important information I feel compelled to pass it along to you.

According to PG&E there are "29-30 work locations" on the circuit impacting the bulk of Carmel (including Carmel-by-the-Sea). Unfortunately, I was told that due to holiday-related staffing shortages, **there are only 5 crews currently working on those 29-30 work locations.** Due to the lack of PG&E staff they are relying heavily on contractors (from as far afield as Ohio), but each crew needs at least one bona fide PG&E employee for quality control. Unfortunately, there are apparently only 12 PG&E-employed "inspectors" -- i.e., qualified electrical workers such as linemen or foremen -- working today across all of Monterey County.

On my calls with PG&E today I've been pushing for specifics, and on my call a few minutes ago they provided specific Carmel-by-the-Sea addresses for several of the work locations in the queue.

**I was not given a specific estimated time for power to be restored, but PG&E intimated that it would be "into tomorrow"** given the holiday-related staffing shortages and the high number of identified work locations. I've told my family to brace for another night without power.

I'll be candid. I've appreciated PG&E staying in contact with me and other City leaders throughout this episode, but letting us sit for days on end without power because they don't have enough of their internal people on the job over Christmas is not acceptable. Bad storms are inevitable, but power outages should not extend for days on end due to lack of appropriate staffing or because we have not been prioritized.

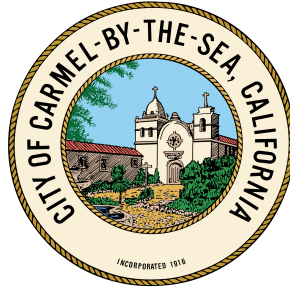
As a final public service announcement, the City has partnered with the Carmel Foundation to provide a space for warming and charging until 5pm. The City is going to open the Carmel Youth Center for warming and charging from 5pm until 10pm tonight.

Merry Christmas,



*1/1/2026*

City Councilmember, Carmel-by-the-Sea



# Hans Buder

CARMEL CITY COUNCIL

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