

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 1

**SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
ANNUAL FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM RESOLUTIONS
AUTHORIZING CONTINUED PARTICIPATION AND ADOPTION OF A
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego created a Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Program following the adoption of an ordinance by the County Board of Supervisors on December 11, 1985 (11). The purpose of the FMF Program is to collect and allocate funds to fire agencies in the unincorporated area of San Diego County so they may provide long-term capital facilities and equipment to serve new development. These funds allow fire agencies, lacking legal authority to directly impose and collect mitigation fees, to provide capital facilities and equipment for fire suppression or emergency medical services, including station construction, station expansion or improvements, and fire or emergency medical apparatus to serve new developments in their districts.

To participate in the FMF Program, fire agencies must adopt a resolution on an annual basis: (1) authorizing participation in the FMF Program and identifying the percentage of the maximum fee for collection (Attachment A), and (2) adopting a plan for the future use of FMF revenue (Attachment B). The Fire Mitigation Fee Program Fee Maximum Chart (Attachment C) includes the proposed fee schedule for San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) and reflects the Los Angeles Construction Cost Index annual increase of 0.9% for all participating agencies for Fiscal Year 2025-26. Lastly, a waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested because San Diego County Fire staff time to administer the program is not eligible for reimbursement from FMF revenue.

The actions in today's request fulfill these requirements and will allow for the continued use of fire mitigation fees to fund expenditures related to new development within the boundaries of the San Diego County Fire Protection District and the other eleven fire protection agencies in the unincorporated area.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

1. Adopt the Resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 (Attachment A, on file with the Clerk of the Board).
2. Adopt the Resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO ADOPT A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE USE OF FIRE MITIGATION FEE REVENUE (Attachment B, on file with the Clerk of the Board).
3. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grant, Revenue Contracts-Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires prior approval of grant applicants and full-cost recovery of grants.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The County of San Diego's Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Program was established as a mechanism for collecting and allocating funds to the thirteen local fire agencies in unincorporated areas of San Diego County. These funds allow other fire agencies, who lack legal authority to directly impose and collect development impact fees, to provide capital facilities and equipment to serve new developments in their districts. More than 80 percent of the San Diego County Fire Protection District's jurisdictional area qualifies as a disadvantaged unincorporated community, based on a San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission report. Continued participation in the FMF program will provide necessary funding for capital improvements and fire safety resources to help create healthy, safe, and resilient communities in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions in today's request support the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability goals to provide just and equitable access to services by ensuring fire protection agencies in the unincorporated areas of the County can address future needs for fire protection and emergency medical services in their communities.

FISCAL IMPACT

If approved, the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) will continue to participate in the County's Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Program and will use funds collected for capital improvement projects and equipment purchases within the boundaries of the SDCFPD. The FMF annually will generate approximately \$2,000,000 in revenue beginning in Fiscal Year 2025-26. Costs for equipment purchases and facility improvements will be included as needed in future Operational Plans for San Diego County Fire. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years will be required.

The FMF Program does not recover costs associated with the administrative support provided by County Fire and will be funded with existing General Purpose Revenue budgeted in San Diego County Fire.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

Noting for the record that this item was heard on April 23, 2025; ON MOTION of Director Lawson-Remer, seconded by Director Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District continued this item to May 6, 2025.

AYES: Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

NOT PRESENT: Anderson

ABSENT: (District 1 Seat Vacant)

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the San Diego County Fire Protection District.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Directors



Signed
by Andrew Potter