



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

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Fifth District

**DATE:** August 31, 2021

**02**

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

### **SUBJECT:**

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE – APPROVAL OF ACTIONS RELATED TO AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR INVESTMENT IN LOCAL, INDEPENDENT FIRE DISTRICTS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

### **OVERVIEW**

On June 8, 2021 (3), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Infrastructure, allocating \$4 million for investment in local, independent fire districts.

Today's recommendation seeks Board approval for actions related to the use of the approved American Rescue Plan Act funding for Infrastructure, by establishing appropriations of \$4 million in San Diego County Fire for allocation to local, independent fire districts.

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Approve the allocation methodology and authorize San Diego County Fire to take actions related to the use of American Rescue Plan Act funding for Infrastructure.
2. Transfer appropriations of \$4,000,000 from Finance Other, Other Charges to San Diego County Fire, Contribution to Other Agencies for allocation to local, independent fire districts.

### **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

To provide for transparency and open government, the County of San Diego considered public input on the use of future federal and State COVID-19 stimulus funding. Although San Diego County, the 18 incorporated cities within the County, and other local public agencies have received federal stimulus funding related to COVID-19, unincorporated fire protection districts have not received any funding to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. The allocation of \$4 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds will help provide a more equitable distribution of funding across the region and ensure that unincorporated residents and fire district employees get much needed support.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds associated with this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operational Plan in San Diego County Fire. If approved, today's action will result in costs and revenue of \$4,000,000

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in San Diego County Fire for direct distribution to local, independent fire districts. The funding source is \$4 million in ARPA funds allocated directly to the County, plus estimated interest earnings. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT**

N/A

**BACKGROUND**

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has been committed to and has taken action to protect the health of the public and provided resources to individuals, families, and local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. On June 8, 2021 (3), the Board took action in advancing support to San Diego residents by approving the framework for use of \$653.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The approved ARPA framework commits resources to continue to manage and reduce community transmission of COVID-19 in San Diego County; provide the necessary support for individuals, families, and local businesses to mitigate the negative effects and other barriers experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic; support the County's continued COVID-19 pandemic response efforts; and to plan for the stability and sustainability of the region beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approval of the ARPA framework was the first step toward getting needed support and resources on the ground across the region. Additional action is needed to operationalize some components of the approved framework, specifically the appropriation of \$4 million to San Diego County Fire (County Fire) for allocation to local, independent fire districts.

The table below shows the proposed distributions. Amounts are based on the population of residents within the unincorporated areas of each fire district's jurisdiction.

Agency Name	Population Estimate	Percentage	Distribution Amounts*
Alpine FPD	15,423	3.59%	\$ 143,800.00
Bonita-Sunnyside FPD	13,179	3.07%	\$ 122,800.00
Borrego Springs FPD	3,653	0.85%	\$ 34,100.00
Deer Springs FPD	12,362	2.88%	\$ 115,200.00
Lakeside FPD	63,439	14.78%	\$ 591,300.00
Lower Sweetwater FPD	2,405	0.56%	\$ 22,400.00
North County FPD	53,003	12.35%	\$ 494,100.00

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Ramona MWD	35,369	8.24%	\$ 329,700.00
Rancho Santa Fe FPD	35,322	8.23%	\$ 329,300.00
Rincon del Diablo MWD	13,645	3.18%	\$ 127,200.00
San Marcos FPD	14,143	3.30%	\$ 131,800.00
San Miguel Consolidated FPD	127,205	29.64%	\$ 1,185,700.00
Valley Center FPD	19,226	4.48%	\$ 179,200.00
Vista FPD	20,746	4.83%	\$ 193,400.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>429,120</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 4,000,000*</b>
*The distribution amounts shown in the table above have been rounded for clarity.			

Fire districts will submit requests to County Fire for reimbursement of expenses incurred through June 30, 2024 up to their individual share of the allocation. If a fire district anticipates having an unused share of funds, a reallocation will be made to other districts.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Today's actions to approve the allocation proposal of American Rescue Plan Act Funding supports the Operational Excellence and Living Safely initiatives in the County of San Diego's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan by providing financial resources to local independent fire protection districts impacted by COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,



HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER  
Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

N/A

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**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**

**REQUIRES FOUR VOTES:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:**

June 8, 2021 (3), Approve the Recommended Framework for the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funding, Establish Appropriations to Support Proposed Actions, and Authorize the Auditor & Controller to Establish a Trust Fund for the American Rescue Plan Act Program Funds.

**BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:**

N/A

**BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:**

N/A

**MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:**

The proposed actions related to the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funding to local, independent fire districts meet the requirements of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program.

**ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):**

N/A

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:** San Diego County Fire

**OTHER CONCURRENCE(S):** N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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