

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 4

**SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE, ARTICLE XX, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE CHARGES
AND FEES (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On May 04, 2021 (01), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on May 18, 2021.

To promote fire safety within the region, San Diego County Fire (County Fire) reviews residential and commercial projects to ensure compliance with the County Fire Code and California Fire Code. County Fire assesses charges and fees to recover its costs for this work, which are approved by the County Board of Supervisors (Board). The levies are charged to individuals or agencies applying for new residential and commercial building permits, tenant improvement permits, gate and grading permits, and special event permits. The Board last approved revisions to the fees and rates in Article XX of the San Diego County Administrative Code on December 3, 2013 (1).

County Fire recently conducted a review of fees and rates to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 (Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery), which requires County departments to recover the costs to provide services to agencies or individuals. As a result, County Fire is proposing actions that support the cost of providing County Fire services, while ensuring fee levels that are fair and equitable for customers and the public. A total of 20 County Fire fees and two rates, and associated costs, were reviewed, resulting in a proposed increase in 14 fees, a proposed increase in one rate, a proposed decrease in six fees, and the deletion of one rate. The Auditor and Controller reviewed and approved the supporting documentation and the methodology for establishing the fees in this proposal for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Today's request is for the Board to consider an ordinance amending Article XX of the County Administrative Code related to fees for services provided by County Fire. If the Board takes this action as recommended, then on May 18, 2021, it may consider adoption of the proposed ordinance.

This action contributes to the *Live Well San Diego* vision by furthering activities that help make San Diego a more resilient community by ensuring that adequate fire protection and prevention measures are included in new residential and commercial development.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Consider and adopt the following Ordinance (second reading): AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, ARTICLE XX, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE CHARGES AND FEES.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request will be included in the Fiscal Years 2021-22 CAO Recommended Operational Plan, San Diego County Fire. If approved, this request will result in an estimated increase in revenue of \$36,270 in Fiscal Year 2021-22. The proposed fees ensure full cost recovery for services related to fire plan reviews, inspections, and other technical work, with certain exceptions for which a waiver of Board Policy B-29 is requested. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed fees and rates will have an impact on the business community within the San Diego County Fire Protection District and fire protection districts or municipal water districts that contract with County Fire to provide fire plan reviews and inspections. Services have previously been provided to individual applicants without full cost recovery. The proposed levies have been found to be fair and comparable with those assessed by other agencies for similar services. Attachment F - Regional Comparison of Major Fee Types compares County Fire's proposed fees to those in neighboring Fire Protection Districts and County Fire Departments.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, adopting Ordinance No. 10730 (N.S.), entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, ARTICLE XX, RELATING TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE CHARGES AND FEES.

AYES: Vargas, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, Desmond

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 Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

