

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 03, 2025**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 14**

**SUBJECT: RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON REGIONAL FIRE PREPAREDNESS  
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

In January 2025, Los Angeles County was severely impacted by several wildfires that caused catastrophic damage to residents in the Altadena and Pacific Palisades communities. In total, the wildfires destroyed over 15,000 homes and businesses, burned 37,000 acres, resulted in at least 29 deaths, forced 100,000 people to evacuate, and caused tens of billions of dollars in property damages. On January 28, 2025 (16, 17), the Board of Supervisors (Board) took several actions to bolster wildfire preparedness, response, and educational efforts in our region and to conduct a comprehensive review of the County's clearing and brush management efforts. The Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to purchase a twin-engine helicopter for San Diego County Fire to staff and conduct night-time water drops on wildland fires in our region for around-the-clock wildfire response and evaluate the need for additional water tenders. In addition, the Board directed the CAO to return within 180 days with a presentation on overall wildfire preparedness, including vegetation management, water supply and infrastructure, residential insurance, recovery, public education, and emergency response coordination.

Today's action includes the Board receiving a presentation regarding fire preparedness efforts, partnerships with other agencies in the region, and updates on efforts being taken by San Diego Gas & Electric, San Diego County Water Authority, and the California Insurance Commissioner's Office.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Receive a presentation on wildfire preparedness, response and resiliency, water supply and infrastructure, and residential insurance availability in San Diego County.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Fire preparedness and prevention help to mitigate wildland fires that frequently start in rural and isolated communities, and disproportionately impact tribal nations, lower-income residents, and senior citizens.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's action supports our region's environmental well-being by minimizing the impact of wildland fires on residents and sensitive habitats.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no current year fiscal impact associated with today's action to receive a presentation on fire preparedness efforts and partnerships with other agencies in the region. \$14,300,000 in funding for the purchase of a twin-engine helicopter for County Fire has been included in the Fiscal Years 2025-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan in Finance Other based on anticipated bond proceeds (long-term debt financing). Staff will return to the Board for approval to issue long-term debt.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions:

1. Received a presentation on wildfire preparedness, response and resiliency, water supply and infrastructure, and residential insurance availability in San Diego County.
2. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer to return to the Board annually with an update on fire preparedness.

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

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 Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
**by** Andrew Potter