Hello. I lost my home in the Almeda fire. I am fortunate to be able to rebuild; so many people are not. I'm sure you are aware of the accelerating cost of building supplies.

The impact of the fire that I would like you to be aware of is on the landscape, and toxicity. Phoenix and Talent look so devastated because of the destruction of the landscape, especially trees. I would like to see funding and availability for residents and cities to plant lots of trees and shrubs! The drought makes it difficult to plan on other plants, like gardens, vegetables, and flowers.

Although the cleanup process certified building sites to be free of toxicity, I think further investigation is indicated. Of particular concern to me is that fire retardant was dropped near me in Talent. Fire retardant contains BPAs, or "forever chemicals", which are extremely unhealthy. There is also general toxicity from the incineration of building materials, plastics, PVC, herbicides, pesticides, household chemicals, etc. I used to grow practically all my own food, and had an extensive orchard. I am hesitant to grow food here again. I think broader testing is indicated. It would also be helpful if soil restoration materials were freely available, e.g. compost, chipped trees, straw mulch.

Thank you for your consideration.

Oceanah D'amore