

ORDINANCE NO. 10994 (N.S.)
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO
SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE, SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND
COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17 CHARGES AND FEES

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego ordains as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors finds and determines that San Diego County Fire must amend their charges and fees to recover actual expenses incurred by the Fire Code Official in the administration of various services and responsibilities. The amendments made by this ordinance are intended to allow the Fire Code Official to recover actual expenses for certain services provided by San Diego County Fire.

Section 2. Section 362.5, 366, 367, 368, 369, & 370 of the San Diego County Administrative Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 362.5. SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE

The following fees and charges shall be paid to San Diego County Fire or the County collection agent for providing the following services:

(a) SCHEDULE OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE FEES

Service Type	Plan Review Fee	Inspection Fee
Residential Building Permit without Fire Sprinklers	\$84.00	\$268.00
Residential Building Permit with Fire Sprinklers	\$173.00	\$467.00
Commercial Building Permit without Fire Sprinklers	\$156.00	\$220.00
Commercial Building Permit with Fire Sprinklers	\$291.00	\$623.00
Commercial Tenant Improvement	\$161.00	\$343.00
Grading Plan Review/Fire	\$286.00	N/A
Gate Plan Review/Fire	\$72.00	N/A
Fire Safety/Site Inspection	N/A	\$260.00
Special Event/Fire	N/A	\$231.00
Fire Alarm System	\$173.00	\$288.00
Alternative Fire Suppression System	\$187.00	\$283.00

(b) OTHER FEES, DEPOSITS AND PROVISIONS.

1. When a project is not specifically listed in the Permit fee table (subsection a) the fee shall be calculated using the standard hourly rates described in subsection (b)(2) of this section.

2. SCHEDULE OF STANDARD HOURLY RATES. Unless otherwise specified, all fees and time and material charges shall be calculated and will be charged using the following standard hourly billing rates:

POSITION	HOURLY RATE
Initial Inspection and Re-Inspection	\$164.00

Fire Apparatus Standby - Type I Hourly Rate	\$162.44
Fire Apparatus Standby - Type II Hourly Rate	\$115.72
Fire Apparatus Standby - Type III Hourly Rate	\$90.66
Fire Apparatus Standby - Type IV Hourly Rate	\$81.58
Fire Apparatus Standby - Type V to VII Hourly Rate	\$82.87
Fire Apparatus Standby - Water Tender Tactical I Hourly Rate	\$98.04
Fire Apparatus Standby - Water Tender Tactical II Hourly Rate	\$97.76
Firefighter I Hourly Rate	\$41.00
Firefighter II Hourly Rate	\$50.00
Firefighter II (Paramedic) Hourly Rate	\$58.00
Fire Apparatus Engineer Hourly Rate	\$56.00
Fire Apparatus Engineer (Paramedic) Hourly Rate	\$63.00
Fire Captain Hourly Rate	\$62.00
Fire Captain (Paramedic) Hourly Rate	\$70.00
Battalion Chief Hourly Rate	\$72.00

3. SCHEDULE OF FALSE ALARM FEES

VIOLATION TYPE	STANDARD FEE
Inspection Violation (Failure to Comply) - 3rd Inspection No Progress	\$90.00
Inspection Violation (Failure to Comply) - 4th Inspection No Progress	\$230.00
Inspection Violation (Failure to Comply) - 5th Inspection No Progress and Subsequent Warnings	\$500.00
Immediate Life Safety Hazard	\$900.00
False Alarm (3rd Response Within 12-Month Period)	\$90.00
False Alarm (4th Response Within 12-Month Period)	\$230.00
False Alarm (5th and Subsequent Responses Within 12-Month Period)	\$500.00

4. SCHEDULE OF JENSEN HUGHES CONTRACTED RATES

JENSEN HUGHES CONTRACTED RATES	
POSITION	HOURLY RATE (7/1/26 – 6/30/27)
Fire Protection Technician I Hourly Rate	\$170.00
Fire Protection Technician II Hourly Rate	\$195.00

Fire Protection Technician III Hourly Rate	\$300.00
Fire Protection Engineer I Hourly Rate	\$220.00
Fire Protection Engineer II Hourly Rate	\$255.00
Senior Fire Protection Engineer I Hourly Rate	\$285.00
Senior Fire Protection Engineer II Hourly Rate	\$340.00

5. **PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL TRACTS.** When a plan is registered with the Building Official as a Master Plan, fees will be assessed for each unique floor plan for the building and automatic fire sprinkler plan reviews. Each dwelling unit in the phase will be assessed inspection fees. If there are no new unique floor plans in subsequent phases of the residential tract, fees will be assessed for only the inspection of each dwelling unit in the phase.

6. **FEE WAIVER FOR STRUCTURES DAMAGED OR DESTROYED BY NATURAL DISASTER.** The plan review fee and inspection fees may be waived for an applicant who is rebuilding legally built structures which have been damaged or destroyed by a wildfire or other natural disaster and which are located within the boundaries of a geographic area which has been declared by resolution of the Board of Supervisors to be eligible for this fee waiver. The fee waiver shall not apply to any portion of a new structure which exceeds the square footage of the structure which is being replaced.

7. **HOMEOWNER AND BUSINESS OWNER'S RELIEF - WAIVER OF PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION FEES.** Notwithstanding the fees otherwise specified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, and San Diego County Code Section 91.1.109, the plan check review and inspection fees shall not be charged for improvements identified in subsections (10), (11) and (12) of Section 362.1(d) of the San Diego County Administrative Code, provided the improvement has not been previously identified as a violation by the County.

8. **FEE WAIVER FOR DISABLED VETERANS.** Notwithstanding the fees otherwise specified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the plan check and inspections fees shall be waived for accessibility modifications made to the homes of disabled veterans.

9. **AUTHORITY TO WAIVE FEES.** The Fire Code Official shall have the authority to waive fees for a project when the scope of work is minor in nature, the plans can be reviewed over the counter without additional research and will not necessitate an inspection for fire code related issues.

10. **APPLICABILITY.** This chapter shall be applicable in the unincorporated territory of the County of San Diego, where the County Fire Code Official provides the services, including within a fire protection district or municipal water district which provides fire protection service, if the district has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding or other agreement with the County to provide fire plan review and inspection.

(Added by Ord. No. 10301 (N.S.), effective 1-2-14; amended by Ord. No. 10730 (N.S.), effective 6-17-21; amended by Ord. No. 10937 (N.S.), effective 6-5-25).

SEC. 369. COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17 AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA AMBULANCE TRANSPORT FEES.

A fee of \$3,930 and a mileage charge of \$50 per mile shall be charged for each Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ambulance transport made to a medically approved destination, pursuant to County of San Diego EMS Policies when provided by the County Service Area 17 and the San Diego County Fire Protection District. Alternatively, an EMS ambulance transport may conclude at a rendezvous location, where the patient transport may transfer to another provider. A fee of \$483 shall be charged when EMS responders provide an assessment and treatment, but no patient transport. If more than one transport is provided to a patient (for example, due to a transfer at a rendezvous location), each transport provider may charge the patient the applicable fee and charges. If more than one patient is transported in the same vehicle, the transport provider may charge each patient the applicable fee and charges. There is a fee of \$229 per hour for requested special event and/or standby coverage for contracted services. The fees in this section shall increase 5% on July 1, 2027, and each new fiscal year through June 30, 2029, as shown in the table below. The Fire Chief or designee may waive any applicable fee and charges for individuals financially unable to pay.

FEE	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	FY 2028-29
Base Rate (per transport)	\$3,930	\$4,127	\$4,333
Mileage (per mile)	\$50	\$53	\$56
Treat, No Transport (per occurrence)	\$483	\$507	\$532
Standby/Special Event (per Hour)	\$229	\$240	\$252

(Added by Ord. No. 10754 (N.S.), effective 12-2-21; amended by Ord. No. 10775 (N.S.), effective 5-5-22; amended by Ord. No. 10937 (N.S.), effective 6-5-25)

SEC. 370. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FEES.

The Deputy Chief Administrative Officer shall charge and collect the following fees for the following emergency medical services:

PERSONNEL FEES

EMT/Advanced EMT Initial Certification/ Recertification - \$198.00

Paramedic Accreditation - \$198.00

Mobile Intensive Care Nurse Authorization - \$198.00

GROUND AMBULANCE

Permit Application - \$12,761.00

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Annual Vehicle Inspection - \$407.00

CONTINUING EDUCATION FEES

CE Provider Approval (4 years) - \$5,250.00

HOSPITAL DESIGNATION FEES

Base Hospital Designation - \$73,255.00

Trauma Center Designation - \$72,253.00

AIR AMBULANCE FEES

Air Ambulance Permit - \$5,951.00

(Added by Ord. No. 10754 (N.S.), effective 12-2-21; amended by Ord. No. 10776 (N.S.), effective 5-5-22; amended by Ord. No. 10802 (N.S.), effective 7-28-22; amended by Ord. No. 10842 (N.S.), effective 6-22-23; amended by Ord. No. 10893 (N.S.), effective 4-11-24; amended by Ord. No. 10906 (N.S.), effective 6-20-24; amended by Ord. No. 10937 (N.S.), effective 6-5-25).

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty days after its passage, and before the expiration of fifteen days after its passage, a summary hereof shall be published once with the names of the members of this Board voting for and against it in the Daily Transcript, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DAMON M. BROWN COUNTY COUNSEL

BY MONICA HALL
 Senior Deputy County Counsel

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego this 19th day of May 2026.



MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE
Vice-Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego, State of California

The above Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

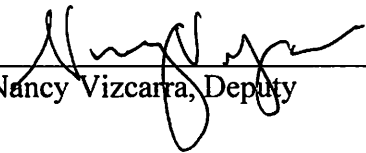
AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Montgomery Steppe

NOES: Desmond

ABSENT: Lawson-Remer

ATTEST my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors this 19th day of May 2026.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By 

Nancy Vizcarra, Deputy



Ordinance No.: 10994 (N.S.)
Meeting Date: 05/19/2026 (7)