

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
BOARD CHAMBER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

- A. REGULAR SESSION – Regular Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

PRESENT: Directors Terra Lawson-Remer, Chair; Monica Montgomery Steppe, Vice-Chair; Paloma Aguirre, Chair Pro Tem; Joel Anderson; Jim Desmond; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Directors.

- B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Director, if applicable.
- C. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for individuals to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction but not an item on the agenda. In accordance with the Board's Rules of Procedure, individuals may only speak at one Non-Agenda Public Communication session per meeting. The speaker may select which session (General Legislative or Land Use Legislative Session) to address the Board for Non-Agenda Public Communication at their convenience.
- D. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meetings of June 24, 2025 and June 25, 2025

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Anderson, seconded by Director Desmond, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meetings of June 24, 2025 and June 25, 2025.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Agenda Items

Agenda #	Subject
1.	ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM: SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREAS FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP (6/24/25 - FIRST READING: 8/26/25 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING)

1. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE
LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREAS FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE
MAP (6/24/25 - FIRST READING: 8/26/25 - SECOND READING
UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING)
(DISTRICTS: 2 AND 5)**

OVERVIEW

On June 24, 2025 (FP01), the Board of Directors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on August 26, 2025.

On September 27, 2022, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill (AB) 211, which established a requirement for the Office of the State Fire Marshal (Fire Marshal) to complete a fire hazard severity zone map update in the Local Responsibility Area (LRA). Once completed by the Fire Marshal, local agencies could make findings that increase the fire hazard severity within their LRA but not decrease it. Within 120 days of the revised LRA maps being made available, the local agency's governing body must adopt, through an ordinance, the fire hazard severity zone map.

On March 24, 2025, the Fire Marshal released the revised fire hazard severity zone map for the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD). The fire hazard severity zone maps have been updated to more accurately reflect the zones in California that are susceptible to wildfire. The update incorporates new science in local climate data and improved fire assessment modeling in determining hazard ratings. Responsibility for wildland fire response differs from structural fire protection and emergency medical services. For residential and commercial fires, medical calls, or vehicle accidents, the responsibility is with the local fire agency in the entirety of their jurisdiction. However, for wildland fire, the State and Federal governments provide fire protection and have certain financial responsibilities in their designated areas. If a wildfire occurs in an LRA, the local fire agency is financially and legally responsible for response and coordination duties. Every year these boundaries are reviewed for updates. SDCFPD has 1,854,763 acres, of which 310,031 acres are LRA land. The remaining SDCFPD acres include 929,054 acres that are State Responsibility Area (SRA) and 615,678 acres that are Federal Responsibility Area (FRA). Only the LRA map is included in today's Ordinance, defined as urban regions, agricultural areas, and portions of the desert where the local government is responsible for wildfire protection. SDCFPD's LRA is in Ramona, Borrego Springs and the surrounding area. The new Fire Marshal's LRA fire hazard severity zone map includes 4,536 parcels in SDCFPD that had their fire hazard severity zone classification increase from no designation to either moderate, high, or very high. In addition, 189 parcels had their fire hazard severity zone classification decrease from very high to either no designation, moderate, or high. San Diego County Fire, on behalf of the SDCFPD, has reviewed the LRA maps and is not proposing any increases to severity. Today's action includes the first reading of an ordinance adopting the State Fire Marshal's LRA fire hazard severity zone map.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Consider and adopt (unless ordinance is modified on second reading):

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREAS FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Fire Protection District includes some of the lowest-income and most vulnerable communities. Revised Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity maps improve resiliency for at-risk residents if future wildfires were to ignite in the service area.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action to adopt an ordinance of the Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map within the San Diego County Fire Protection District contributes to the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals to protect the health and wellbeing of residents. These actions will impact sustainability by providing accurate wildfire hazard models through new fire hazard severity zone maps for specific properties.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with today's actions. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Anderson, seconded by Director Aguirre, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Ordinance No. 10951 (N.S) entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREAS FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP.**

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

The Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District recessed at 5:10 p.m.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Directors of the
San Diego County Fire Protection District

Notes By: Vizcarra

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the San Diego County Fire Protection District on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.