

# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 S. Main Avenue • Fallbrook, California 92028-2938 • Phone: (760) 723-2005 • Fax: (760) 723-2072 • Web: [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RUTH HARRIS  
BOB HOFFMAN  
FRED LUEVANO  
KENNETH E. MUNSON  
JOHN VAN DOORN

STEPHEN J. ABBOTT - Fire Chief/CEO - [sabbott@ncfire.org](mailto:sabbott@ncfire.org)  
ROBERT H. JAMES - District Counsel - [roberthjameslaw@gmail.com](mailto:roberthjameslaw@gmail.com)  
LOREN A. STEPHEN-PORTER - Executive Assistant/Board Secretary - [lstephen@ncfire.org](mailto:lstephen@ncfire.org)

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**SUBJECT:** BOARD MEETING PACKAGE  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020

Enclosed is your Board package for the Regular [July 28, 2020](#) Board Meeting. We have tried to include the information you will need to effectively consider and act on agenda items.

Due to the Covid-19 Outbreak and pursuant to the Declarations by Governor Newsome and the County of San Diego, until further notice, all Board Meetings will be **TELEPHONIC ONLY**.

The Board, Staff and Public may participate by calling into the following number: 1-408-419-1715. Meeting ID is 834 677 344, followed by #.

All Board documents are on line at:

<https://www.ncfire.org/2020-07-28-board-tuesday-july-28-2020-regular-meeting>

**Please note this month's meeting is scheduled for [Tuesday, July 28, 2020](#), beginning at 4:00 p.m.**

It is our goal to be prepared to respond accurately to Board questions and concerns. You can help us achieve this goal by contacting me *prior to* the Board meeting with your questions and concerns. This will allow time for the Staff and me to provide the appropriate information for review at the Board meeting.

*To ensure a quorum is present, please call Loren in advance of the meeting if you will be unable to attend. She may be reached at (760) 723-2012.*

Respectfully,



Stephen Abbott  
Fire Chief/CEO



PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FALLBROOK, BONSALE AND RAINBOW

DUTY ~ INTEGRITY ~ RESPECT



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JULY 28, 2020 — 4:00 p.m.

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK AND PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATIONS BY GOVERNOR NEWSOME AND THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, ALL BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE TELEPHONIC ONLY.**

The Board, Staff and Public may participate by calling into the following number:  
1-408-419-1715. Meeting ID is 834 677 344, followed by #.

All Board documents are on line at:

<https://www.ncfire.org/2020-07-28-board-tuesday-july-28-2020-regular-meeting>

### PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA

*For those joining us for the Public Activities Agenda, please feel free to depart at the close of the agenda. We invite you to stay for the remainder of the business meeting.*

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### ROLL CALL

#### INVOCATION

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN

(pgs. 5-6)

- **STANDING EVENT:** Members of the Public may directly address the Board of Directors on items of interest to the Public provided no action will be taken on non-agenda items. The Board President may limit comments to three minutes per speaker (Board of Directors Operations – Elections, Officers and Terms SOG § 4.2.6.3.).

### ACTION AGENDA

#### CONSENT EVENTS:

*All Events listed under the Consent Events are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these Events prior to the Board action on the motion, unless members of the Board, Staff or public request specific Events be removed from the Consent Agenda.*

#### 2. APPROVE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 2020

(pgs. 7-14)

- **Standing Event:** Review and approve minutes from June meeting as presented.

#### 3. REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 2020

(pgs. 15-24)

- **Standing Event:** Review and Accept Financial Report for June as presented.

#### 4. REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

(pgs. 25-32)

##### **Standing Event:**

- **LEAVE MANAGEMENT - LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** Modified policy to allow Fire Chief/CEO to grant a Leave of Absence to a non-represented individual for up to one year for professional development purposes.
- **JOB DESCRIPTIONS - FINANCE MANAGER:** New job description to encompass duties and responsibilities related to oversight and management of the Finance Division.

#### 5. REVIEW AND ACCEPT EMERGENCY SERVICE OVERTIME TRACKING REPORT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER 2019/2020

(pgs. 33-38)

- **Quarterly Report:** Report demonstrates that annual and sick leave expenditures for the quarter are decreased over the same quarter last year, with current overtime at 100.62% of budget. outstanding reimbursement are \$180,154.00; after reimbursement, overtime will be at 82.24% of the budgeted amount.

#### 6. REVIEW AND ACCEPT CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY PROGRAM RESULTS — SECOND QUARTER 2020

(pgs. 39-48)

- **QUARTERLY REPORT:** Report demonstrates 32% of surveys were returned; 96% of which were in the "excellent" category.

**Note:** The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, District business. If you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office 72 hours prior to the meeting at (760) 723-2012.



## AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JULY 28, 2020

PAGE 2 OF 3

7. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL FLEET SERVICES REPORT** (pgs. 49-52)  
➤ ANNUAL REPORT: Review and accept Report noting Fleet status.
8. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT ANNUAL TRAINING REPORT FOR 2020** (pgs. 53-54)  
➤ STANDING ITEM: Review and accept Report that demonstrates when averaged, staff remain above minimum required training hours.

### ACTION EVENTS:

All Events listed under the Action Events Agenda will be presented and discussed prior to the Board taking action on any matter. Time Certain Events will commence precisely at the time announced in the Agenda.

9. **REVIEW AND APPROVE SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES — D/C MAHR AND CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 55-56)  
➤ STANDING ITEM: Review and approve declaration of surplus and sale of four vehicles.
10. **PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME CERTAIN JULY 28, 2020 (4:15 P.M.) — FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM WITH ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2020-09 — FM FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 57-72)  
➤ Annual Action: Public Hearing, date and times certain to approve Resolution 2020-09 to ensure continued participation in the County Fire Mitigation Fee Program.
11. **REVIEW AND APPROVE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT — FM FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 73-86)  
➤ ANNUAL ITEM: Second required presentation to Board to approve and authorize Staff to deliver fixed Charge Assessment to County when deadlines are met.
12. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-08 ACCEPTING THE REPORT ON STATE MANDATED INSPECTIONS — CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 87-90)  
➤ ANNUAL REPORT: Review and approve Report and Resolution 2020-08 accepting the Report on mandated inspections.

### DISCUSSION AGENDA

No action shall be undertaken on any Discussion Event. The Board may: acknowledge receipt of the information or report and make comments; refer the matter to Staff for further study or report; or refer the matter to a future agenda.

13. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON DISCLOSURE RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER FEDERAL SECURITIES LAW — CHIEF ABBOTT AND STRADLING, YOCCA, CARLSON & RAUTH PRESENTERS** (pgs. 91-122)  
➤ NEW ITEM: FIRST ANNUAL TRAINING ON DISCLOSURE RESPONSIBILITIES.
14. **DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CSUSM PROGRAM ON REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS — CHIEF ABBOTT** (pgs. 123-190)  
➤ NEW ITEM: DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STUDY.

### STANDING DISCUSSION EVENTS: All Events listed under the Standing Discussion Events are presented every meeting.

- **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** (pgs. 191-92)
  - "Families First Coronavirus Response Act – Part 2."
- **WRITTEN COMMUNICATION: None** (pgs. 193-205)
  - BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM
- **NEWS ARTICLES: As attached.** (pgs. 206-54)
- **COMMENTS/REPORTS/QUESTIONS:** (pgs. 255-56)
- **STAFF:**
  - Chief Abbott
  - Other Staff



# AGENDA FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JULY 28, 2020

PAGE 3 OF 3

- BOARD
- BARGAINING GROUPS
- PUBLIC COMMENT

## CLOSED SESSION

The Board will enter closed session to discuss events as outlined herein. As provided in the Government Code, the public will not be present during these discussions. At the end of the Closed Session, the Board shall publicly report any action taken in Closed Session (and the vote or abstention on that action of every member present) in accordance with Government Code § 54950 ET. seq.)

- CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN:** (pgs. 257-58)  
 ➤ An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.
- CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**  
 ➤ NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES
- CS-3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**  
 ➤ FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES
- CS-4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**  
 ➤ FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES
- CS-5. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 — DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:**  
 ➤ PROPERTY LOCATION: 4157 Olive Hill Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028;  
PARTIES: North County Fire Protection District (Seller);  
UNDER NEGOTIATION: Terms of Purchase;  
DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: Chief Abbott, District Counsel James
- CS-6. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.9 — CHIEF ABBOTT:**  
 ➤ Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code § 54956.9 – one case.
- CS-7. **REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN**

## ADJOURNMENT

### SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is: **Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 4:00 p.m. location TBD.**

### CERTIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING

"I certify that this Agenda was posted in accordance with the provisions of the Government Code § 54950 et. seq. The posting locations were: [1] the entrance of North County Fire Protection District Administrative Offices, [2] Fallbrook Public Utility District Administrative Offices and [3] the Roy Noon Meeting Hall; [4] District's website at <https://www.ncfire.org>. The Agenda was also available for review at the Office of the Board Secretary, located at located at 330 S. Main Avenue, Fallbrook (760) 723-2012. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the District after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the Office of the Board Secretary, located at 330 S. Main Avenue, Fallbrook (760) 723-2012, during normal business hours or may be found on the District website at <https://www.ncfire.org>, subject to the Staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting. The date of posting was July 23, 2020."

Board Secretary Loren Stephen-Porter:

*Loren Stephen-Porter*

Date:

July 23, 2020



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** PUBLIC COMMENT

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. *Members of the Public may directly address the Board of Directors on items of interest to the Public provided no action will be taken on non-agenda items. The Board President may limit comments to three minutes per speaker (Board of Directors Operations – Elections, Officers and Terms SOG § 4.2.6.3.).*

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1 June 23, 2020

2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
3 **THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

4 President Luevano called the meeting to order at 4:00.

5 **THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY CHAPLAIN HELMAN.**

6 **ALL RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

7 **ROLL CALL:**

8 **Present:** Directors Harris, Hoffman, Luevano, Munson and Van Doorn.

9 **Absent:** None.

10 **Staff Present:** Fire Chief/CEO Abbott, Attorney James and Board Secretary Stephen-  
11 Porter. In the audience were: DFC Marovich, D/Cs Mahr and McReynolds, B/C Macmillan,  
12 F/M Fieri, A/C DeCamp and members of the public and Association.

13  
14 **PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AGENDA**

15 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** President Luevano addressed the audience and inquired whether  
16 there were any public comments regarding items not on the Agenda. Public member Tom  
17 Frew indicated he had no comments. There being no comments, the Public Comment  
18 Section was closed.

19 **ACTION AGENDA**

20 **CONSENT ITEMS:**

21 2. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 2020**

22 3. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 2020**

23 4. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT NCFD 2020 GRANT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

24 5. **REVIEW AND ACCEPT POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

25 President Luevano inquired whether there were any questions on Consent Items 2-5 . There  
26 being no discussion, President Luevano asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.  
27 On a motion by Director Harris, seconded by Director Munson the motion to approve the  
28 Consent Agenda as presented passed unanimously.

30 **ACTION ITEMS:**

31 6. **REVIEW AND CAST VOTE IN ELECTION FOR CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SOUTHERN NETWORK—**

32 **CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott presented the ballot information to the Board noting there is one  
33 seat open, Seat C, which is current being held by incumbent Arlene Schafer from the Costa  
34 Mesa Sanitary District. There was no recommendation from Staff. On a motion by Director  
35 Harris, seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the motion to cast a vote for the incumbent  
36 Arlene Schafer passed unanimously. The Board Secretary to cast the electronic vote on  
37 behalf of the Board.

38 7. **REVIEW AND APPROVE ACTION ON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM – D/C McREYNOLDS**

39 **AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott and D/C McReynolds presented the recommendation to  
40 end the Volunteer Program early due to the marginal success experienced with volunteer  
41 recruitment and retention. With the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the decision was  
42 made on March 18, 2020 to suspend volunteer shifts to minimize exposure and risk to the  
43 volunteers, employees and the public. The shifts presently remain suspended. Staff  
44 recommends that the program be discontinued on July 31, 2020. By moving the termination  
45 date of the Volunteer Firefighter Program from November to July, the District will realize a  
46 \$9,000 savings. Discussion ensued regarding the staffing at Station 3 and how to manage  
47 risk on a smaller response unit, which Chief Mahr addressed. On a motion by Director  
48 Munson, seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the motion to end the Volunteer Program  
49 on July 31, 2020 passed unanimously.

50 8. **SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE/TIME AUGUST 25, 2020 (4:15 P.M.) — TO REVIEW AND**

51 **APPROVE THE BIENNIAL CODE OF CONFLICT – CHIEF ABBOTT AND B/S STEPHEN-PORTER:** B/S

52 Stephen-Porter presented the request to set a hearing for August 25, 2020 at 4:15 p.m. to  
53 hear the Biennial Conflict of Interest Code. This is a mandatory review conduct each even  
54 year and must be submitted to the Board of Supervisors by no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of each  
55 even year. B/S Stephen-Porter and Counsel James will be working together to ensure the  
56 review captures any required changes. On a motion by Director Harris, seconded by  
57 Director Munson, the motion to set the public hearing for the date and time requested to  
58 review and approve the Biennial Code of Conflict passed unanimously.



59 **9. REVIEW AND APPROVE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT — FM**  
60 **FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** FM Fieri presented the Fixed Charge Special Assessment for Weed  
61 Abatement to the Board, noting this year there was only one property that had failed to pay  
62 for their forced weed abatements. The costs for the abatement was \$4600.00, with  
63 administrative costs of \$887.00, totaling \$5487.00. The owner has received all the required  
64 notices both prior to the forced abatement and after the abatement. Notice of the Fixed  
65 Charge Assessment was posted as required on June 10, 2020. The owner has until July 31,  
66 2020 to pay the amounts due. Thereafter, it will be submitted to the County for addition to  
67 the owner's property taxes. The Prevention staff will send a final notice of the deadline after  
68 the conclusion of the Board meeting. The Board will have a final chance to review and  
69 approve the charges at the July Board meeting. On a motion by Director Harris, seconded  
70 by Vice President Van Doorn, the motion to accept the Fixed Charge Special Assessment  
71 for Weed Abatement report as presented passed unanimously.

72 **10. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-06 — REQUESTING A TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF**  
73 **FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY TREASURER TO NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT — DFC**

74 **MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** DFC Marovich presented a request to approve Resolution  
75 2019-08 to the Board, noting this is an annual action that is required in order to obtain  
76 advances on the tax monies due the District from the County. The Resolution permits the  
77 District to be advanced a maximum of 85% of the anticipated taxes due in a given year,  
78 which the District uses until taxes are collected and released to it. On a motion by Vice  
79 President Van Doorn, seconded by Director Harris, the motion to approve Resolution 2020-  
80 06 passed unanimously.

81 **11. REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-07 ESTABLISHING THE LIMIT OF APPROPRIATIONS**  
82 **OF PROCEEDS OF TAX SUBJECT TO LIMITATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 IN COMPLIANCE**  
83 **WITH ARTICLE XIII-B OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA — DFC MAROVICH AND**

84 **CHIEF ABBOTT:** DFC Marovich presented the required action to the Board, noting it is  
85 necessary for the District to complete each year. As is routinely the case, the District is  
86 under the maximum amount allowed by quite a bit. On a motion by Director Munson,

87 seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the motion to approve Resolution 2020-07 passed  
88 unanimously.

89 **12. REVIEW AND APPROVE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FY 2021/2021 SET PUBLIC HEARING**  
90 **DATE/TIME CERTAIN OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 AT 4:15 P.M., TO APPROVE THE FINAL BUDGET – DFC**

91 **MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:** HR/Finance Specialist Juul presented the Preliminary Budget  
92 to the Board for review and approval. On the Revenue side, she noted that the District is  
93 anticipating an increase in property tax revenue of approximately \$464,290 over budgeted  
94 in FY 19/20 final anticipated amount, however, until the final numbers have been received  
95 from the County, the District is only recommending a 3% increase in the Budget. Discussion  
96 ensued regarding the anticipated recession in the coming year and how that will be  
97 addressed. They are anticipating putting 3% aside to ensure the District does not exceed  
98 its budgeted amounts. To be conservative, the District is cutting back on non-essential  
99 purchases and ensuring that continues until the first check is received. With the addition of  
100 the Pension Obligation Bond coming in at the great interest rating to offset the UAL, it will  
101 help offset some of the concerns. On the Expense side, salaries remain unchanged,  
102 however healthcare increased by 7.5%, PERS increased 12% and dispatch services  
103 increased due to price-per-call increases. Discussion ensued regarding the impact of the  
104 failure to pass Prop A, retirements, hiring of a third firefighter at Station 3 and the healthcare  
105 costs. It was noted that the increase in Fire Mitigation Fees were not approved by the Board  
106 of Supervisors and will remain at the previous rate. On a motion by Director Harris,  
107 seconded by Director Munson, the motion to approve the Preliminary Budget and to set a  
108 hearing to approve the Final Budget as requested passed unanimously.

109  
110 **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

111 **13. INTEGRATION WITH NORTH ZONE AGENCIES – CHIEF ABBOTT:** Chief Abbott led a  
112 discussion regarding the possibility of expanding cooperative relationships with several  
113 North Zone agencies to see what efficiencies could be gained by greater cooperative efforts.  
114 He noted that in 2011, the District, along with the cities of Vista, Oceanside and Carlsbad,  
115 had participated in a Citygate analysis to determine whether a cooperative blending of

116 efforts, ranging from sharing of overhead to full consolidation would be of benefit to the  
117 District. At that time, the Board felt the potential financial savings did not override concerns  
118 regarding loss of control and other issues. Over the past decade, the North Zone agencies  
119 have collaborated to align various operational and administrative functions, including  
120 operations, training, recruitment, communications, EMS and procurement. Chief Abbott  
121 opined that expansion of the cooperative relationships would be the next logical step to  
122 integrating other resources, creating greater efficiencies and eliminating duplication of effort,  
123 while allowing for expansion of underserved services. He stated that cooperative efforts  
124 may not only create economic efficiencies but allow for greater specialization, focusing to  
125 doing things even better. While there is no specific solution or plan in mind, Chief Abbott  
126 noted there was an interest at Senior Staff to continue conversations with the participating  
127 agencies to explore possibilities. Any specific solutions would be brought before the full  
128 Board for consideration. Discussion ensued regarding what such a joining of resources  
129 would look like. Concerns were expressed that the District is a different type of entity, in that  
130 the others are cities. In addition, once local control is lost, it cannot be regained. Chief  
131 Abbott noted discussions would only be preliminary, all decisions would be brought back to  
132 the Board for approval. The consensus of the Board was there was no objection to further  
133 exploration into possible efficiencies and discussions. There are to be no commitments and  
134 all decisions are to be brought to the Board for approval.

135 **STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

136 ● **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT:** Counsel James presented his report “Families First  
137 Coronavirus Response Act – Part 1.” Brief discussion ensued regarding the act and meet  
138 and confer requirements. This is informational only, no action required.

139 ● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** Brief discussion ensued regarding the items, with  
140 the Board thanking everyone for their work on behalf of the District. Informational only, no  
141 action required.

142 ● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

143 ● **NEWS ARTICLES:** Brief discussion ensued regarding articles, including articles  
144 addressing the recession beginning in February and the Board of Supervisors consideration

145 of reorganizing the fire service in the unincorporated areas. This is informational only, no  
146 action required.

147 ● **COMMENTS:**

148 ● **STAFF REPORTS/UPDATES:**

149 ● **STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:** Chief Abbott informed the Board that two more  
150 employees tested positive for COVID. Both are recovering well and are expected back to  
151 work the following week. He expressed thanks to all suppression for continuing to watch  
152 out for and cover for unexpected absences. Chief Abbott updated the Board on local COVID  
153 testing, which the District is participating in. There is no charge. The District is doing  
154 antibody testing on individuals who have tested positive for COVID. The District received a  
155 grant for an extractor for PPE cleaning. The District is participating with the UC system and  
156 Scripps on installation of fire cameras to assist with identifying and locating fires to assist  
157 with faster responses. Chief Abbott noted that the rate on the POB will save the District  
158 approximately 8 million, rather than the 5 million that was original expected. He noted the  
159 District received an AA- rating, which is on par with financially solvent cities and during the  
160 time of letting, the District received the second best interest rate. Chief Abbott also noted  
161 that the Palomar College Safety Center will not become a reality due to the economy and  
162 competing interests. Informational only, no further action required.

163 ● **CHIEF OFFICERS AND OTHER STAFF: DFC MAROVICH:** DFC Marovich noted that the  
164 GEMT audit is still ongoing. The District has received \$38,000 from the CARES Act.  
165 President Luevano thanked all the Finance Staff for the additional work during the transition  
166 for DFC Marovich's retirement.

167 ● **BOARD: DIRECTOR MUNSON:** Director Munson thanked all the staff for the great care  
168 they gave him during his recent transport to Temecula Valley Hospital.

169 ● **BARGAINING GROUPS: AVP BRADSHAW:** AVP Bradshaw noted the Association is  
170 looking to help the two members affected by COVID. The membership will be having a  
171 general meeting this week. Although AP Lewis is out with his wife having a baby, he is  
172 always available. President Luevano extended the Board's congratulations to him on his  
173 new family member.

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● **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

At 5:10 p.m., President Luevano inquired whether there was a motion to adjourn to Closed Session. There being no objection, President Luevano read the items to be discussed in Closed Session and the Open Session was closed. A short break ensued after the reading of the Closed Session Items. At 5:22 p.m., and the Board entered Closed Session to hear:

CS-1. **ANNOUNCEMENT — PRESIDENT LUEVANO:** *An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.*

CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

CS-3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

CS-4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

CS-5. **REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — PRESIDENT LUEVANO**

● **REOPENING OPEN SESSION:**

On a motion by Director Hoffman, which was seconded by Director Harris and which passed unanimously, the Board returned Open Session at 6:05 p.m., the following items were reported out to the public:

CS-2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

201 On a motion by Director Harris, which was seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the Board  
202 approved the Management Side Letter, authorizing District labor negotiators to make minor language  
203 changes as necessary.

204 **CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY**  
205 **GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

206 FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL  
207 JAMES

208 On a motion by Director Harris, which was seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the Board  
209 approved the Non-Safety Group Side Letter, authorizing District labor negotiators to make minor  
210 language changes as necessary.

211 **CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP**  
212 **NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:** FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS: CHIEF  
213 ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

214 On a motion by Director Harris, which was seconded by Vice President Van Doorn, the Board  
215 approved the Safety Group Side Letter, authorizing District labor negotiators to make minor language  
216 changes as necessary.

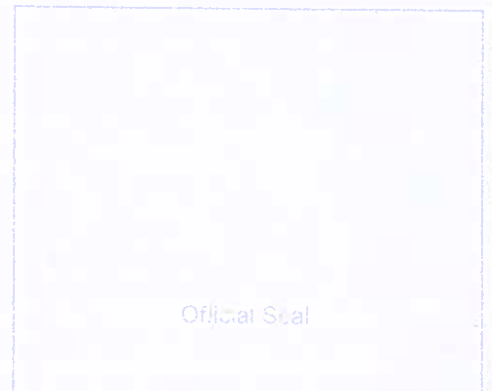
217 **ADJOURNMENT**

218 A motion was made at 6:10 p.m. by Director Hoffman and seconded by Director Munson to  
219 adjourn the meeting and reconvene on July 28, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. The motion carried  
220 unanimously.

221 Respectfully submitted,

222 

224 Loren Stephen-Porter  
225 Board Secretary



227 Minutes approved at the Board of Director's Meeting on: July 28, 2020



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATION - BUDGET & FINANCE**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** DFC CHIEF STEVEN MAROVICH, HR/FS CHERIE JUUL AND CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** REVENUE & EXPENDITURES AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 (100%)

Revenue Sources	Budgeted	Collected	Over/Under	% of Budget
Property Taxes - FBK	15,476,356.00	15,616,510.41	140,154.41	101%
Property Taxes - RNBW	285,000.00	303,224.78	(236,911.29)	106%
Ambulance and Collections	1,945,000.00	2,302,990.83	357,990.83	118%
GEMT-State Supplement	130,000.00	-	(130,000.00)	0%
Prevention Fees	200,000.00	210,270.84	10,270.84	105%
Tower Lease Agreements	103,000.00	122,931.51	19,931.51	119%
Other Revenue Sources	50,000.00	84,052.77	34,052.77	168%
Interest	70,000.00	86,756.93	16,756.93	124%
Cost Recovery	70,000.00	80,409.48	10,409.48	115%
Fallbrook Healthcare District	181,637.00	57,413.59	(124,223.41)	32%
Community Facilities District (CFD)	149,079.00	86,021.03	(63,057.97)	58%
Strike Team Reimbursements	89,000.00	111,368.88	22,368.88	-
Other Reimbursements	150,000.00	155,279.87	5,279.87	104%
Mitigation Fees & Interest - FBK	300,000.00	453,746.53	153,746.53	151%
Donations & Grants	288,215.00	341,823.10	53,608.10	119%
Annexation fees	-	-	-	-
Transfers & Loans	-	-	-	0%
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>19,487,287.00</b>	<b>20,012,800.55</b>	<b>525,513.55</b>	<b>103%</b>
	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
TTL Expenditures YTD thru 06-30-2020	18,538,128.00	17,721,585.00	(816,543.00)	96%
Revenue over Expenditures		2,291,215.55		

North County Fire Protection District  
 For the Tenth Month Ending April 30, 2020  
**83% of Budget**

COLOR KEY	
Within/Below Budget	
Within 10% of Budget	
>10% of Budget (see notes)	

Description	June Actual	Running Total	Annual Budget	Amount Remaining	% Used	Notes
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	2,735,748.00	14,559,015.00	14,891,903.00	332,888.00	97.8%	
101 Total Board Administration	5,297.42	445,011.00	468,900.00	23,889.00	94.9%	
102 Total Administration	21,804.39	1,018,955.00	1,090,029.00	71,074.00	93.5%	
103 Total Fire Prevention	1,474.84	37,475.00	70,400.00	32,925.00	53.2%	
104 Total Emergency Services	1,766.47	377,334.00	358,096.00	(19,238.00)	105.4%	\$30K Wildland PPE SD Fire grant
105 Total Emergency Med Svcs	6,554.62	217,072.00	205,233.00	(11,839.00)	105.8%	COVID purchases
106 Total Reserves (note below)	6,555.00	45,250.00	20,500.00	(24,750.00)	220.7%	SAFER II Grant purchase
107 Total Communications***	7,910.17	623,549.00	686,832.00	63,283.00	90.8%	
108 Total Shop/Maintenance	14,862.84	310,099.00	308,890.00	(1,209.00)	100.4%	
109 Total Training	1,426.50	87,825.00	75,000.00	(12,825.00)	117.1%	Spike in formal education
120 Total General Fund Reserve	-	-	350,000.00	350,000.00	0.0%	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	2,803,400.25	17,721,585.00	18,525,783.00	804,198.00	95.7%	
<b>200 Total Capital Expenditures</b>	193,060.32	2,737,030.00	2,677,751.00	(59,279.00)	102.2%	Ambulance gurney



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
Tax Apportionments FY 19-20**

DATE	APP #	GROSS	REFUNDS & ADJUSTMENTS	FY 19/20 NET	FY 19/20 RUNNING	FY 18/19 NET	FY 18/19 RUNNING	
08 13 2019	1	231,494.20	2,075.77	229,418.43	229,418.43	211,088.06	211,088.06	
09 10 2019	2	80,372.61	892.49	79,480.12	308,898.55	62,146.73	273,234.79	
10 8 2019	3	178,919.83	24,333.34	154,586.49	463,485.04	175,730.27	448,965.06	
11 5 2019	4	554,398.75	19,982.36	534,416.39	997,901.43	603,342.32	1,052,307.38	
12 10 2019	5	5,143,751.86	9,856.48	5,133,895.38	6,131,796.81	4,702,859.90	5,755,167.28	
01 21 2019	6	2,461,682.55	10,271.56	2,451,410.99	8,583,207.80	2,475,082.73	8,230,250.01	
02 25 2019	7	369,443.49	10205.12	359,238.37	8,942,446.17	373,592.56	8,603,842.57	
03 1 2019				-	-	-	-	
04 7 2019	8	3,363,250.16	153,103.17	3,210,146.99	12,152,593.16	3,842,704.38	12,446,546.95	
04 28 2019	9	2,561,120.09	7,234.39	2,553,885.70	14,706,478.86	1,803,479.65	14,250,026.60	
05 26 2019	10	293,143.59	2,791.21	290,352.38	14,996,831.24	129,786.35	14,379,812.95	
06 23 2019	11	378,933.28	5,543.71	373,389.57	15,370,220.81	231,038.97	14,610,851.92	
07 21 2019	12			-	15,370,220.81	77,727.25	14,688,579.17	
<b>TOTAL YTD</b>		<b>15,616,510.41</b>	<b>246,289.60</b>	<b>15,370,220.81</b>	<b>15,370,220.81</b>	<b>14,610,851.92</b>	<b>14,610,851.92</b>	
							<b>Net Rev Increase</b>	<b>5.20%</b>

**RAINBOW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**Tax Apportionments FY 19/20**

DATE	APP #	GROSS	REFUNDS & ADJUSTMENTS	FY 19/20 NET	FY 19/20 RUNNING	FY 18/19 NET	FY 18/19 RUNNING
08 13 2019	1	4,233.48	37.97	4,195.51	4,195.51	3,880.98	3,880.98
09 10 2019	2	1,469.81	16.34	1,453.47	5,648.98	1,142.66	5,023.64
10 8 2019	3	3,272.00	445.03	2,826.97	8,475.95	3,230.89	8,254.53
11 5 2019	4	10,138.58	378.41	9,760.17	18,236.12	11,081.56	19,336.09
12 10 2019	5	94,589.96	180.33	94,409.63	112,645.75	86,192.15	105,528.24
01 21 2020	6	54,054.58	187.85	53,866.73	166,512.48	46,559.31	152,087.55
02 25 2020	7	7,159.52	207.57	6,951.95	173,464.43	6,832.96	158,920.51
03 1 2020				-	173,464.43	-	158,920.51
04 7 2020	8	65,065.32	2,959.52	62,105.80	235,570.23	70,775.54	229,696.05
04 28 2020	9	50,260.22	134.76	50,125.46	285,695.69	33,900.26	263,596.31
05 26 2020	10	5,714.20	52.93	5,661.27	291,356.96	2,421.64	266,017.95
06 23 2020	11	7,267.11	102.55	7,164.56	298,521.52	4,226.68	270,244.63
07 21 2020	12			-	298,521.52	1,423.06	271,667.69
TOTAL YTD		303,224.78	4,703.26	298,521.52	298,521.52	270,244.63	270,244.63
						<b>Net Rev Increase</b>	
						10.46%	

**NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
AMBULANCE REVENUE FY 2019-2020**

MONTH	BILLED	CONTRACTUAL WRITE DOWNS	TOTAL AR		BAD DEBT WRITE-OFFS	REFUNDS	ADJ AR	DEPOSITS RECEIVED	BILLING FEES	FY 19-20 NET REVENUE	FY 18-19 NET REVENUE
			FY 19-20	FY 18-19							
07 31 2019	578,484.48	304,372.40	274,112.06	213,761.06	75,924.16	-	198,187.90	165,604.55	9,770.67	155,833.88	156,594.61
08 31 2019	497,985.65	282,032.34	215,953.31	196,525.85	21,989.39	-	193,983.92	192,621.04	11,364.05	181,256.99	127,795.75
09 30 2019	577,163.06	270,003.13	307,159.93	180,398.25	35,233.75	-	271,926.18	211,591.45	12,483.90	199,107.55	144,364.83
10 31 2019	540,627.08	291,737.01	248,890.07	177,845.02	21,409.31	16,805.26	210,675.50	217,089.84	11,816.20	205,273.64	173,574.04
11 30 2019	571,553.65	342,550.36	229,003.49	232,615.61	68,523.10	-	160,480.39	208,847.32	12,321.99	196,525.33	158,597.14
12 31 2019	612,471.73	280,653.83	331,817.90	227,844.63	37,854.02	-	293,983.88	191,106.86	11,164.54	179,942.32	136,934.48
01 31 2020	579,285.71	378,115.42	201,170.29	265,799.30	35,161.43	5,090.95	160,917.91	225,812.35	12,845.35	212,967.00	146,990.66
02 28 2020	546,733.71	308,545.56	240,188.15	217,930.29	40,389.48	-	199,818.67	200,731.05	11,843.13	188,867.92	155,082.20
03 31 2020	514,494.10	305,557.43	208,936.67	217,351.75	(1,668.92)	-	210,605.59	186,656.59	11,012.74	175,643.85	150,448.07
04 30 2020	436,033.85	237,722.47	198,311.38	212,122.36	137,778.12	-	60,533.26	183,333.46	10,816.87	172,516.79	176,106.75
05 31 2020	549,408.35	270,121.51	279,286.84	191,346.91	62,599.43	6,739.48	209,947.93	172,623.83	9,761.63	162,862.20	199,697.17
06 30 2020	540,076.76	309,952.68	230,124.08	208,945.78	53,997.81	11,661.35	165,064.92	230,826.57	12,896.09	217,930.48	139,056.24
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6,544,318.31</b>	<b>3,579,364.14</b>	<b>2,964,954.17</b>	<b>2,542,486.81</b>	<b>588,551.08</b>	<b>40,297.04</b>	<b>2,336,106.05</b>	<b>2,386,844.91</b>	<b>138,096.96</b>	<b>2,248,747.95</b>	<b>1,865,241.74</b>
							<b>16.62%</b>			<b>New Revenue Change</b>	<b>20.56%</b>

<b>NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT</b> <b>MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT</b>
--

**June 30, 2020**

<b>FALLBROOK</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>INTEREST</b>	
		<b>RATE</b>	
County of San Diego/General Fund - FBK	1,997,544.48	0.01%	Operating
County of San Diego/General Fund - RNBW	1,163,629.95	0.01%	Operating
County of San Diego/Capital Reserve	398,134.90	0.01%	Capital Reserves
County of San Diego/Fire Mitigation Fund - FBK	650,181.26	0.01%	Mitigation Fees
County of San Diego/Fire Mitigation Fund - RNBW	4,033.39	0.01%	Mitigation Fees
Local Agency Investment Fund	2,137,121.93	1.36%	LAIF
Workers' Comp JPA	476,263.62	0.26%	PASIS Funds
Bank of America/PASIS	11,628.08	0.01%	
First National/Benefit Fund	156,010.23	0.70%	
First National/Payroll	224,277.42	0.70%	
First National/Accounts Payable	144,060.68	0.66%	
First National/Accounts Receivable	194,510.88	0.70%	
Pacific Western Bank/Accounts Receivable	1,509,927.72	0.00%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,067,324.54</b>		

**NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COST RECOVERY FY 2019/2020**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Billed</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>YTD % Collected</u>	<u>Billing Fees</u>	<u>Net Revenue 19/20</u>	<u>FY 18/19 Net Revenue</u>
7 31 2019	9,600.00	3,489.33	36.35%	697.87	2,791.46	9,132.00
8 30 2019	13,459.00	12,681.00	94.22%	2,536.20	10,144.80	5,129.88
9 30 2019	5,013.00	4,776.00	95.27%	955.20	3,820.80	6,630.40
10 31 2019	10,803.00	8,918.00	82.55%	1,783.60	7,134.40	6,263.39
11 30 2019	7,034.25	5,879.87	83.59%	1,175.97	4,703.90	6,981.22
12 31 2019	7,247.25	6,718.34	92.70%	1,343.67	5,374.67	4,120.80
1 31 2020	9,878.50	9,306.03	94.20%	1,861.21	7,444.82	3,653.60
2 28 2020	7,468.00	7,468.00	100.00%	1,493.60	5,974.40	6,160.00
3 30 2020	13,858.00	12,558.45	90.62%	2,511.69	10,046.76	2,764.80
4 30 2020	11,451.50	11,105.00	96.97%	2,221.00	8,884.00	2,646.80
5 31 2020	14,552.75	14,277.33	98.11%	2,855.47	11,421.86	5,687.20
6 30 2020	3,578.50	3,334.50	93.18%	666.90	2,667.60	5,743.37
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>113,943.75</b>	<b>100,511.85</b>	<b>88.21%</b>	<b>20,102.37</b>	<b>80,409.48</b>	<b>64,913.46</b>
					<b>Net Rev Increase</b>	<b>23.87%</b>

therecoveryhub.com  
Ncfpd1110 Explorer

Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Document Amount
06 1 2020	STMT 06/2020	Employee Benefit Specialists, Inc.	Dental/Vision/Life 06/2020	8,690.01
06 1 2020	STMT 06/2020	Harry J. Wilson Insurance Center	LTD 06/2020	1,044.00
06 1 2020	STMT 06/2020	THE STANDARD	LTD 06/01/20	577.50
06 1 2020	FORD E-450 CHASSIS/R	LIFE LINE EMERGENCY VEHICLES	Ford E-450 Chassis/Remount	161,923.00
06 1 2020	RENEW MEDIC 20/22	MATHIEU LINDSEY	Renew medic cert 20/22	200.00
06 1 2020	37486137159	DIRECTV	06/01/20-06/30/20	152.99
06 1 2020	BRM 20/21	US POSTAL SERVICE	BRM 20/21	240.00
06 1 2020	9855666057	VERIZON WIRELESS	05/02/20-06/01/20	77.28
06 1 2020	000014841321	AT&T	05/01/20-05/31/20	1,943.05
06 1 2020	1058845	NATIONWIDE MEDICAIL/SURGICAL	Midazolam	19.80
06 2 2020	MEDIC RENEW 20-22	HARRINGTON, THOMAS	Medic renew 20-22	200.00
06 2 2020	0381456060220	TIME WARNER CABLE	06/02/20-07/01/20	337.93
06 2 2020	0381472060220	TIME WARNER CABLE	06/02/20-07/01/20	1,142.93
06 3 2020	05/02/20-06/03/20-02	FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTR	05/02/20-06/03/20	419.63
06 3 2020	05/02/20-06/03/20-03	FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTR	05/02/20-06/03/20	332.15
06 3 2020	1058903	NATIONWIDE MEDICAIL/SURGICAL	Lidocaine	209.70
06 3 2020	00508692	SPECTRUM GAS PRODUCTS	Hydrotest SCBA	541.50
06 4 2020	9307629885	LAWSON PRODUCTS INC.	Connector/Slide	250.43
06 5 2020	PR AP 06/05/2020	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA DUES PR 06/05/20	2,393.60
06 5 2020	PR AP 6/5/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA SR DUES 06/05/2020	33.93
06 5 2020	PR AP 06/05/2020	FIREFIGHTERS LEG. ACTION GRP	FLAG PMT PR 06/05/2020	84.00
06 5 2020	PR AP 06/05/2020	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN NAT'L PMT 06/05/2020	2,423.51
06 5 2020	LARS.99 4-22-20	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Apple.com	0.99
06 5 2020	DECAMP3303.86	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	UV lights - COVID	3,303.86
06 5 2020	HAMMER14.99	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Prime video	14.99
06 5 2020	KRUMWIEDE385.53	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Major mkt/towels - COVID	385.53
06 5 2020	NIETO22.17	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Narc box ship	22.17
06 5 2020	QUINN945.54	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Amazon - bed covers-COVID	945.54
06 5 2020	SWANGER379.81	US BANK GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Ink/Blue Jeans conf	379.81
06 5 2020	101448	UNIFORM SPECIALIST/ACE UNIFORMS	Kortekaas uniform	117.94
06 6 2020	32436	LineGear	Helmet	1,470.79
06 8 2020	0957	JIM'S SIGN SHOP	Vinyl decals/reflective	561.33
06 8 2020	52200	Uniform Plus	Decamp uniform	291.32
06 8 2020	52201	Uniform Plus	Rees uniform	239.11
06 8 2020	83653404	Bound Tree Medical	Lithium batteries AED	838.89
06 10 2020	REPORT WRITING	AARON MURG	Report writing class	165.00
06 10 2020	PLAN EXAMINER 1B	AARON MURG	Plans Examiner 1B	361.50
06 11 2020	0417565061120	TIME WARNER CABLE	06/11/20-07/10/20	96.98
06 12 2020	00F0036333755	READY FRESH	05/11/20-06/10/20	48.23
06 12 2020	90076449700	BLUE SHIELD OF CA	Amb refund	1,799.85

Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Document Amount
06 12 2020	1208020861	Citrix Systems, Inc	GoTo Mtg 06/12/20-07/11/20	117.00
06 12 2020	016798	LIFE LINE EMERGENCY VEHICLES	Amb parts	40.13
06 15 2020	MEDIC RENEW 20/22	NICKOLAS QUINN	Medic renew 20/22	200.00
06 15 2020	STMT 06/15/20	FALLBROOK OIL COMPANY	Fuel 06/01/20-06/15/20	2,930.93
06 15 2020	STMT 06/15/20	LEGAL SHIELD	ID protection 06/15/20	620.10
06 15 2020	A771112	ROAD ONE	Mary tow	204.80
06 15 2020	52225	Uniform Plus	Eagels uniform	573.94
06 16 2020	14256	FALLBROOK PROPANE GAS CO.	Sta 4 propane	176.40
06 17 2020	IT-415	Charlie Swanger	IT-415	900.00
06 17 2020	MEDIC RENEW 20-22	Erik Alter-Reitz	Medic renew 20-22	200.00
06 17 2020	INV DATE 06/17/20	Reeder Media	Notice of pub hearing Fire Mi	120.00
06 19 2020	PR AP 06/19/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA DUES 06/19/20	2,393.60
06 19 2020	PR AP 6/19/20	FALLBROOK FIREFIGHTERS' ASSN	FBK FFA SR DUES 06/19/20	31.59
06 19 2020	PR AP 06/19/2020	FIREFIGHTERS LEG. ACTION GRP	FLAG PMT 06/19/20	84.00
06 19 2020	PR AP 06/19/20	LINCOLN NATIONAL	LINCOLN NAT'L PMT 06/19/20	2,423.51
06 19 2020	EPPCCLLPQ0000	AETNA HEALTHCARE	Amb refund 06/2020	488.08
06 19 2020	SD9395	AMR Holding	Amb refund 06/2020	556.86
06 19 2020	SD9395-2	AMR Holding	Amb refund 06/2020	1,096.87
06 19 2020	17964634	KAISER PERMANENTE	Amb refund 06/20	2,048.41
06 19 2020	RUN #584322	GALEN NEWHOUSE	Amb refund	72.00
06 19 2020	1K66XF2XX73	NORIDIAN MEDICARE JE PART B REFUNDS	Amb refund	377.69
06 19 2020	9T15EP4KD52	NORIDIAN MEDICARE JE PART B REFUNDS	Amb refund	404.09
06 19 2020	549745160A	NORIDIAN MEDICARE JE PART B REFUNDS	Amb refund	294.02
06 19 2020	93128010F10	RADY CHILDREN'S	Amb refund	1,556.48
06 19 2020	95247142G00	RADY CHILDREN'S	Amb refund	1,992.38
06 19 2020	RUN 212172	REGAL MEDICAL GROUP	Amb refund	573.62
06 19 2020	RUN #199186	CAROLYN SCHUMACHER	Amb refund	200.00
06 22 2020	10724	State of California	Sta. 1 & 3 Solar pymt 10	17,703.73
06 22 2020	10711	State of California	Solar pymt 8	6,287.70
06 25 2020	18623	ADVANCED COLLISION REPAIR	Repair 2016 Ambulance	6,215.97
06 25 2020	SI0004875	ARMANINO LLP	GP renewal 06/27/20-06/28/21	4,976.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	STEVE ABBOTT	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	KEVIN MAHR	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	STEVE MAROVICH	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	KEITH MCREYNOLDS	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	LOREN STEPHEN-PORTER	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	Nancy Goss	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	Cherie Juul	CELL REIMB	204.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	DAN NIETO	CELL REIMB	204.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	Todd Parmelee	CELL REIMB	204.00
06 30 2020	APR-JUN 2020	Charlie Swanger	CELL REIMB	204.00

06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	BARRY KRUMWIEDE	CEL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	GREG MANN	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	LARS BEEGHLEY	CELL REIMB	204.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	BRIAN MACMILLAN	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	MARY MURPHY	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	ROBERT DeCAMP II	CELL REIMB	300.00
06 30 2020 APR-JUN 2020	AARON MURG	CEL REIMB	204.00
06 30 2020 181912	ADMINISTRATIVE SOLUTIONS	ASI - Admin 06/2020	108.00
06 30 2020 200622	OSTARI	IT services 06/2020	1,850.00
06 30 2020 06/30/20-06/30/21	County of San Diego DEH	Facility Permit 06/20-06/21	565.00





**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following Policies and Procedures are being presented for review and approval:

1. LEAVE MANAGEMENT - LEAVE OF ABSENCE:
  - Modified policy to allow Fire Chief/CEO to grant a Leave of Absence to a non-represented individual for up to one year for professional development purposes.
2. JOB DESCRIPTIONS - FINANCE MANAGER:
  - New job description to encompass duties and responsibilities related to oversight and management of the Finance Division.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES & REGULATIONS  
LEAVE MANAGEMENT

SECTION 226.06  
JULY 28, 2020  
PAGE 1 OF 2

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 1.0. **PURPOSE:**

1.1. To establish policy relevant to the granting of a Leave of Absence.

#### 2.0. **POLICY:**

2.1. Non-probationary employees may request a Leave of Absence without pay for a period not exceeding one (1) year.

2.2. The Board of Directors may grant such Leave at its discretion and the decision is non-grievable. [Refer to the respective MOUs for more information.]

2.3. For non-represented employees, the Fire Chief/CEO is authorized to approved Leave of Absence requests for professional development purposes for up to one (1) year, without requiring submission of the request to the Board of Directors.

2.4. No employee may accrue any benefits while on Leave without pay nor shall they be entitled to receive employer paid medical benefits or other fringe benefits during this period. [Refer to the [Insurance Benefits Policy](#) for more information on COBRA insurance benefits.]

#### 3.0. **PROCEDURE:**

3.1. The employee requesting a Leave of Absence shall submit a request on the [Administrative Action Form](#) with a Transmittal Letter, stating the reasons for the request. Submit the completed request, via proper channels, to the Fire Chief/CEO or designee. **A Leave of Absence shall not be utilized as a safety net to seek other employment or accept a position with another employer.** [See individual MOUs, Leave of Absence.]

Original  
emphasis

3.2. The Fire Chief/CEO or designee will review the Leave of Absence request for completeness.

3.3. If complete, the Fire Chief/CEO or designee will schedule a pre-exit interview to discuss leave options with the employee. If the employee maintains their desire to take a Leave of Absence, the request will be presented to the Board of Directors via the Board Package for the next regular Board meeting.

3.4. The Board of Directors may grant a Leave of Absence at its discretion. The Board of Directors, upon approval, shall determine whether the employee shall be entitled to the same position upon return from such leave or whether the employee's name



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES & REGULATIONS  
LEAVE MANAGEMENT

SECTION 226.06  
JULY 28, 2020  
PAGE 2 OF 2

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- shall be placed on an eligibility list in the event a vacancy exists for which the former employee is qualified.
- 3.5. The Board of Directors will forward its decision to the employee via the Fire Chief/CEO, which is final and non-grievable.
  - 3.6. If granted a Leave of Absence, the employee will be on a non-pay status and considered separated with the District. Consequently, the employee's separation shall be processed according to the [Personnel Reclassification Policy](#).



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 225.41

PAGE 1 OF 5

### FINANCE MANAGER

#### 1.0. **PURPOSE:**

- 1.1. To provide a general description of the duties and responsibilities, qualifications and physical requirements for the classification of Finance Manager.

#### 2.0. **POLICY:**

- 2.1. Members classified in the position of Finance Manager are intended to meet the general personal and professional qualifications, perform the stated duties and responsibilities and other duties as assigned.

#### 3.0. **INTENT:**

- 3.1. The intent of this Policy is to provide an overview of the general attributes and abilities necessary to perform the classification of Finance Manager. It is also the intent of the Policy to provide an overview of the typical duties and responsibilities of the position. This Policy is not intended to delineate every facet of the Classification. Other duties and responsibilities may be assigned as appropriate to fulfill the Mission of the District.

#### 4.0. **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- 4.1. This assignment is a full-time work classification in the Senior Management Group. The Finance Manager classification is considered an "Exempt" employee as defined by FLSA and is not overtime eligible. The position is a Miscellaneous position as defined by PERS. Under the direct supervision of the Fire Chief/CEO, the essential duties and responsibilities are:
- 4.2. Under the direction of the Fire Chief or designee, performs financial analysis & accounting functions according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles; reviews and validates data, processes technical and financial documents and transactions; Human Resources (HR) and Workers' Compensation issues and provides customer service as needed.

- 5.0. **TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** *The following duties are typical for this classification. Incumbents may not perform all of the listed duties and/or may be required to perform additional or different duties from those set forth below to address business needs and changing business practice.*



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 225.41

PAGE 2 OF 5

### FINANCE MANAGER

- 5.1. Analyzes and monitors financial data and prepares special and recurring reports, including analysis of expenditures and revenue and financial analysis of North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD) operations; provides information on financial status and makes for budget adjustments, cash flow and other financial options to assure the financial stability of the NCFPD.
- 5.2. Develop annual budget, plans and schedules, forecasts revenues, expenditures and administrative costs, tracks expenditures and monitors compliance to budget plan.
- 5.3. Assures payroll and accounting transactions are in compliance with all applicable Federal, state and NCFPD Rules and Regulations; reviews source documents for compliance to Rules and Regulations; determines proper handling of financial and technical transactions and approves transactions within designated limits; transfers and deposits funds as authorized and assures the accuracy of the financial records. Verifies payroll record accuracy between Crew Sense and contract payroll provider; ensures payroll taxes are submitted to State Franchise Tax Board and IRS.
- 5.4. Reviews and analyzes payment and general accounting transactions including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, disbursements, budget adjustments, chart of account changes and related areas; researches and resolves accounting issues.
- 5.5. Maintains currency of employee reimbursement rates through OES, submits timely reimbursement requests for mutual aid to State and Federal agencies as dictated by incident specifics, monitors reimbursement status and validates reimbursements.
- 5.6. In concert with designated counterpart, performs routine reconciliation of various financial records to ensure accuracy, to include review, investigation and correction of errors and inconsistencies in financial entries, transactions, documents and reports; traces transactions to locate and resolve discrepancies; prepares journal entries and updates account information, accounting database and control spreadsheets; assists with annual audit and prepares financial reports as needed.
- 5.7. Reviews Workers' Compensation reports for completeness and clarity of data; reviews appropriateness of claims; assures that legal and procedural requirements are met for the processing of claims. Ensures claims are submitted to Worker's Compensation Administrator in a timely fashion. Represents the District in confidential Worker's Compensation matters, to include serving on Worker's



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 225.41

PAGE 3 OF 5

### FINANCE MANAGER

Compensation risk pool Board of Directors (PASIS).

- 5.8. Assures effective communications between claimants and claims administrators, medical providers, payroll and others as necessary; monitors the progress of rehabilitation efforts and obtains approval for treatment plans; researches, interprets, responds to and resolves inquiries from employees with claim questions regarding claim status, policies and procedures.
- 5.9. In conjunction with the Administrative Division Chief manage and oversees the Fire District's human resources program areas which may include compensation, classification and employee benefits administration.
- 5.10. Assures compliance with NCFPD policies and State and Federal health & safety codes, rules, regulations and procedures.
- 5.11. Enters and reviews employee data in CalPERS and processes required paperwork for retiree and existing employee death claims.
- 5.12. Reviews tracking of various grant reports and expenditures; ensures requisite databases are updated in a timely fashion.
- 5.13. Ensures various annual reports to local, State and Federal regulatory agencies including, but not limited to CAFR, Annual Audit, GEMT, State Compensation Report, IRS 1094 & 1095(c) reports, State Financial Transaction Reports, etc. as required/requested.
- 5.14. Ensures accuracy of personnel and resources covered by District's general risk management carrier (currently SDRMA) and ensures records and premiums are up to date and at appropriate level of coverage. Periodically reviews levels of coverage and makes recommendations for adjustment.
- 5.15. Day-to-day supervision of personnel assigned to the H/R Finance Division, to include oversight of work assignments and completion of periodic performance evaluations (EDRs) in compliance with District policy.
- 6.0. **EXPERIENCE/KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES:**
- 6.1. **KNOWLEDGE OF:** Special District budget processes and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) related to Public Sector financial management; techniques of fund accounting, forecasting, capital budgeting and strategic planning; accounting principles, methods, rules, regulations and procedures; principles of record keeping and records management; state and Federal OSHA rules, regulations and procedures; Workers' Compensation legislation,



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 225.41

PAGE 4 OF 5

### FINANCE MANAGER

regulations, policies and claims processing rules and procedures; principles and practices of government fund accounting; modern office practices of Human Resources operations and activities, including Human Resources policies and procedures governing the retention and release of confidential information, FMLA and CFRA regulations; Firefighter Bill of Rights/Due Process; District rules, procedures, policies, precedents and functions; Office procedures and equipment, including computers and supporting word processing and database applications, specifically Great Plains and Microsoft Office suite; pertinent federal, state and local laws, codes and regulations.

- 6.2. **ABILITY TO:** Supervise, direct, coordinate and evaluate the work of subordinate staff; direct and oversee District accounting and financial analysis programs; interpret and apply budget and accounting standards and procedures, applicable Federal rules and regulations and NCFPD financial policies; make mathematical calculations and analyze numerical and accounting information into a computer system with skill and accuracy; maintain accurate and interrelated financial records; manage multiple projects, duties and assignments; interpret and apply Workers' Compensation policies, procedures and regulations; conduct research and prepare reports; understand and carry out written and oral instructions, keep accurate and detailed records; establish and maintain effective relationships with other employees, vendors, cooperator agencies and the public.
- 6.3. **EXPERIENCE:** Five (5) years of increasingly responsible technical, administrative, or analytical experience in Finance/accounting, preferably in public agency/special district, are required. Additional education above the minimum required may be substituted on a year-for-year basis to meet the experience requirements, as approved by the Fire Chief/CEO.
- 6.4. **EDUCATION:** A high school diploma or GED equivalent, supplemented by Bachelors' degree in applicable subject matter or a related field is required. A graduate degree in public administration, business administration, finance, or a closely related field is deemed highly desirable.
- 6.5. **LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS:** Must have and maintain a valid Class "C" California Driver's License. Must be insurable and maintain this status with the District's all-risk insurance carrier.
- 7.0. **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**
- 7.1. Employee is required to meet applicable "[Support Staff](#)" physical requirements.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

ADMINISTRATION  
RULES AND REGULATIONS  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 225.41

PAGE 5 OF 5

### FINANCE MANAGER

#### 8.0. **ENVIRONMENTAL:**

8.1. Work is performed in a standard office environment. Work environment is both formal and informal, team and autonomously oriented, having both routine and variable tasks, with variable pace and moderate pressure at times. Some tasks may be fast paced.

#### 9.0. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

9.1. **VISION:** (May be correctable) to drive a vehicle.

9.2. **HEARING:** Of alarms and warning devices; to understand conversations.

9.3. **SPEAKING:** Give instructions, present classes; communicate with staff and representatives of other agencies.

9.4. **WRITING:** Complete records, reports, meeting notes and documentation.

9.5. **READING:** Reports, records and computer screens.





**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – BUDGET & FINANCE**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** HR/FINANCE SPEC. JUUL, DEPUTY CHIEF MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** FOURTH QUARTER OVERTIME TRACKING REPORT

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **BACKGROUND:**

This report is designed to provide an overview of the overtime expenditures in comparison with the budgeted amounts and historical usage. In addition, this report documents overtime based on the leave that generates it and includes reimbursements from providing Mutual Aid.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The attached charts provide multiple views of overtime usage and the leave that generates it. The reporting periods coincide with the month divisions and not pay periods. Therefore, there may be variations from month to month. An increase in overtime may be attributed to an additional pay period falling within that particular month or unusually high overtime due to an event or mutual aid activity. Two charts are included to give a quick visual comparison of the tracked areas:

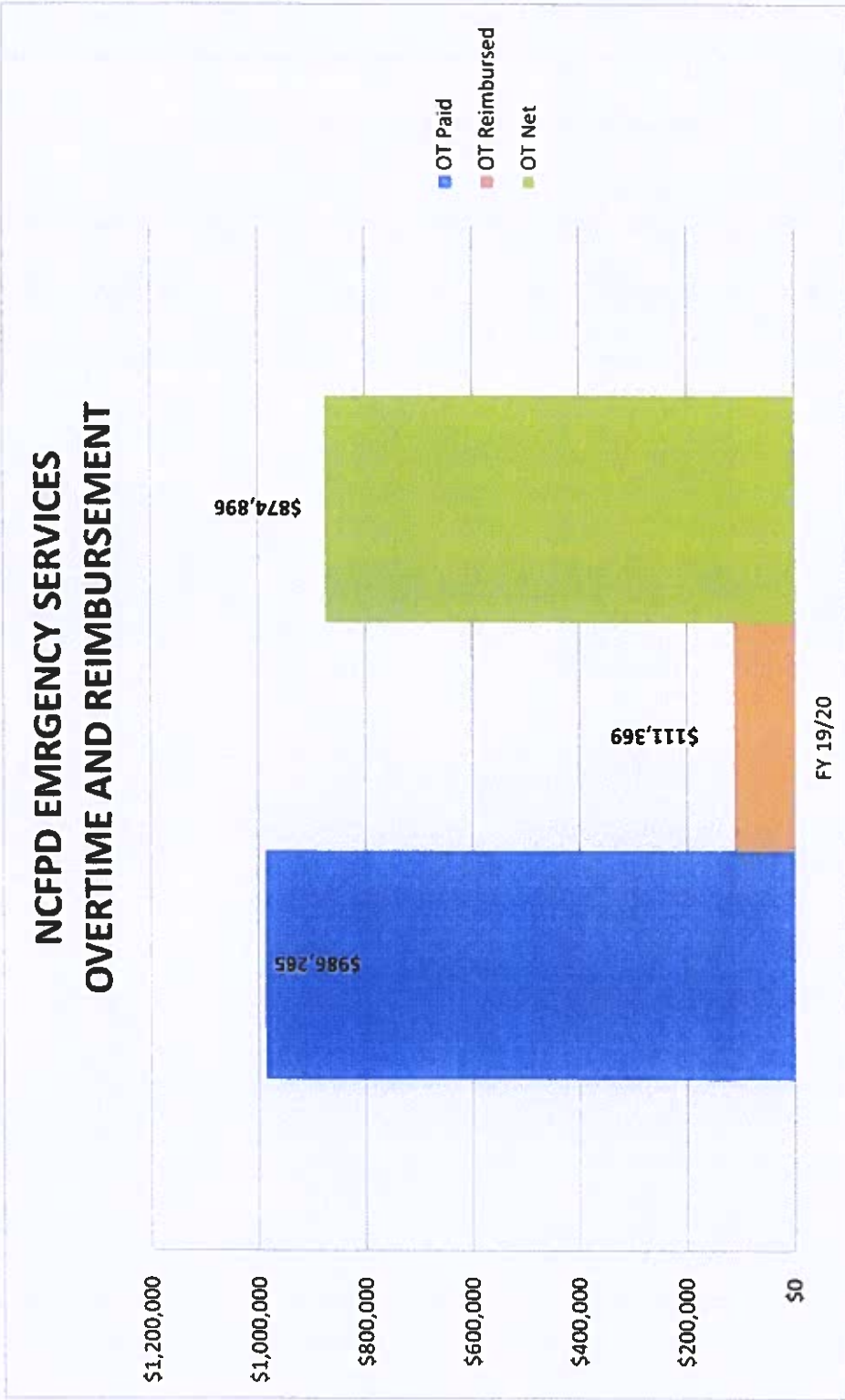
- Leave Analysis by Type
- Five Year Overtime History
- Total Overtime and Reimbursement
- 5 YR History AL-SL, STOCV

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

The District finished the 4th quarter down in sick leave and industrial injury. Annual leave, strike team and sick leave are down from the previous year. Current overtime is 100.62% expended but the District has outstanding reimbursements for mutual aid in the amount of \$180,154 which will reduce the overtime down to 82.24% of the budget.

### **SUMMARY:**

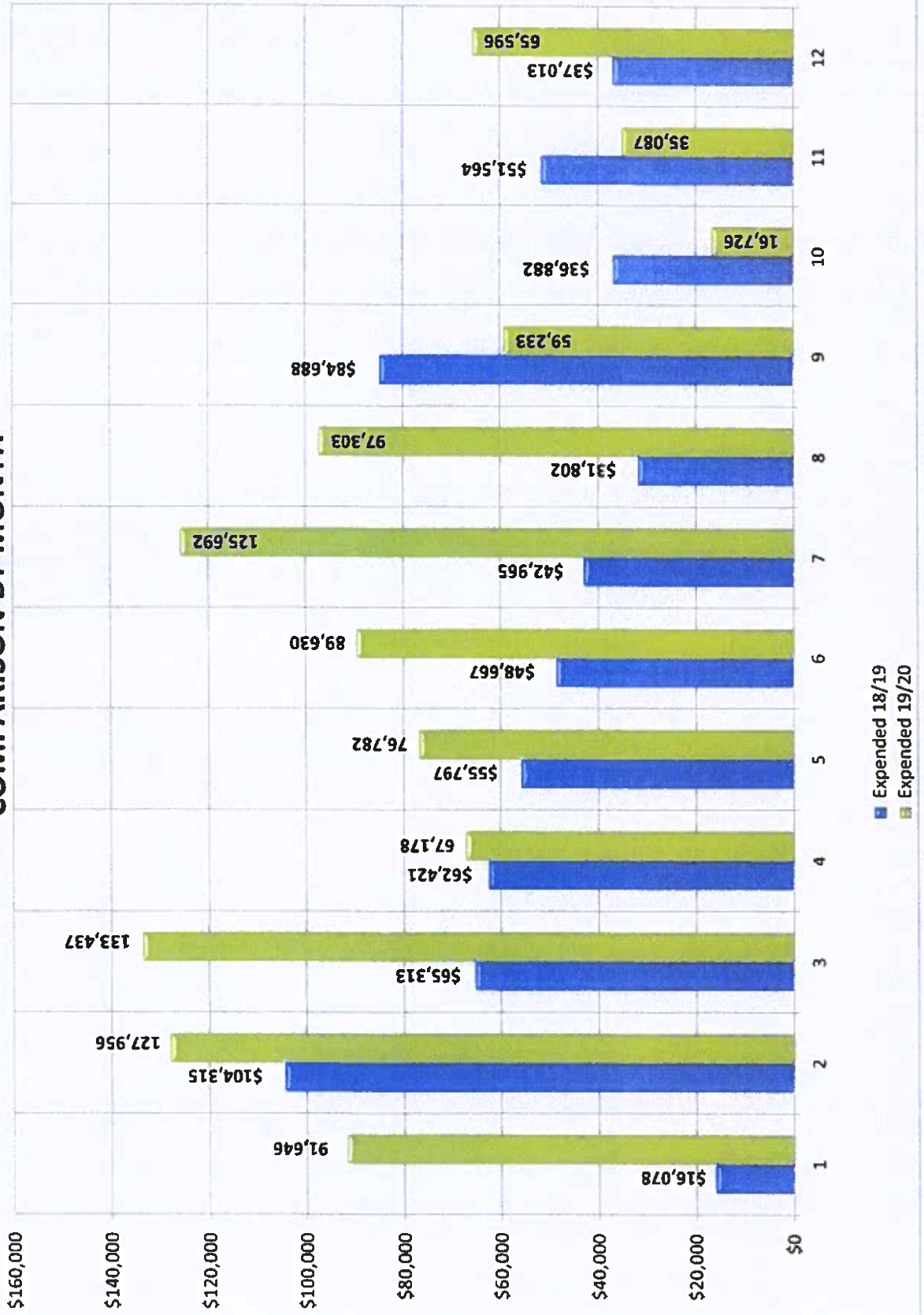
Information only, no action needed.



**NCFPD EMERGENCY SERVICES  
NUMBER OF HOURS BY TYPE  
4th QUARTER 19/20**

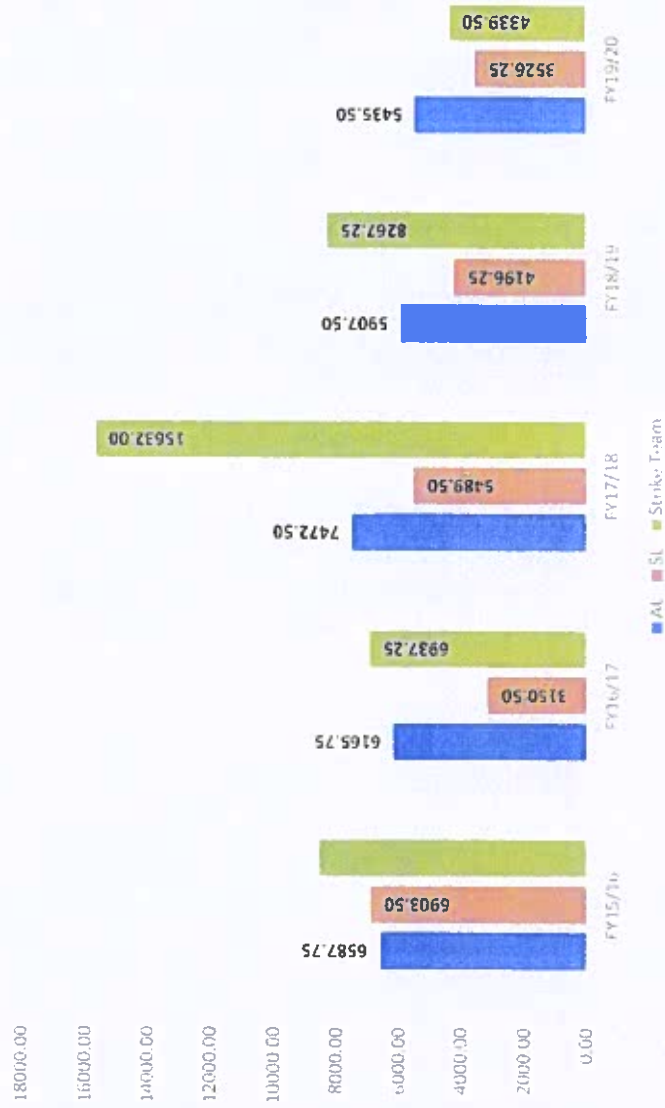


**NCFPD EMERGENCY SERVICES  
TWO YEAR OVERTIME  
COMPARISON BY MONTH**



AL SL STCOV

5 YR HISTORY AL-SL, STCOV



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# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OPERATIONS

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** OPERATIONS/EMS DIVISION  
**DATE:** TUESDAY, JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY PROGRAM, 2020 – 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER RESULTS

## CONSENT AGENDA

### RECOMMENDATION:

Review the report as submitted. In looking at the overall percentage of satisfaction with our service, our customers continue to rate their level of satisfaction overwhelmingly in the "excellent" category.

### BACKGROUND:

This report focuses on two areas, direct feedback based on surveys sent to patients transported by North County Fire and our Service/Sympathy card program. The distribution of the survey is based on the 2020 Payer Class percentages according to our ambulance billing company, Wittman Enterprises. This quarter's customer satisfaction results incorporate surveys received from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 through June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The following is a listing of the type and number of individual payer classes that are randomly mailed surveys on a monthly basis.

#### 2020 Payer Class

Private Commercial Insurance (includes Champus/Active Duty)	26
Medi Cal	10
Medicare (includes Senior HMO)	54
Cash	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

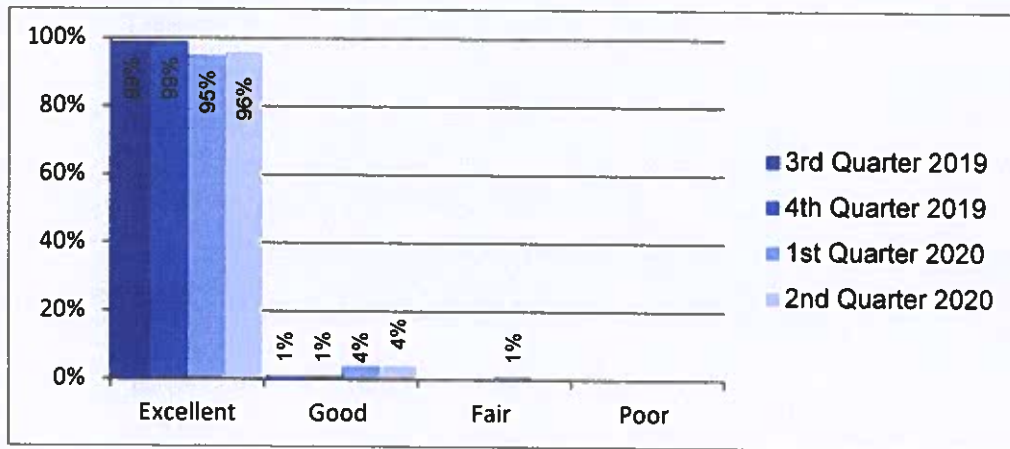
### DISCUSSION:

The survey results are reported on quarterly intervals to all safety employees. The sharing of this information with all employees provides a heightened awareness regarding our customer's experience in the field. If a system or human deficiency trend is noted, the management staff will coordinate any measures necessary to correct the problem.

The first section of the *Satisfaction Survey Form* evaluates the customer's overall satisfaction with our service by rating it from "Excellent" to "Poor." The second section of the form allows the customer to provide comments on their perception of the service they received. This quarter 300 surveys were mailed and 97 surveys were returned (32%).

Ninety six percent (96%), or 94, of the surveys returned indicated "excellent" customer satisfaction as indicated on the chart below:

### 2019-2020 Customer Satisfaction Results



The customer comment portion of the survey has proven to be most effective by allowing us to hear the customer's opinions or concerns firsthand, thus allowing us to mitigate any problems as quickly as possible. These comments are reported on *Attachment-A* of this report.

In order to maintain Continual Quality Improvement (CQI) for this program, the responses are reviewed for any unusual comments or areas of concern. When necessary, incident documents will be reviewed. If a poor rating or adverse report is noted, the Operations Chief reaches out to seek clarification and ultimately improve services. If indicated, this review may warrant further investigation or training to mitigate potential customer service issues.

#### **SERVICE/SYMPATHY CARD PROGRAM:**

The District continues to utilize a Service/Sympathy Card Program to promote excellence in our emergency delivery services. This particular program allows our firefighters to correspond with our customers by personally signing and mailing "Service Cards." This post-incident program has proven invaluable in maintaining a positive relationship with our community through personal contact between our firefighters and

the customers they serve. The "Sympathy Cards" are utilized in the same way by corresponding concern with a deceased patient's family.



**CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY PROGRAM**

**TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2020**

**PAGE 3 OF 3**

The following data identifies the total number of Service and Sympathy cards completed by each crew during this report's time frame:

	<b>"A" CREW</b>	<b>"B" CREW</b>	<b>"C" CREW</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2020</b>	154	157	119	430
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Q 2020</b>	90	101	84	275
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Q 2019</b>	211	121	98	430
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Q 2019</b>	96	88	100	284

The above numbers represent 36% of total cards sent by A Shift, 36% of total cards sent by B Shift and 28% of total cards sent by C Shift.

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

The increased use of Service Cards has contributed to increased expenditures in both printing and postage. Annually, the Program costs approximately \$2,000.00 to operate. It is our belief that enhanced public relations and the benefits these cards represent is worth the expenditure.

**SUMMARY:**

The North County Fire Protection District takes seriously the demeanor and professional conduct of its employees while providing emergency services. Our Customer Survey Program provides a tool to measure and quantify this area and if necessary, implement and/or modify the emergency delivery system to ensure its ability to meet customer expectations. This program, which is now in its seventeenth year, consistently reflects a high degree of satisfaction with the services delivered by the employees of the North County Fire Protection District, beginning from the request for service up to and including final mitigation of the incident.



**North County Fire Protection District**  
**Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Second Quarter 2020**  
**April-June**  
**Attachment A**



Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-01	4/1/2020		I understand your business. And I really appreciate your assistance in my situation. And the crew was very professional. I recall one of the young men that took care of me had a great attitude and they all did a great job. Thank you all. God bless.
20-02-02	4/1/2020		Once again, the assistance we received from the department was excellent. I am a caregiver for my 90-year-old stepfather and my 89-year-old mother. Needless to say, my hands are full – I thank the Lord every time the department shows up to assist. Thank you once again.
20-02-03	4/1/2020		Keep up the good work. Thank you. Very good.
20-02-04	4/1/2020		This was my first instance riding in an ambulance. The "boys" were great at their job. My only complaints at that time of morning is that they could have served maple bars and coffee.
20-02-05	4/1/2020		The fire department was great. I spoke with Scott, the Fire Captain. He informed me of my kid's conditions. He answered all my questions and kept me informed. The entire team worked together and efficiently. I was able to get to the hospital to be with our daughter.
20-02-06	4/1/2020		Couldn't get any better. Very quick response.
20-02-07	4/2/2020		Excellent.
20-02-08	4/2/2020		Excellent.
20-02-09	4/6/2020		We had a nice experience with the team that arrived to help my wife. They attended to her quickly and kindly. Thank you very much. God bless you and your families.
20-02-10	4/6/2020		Just outstanding people! Hope all are safe and well!
20-02-11	4/6/2020		My recent experience with your paramedic services was truly excellent. The paramedics were professional, courteous, knowledgeable, and very thorough. There is nothing that I can think of anything that would warrant changes or improvement. Great job, Thank you!
20-02-12	4/6/2020		They were excellent. Very professional and caring during a stressful time. Thank you!
20-02-13	4/6/2020		I appreciate the expediency to my call and the care provided during the trip from my home to the Temecula Hospital. Please excuse my spelling errors, as I am legally blind. Thank you for your assistance and timely response.
20-02-14	4/13/2020		Excellent.
20-02-15	4/13/2020		Thank you, we are very satisfied with this service.
20-02-16	4/15/2020		Excellent EMS services with very well-trained paramedics. Knowledgeable and skilled, compassionate and professional. Could not have asked for a better experience. Thank you NCFPD!
20-02-17	4/15/2020		You are the best; I appreciate all you have done for me and for my husband in the past. I try to always remember you and donate to your organization at the end of the year.



**North County Fire Protection District**  
**Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Second Quarter 2020**  
**April-June**  
**Attachment A**

Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-18	4/18/2020		Sorry that it's taken so long to get this back to you. That day, I wasn't going to call 911, but my brother and brother-in-law in Florida insisted. By the time they got to me, I couldn't stop shaking or catch my breath. One of the firefighters kept talking to me, had me focus on him and calmed me down. I was so scared. My husband had just passed a year ago when this happened. I was very grateful for all that was done and how well I was treated. Thank ALL of you for the service you do to keep us all safe during these trying times. God bless you and your families. Stay safe.
20-02-19	4/24/2020		The team was very kind and put me at ease. The guys had a great sense of humor that helped me. Once I got to the ER I was put in a hallway and the team passed me two or three times with different patients. They were consistently kind to the ER team and us. Each time they came and went they checked on me in a human way. My wife and I felt bad because they placed an order for food, paid, and had to leave their meal behind to jump on a call. It was around 9PM so that limited their food options in Fallbrook. My wife was not able to join me when I had to make the 911 call and met me at the hospital. She was grateful I was in the care of your crew. Thank you for all you do and for making a difference. PS. I ended up with a 3-day hospital stay so it was a very good thing you were there for me.
20-02-20	4/24/2020		They were and are the best!
20-02-21	4/24/2020		I had two calls in a week. They were so caring and gentle always asking how I was doing. I had the same team both times. Transported me to Temecula Valley. One time on a second run, the paramedics stopped by in an emergency to see how I was doing. Your young men are amazing! High praises!
20-02-22	4/24/2020		They were great, considerate and had me ready for hospital. Took me right to the hospital and found a clogged vein. This was the second time they were here when I had a stroke. Thank you all.
20-02-23	4/24/2020		The responders were professional, well mannered, respectful, sympathetic and all the things I could hope for. No need for improvement noticed by us. God bless all of you and I thank you!
20-02-24	4/25/2020		I called 911 for a friend who was staying at our house and was unresponsive. Paramedics arrived quickly and assessed my friend, transferred her to a gurney, and put her in the squad. Another man got her insurance and ID info. They chose to take her to Palomar because of their trauma center. They did an excellent job.
20-02-25	4/25/2020		I am very happy with the service I received. The response time was very fast and when they got here, they had a way that made me relax. On the way to the hospital they continued to talk to me and work on me. I thank everyone that was involved. Including the person on the phone. God bless them and their families.
20-02-26	4/25/2020		The fire department has always been timely and very courteous. Keep up the good work.
20-02-27	4/28/2020		I have nothing to add other than thanks and all worked out. Just a strange occurrence.
20-02-28	4/28/2020		Response to call: prompt. Personnel: polite and efficient. Transport: efficient. No problems positive satisfaction.



**North County Fire Protection District**  
**Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Second Quarter 2020**  
**April-June**  
**Attachment A**



Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-29	5/1/2020		Everything was perfect. They did a great job. I was in very good hands. Thank you all so much.
20-02-30	5/1/2020		Thank you for the service you provided. The care was excellent.
20-02-31	5/1/2020		Excellent.
20-02-32	5/1/2020		Response time and care provided was excellent. They were personal, professional, and caring. Thank you for your service.
20-02-33	5/1/2020		When I fell and injured my hand and wrist (I couldn't drive myself) I was given a fast arrival and an efficient and pleasant ride to the hospital.
20-02-34	5/2/2020		I was very impressed. Polite, professional and very compassionate. Thank you.
20-02-35	5/2/2020		Very informed and trained. Courteous and respectful.
20-02-36	5/2/2020	Reviewed by Operations	Professional, compassionate, and skilled personnel. Years ago, I had to be transported for mental health issues by Fallbrook Fire. The driver was rude to me and was telling me that I need to suck it up because his father used to punch him in the face. When the others attempted to move me from the house to the ambulance by gurney, he said, "she can walk." This experience left me with a very negative opinion of Fallbrook Fire. It is obvious that the culture has changed because the recent services I received were completely different and restored my faith in our local first responders.
20-02-37	5/4/2020		Good job!
20-02-38	5/4/2020		Good.
20-02-39	5/5/2020		Good.
20-02-40	5/5/2020		Excellent.
20-02-41	5/6/2020		Your service was very efficient. I was sent to Temecula Hospital. It was a very good ride.
20-02-42	4/27/2020		I would not have any suggestions for improvement because the men that helped me and my husband were so nice and organized. Even though I was in a lot of pain they made me feel much more comfortable. The fellow who sat with me in the ambulance was so nice and comforting. I am sorry I do not remember his name but would like to tell his supervisors he was an excellent person to help with a very difficult situation when I was unable to walk. Thank you so much for all you do.
20-02-43	4/27/2020		Excellent.
20-02-44	4/27/2020		Arrived quickly, confirmed my observations and agreed that we should transport her and loaded her gently. Excellent.



**North County Fire Protection District**  
**Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Second Quarter 2020**  
**April-June**  
**Attachment A**



Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-45	5/5/2020	Customer contacted, advised of our efforts to improve through additional training. Customer was satisfied	<p>Medical services were excellent. I liked how one person took the lead, introduced himself and took suggestions from others when necessary. The only thing I can suggest to improve the time taken to get to the hospital is for the driver of the ambulance to position the ambulance to depart the home while the patient is being attended to in the home. The reason is because it took at least five minutes once I was in the ambulance to make the many turns needed to back up his vehicle to exit the driveway. It was dark and rainy and a tricky maneuver. So, it would have been a time-saver to do it concurrently. Thank you!</p>
20-02-46	5/6/2020	Customer contacted, informed that we were operating from current guidelines. Customer was satisfied	<p>The medics were terrific. The county fire protection services informed me on 3/17/20 that the treating medic in ambulance was exposed to COVID-19 by a staffer at NCFPD. I informed her that this would mean my husband who has stage 4 lung cancer would have been exposed as well by medic and myself. I expressed why I hadn't been notified sooner. She told me to distance myself from husband. She would call me if medic's test results came back positive for COVID-19. On day 11 she contacted me to tell me that medic in fact tested positive for virus. But that I was in the clear since it was day 11. I asked why the 14 day recommended days for quarantine were the standard. She told me that the quarantine time had been changed to 7 days by CDC and local health agencies. I feel lied to - I was put at risk as well as my poor spouse who has stage 4 metastatic lung cancer. This was an extremely difficult time for us as we had already been dealing with enough stress. It is of no fault of the paramedic, but the person who contacted us lied to me and left us very vulnerable with several sleepless nights.</p>
20-02-47	5/7/2020		<p>It only took a few minutes for the response team to arrive. The young men were polite and focused on what they needed to do. I'm 95 years old and they were very polite and patient with me. The only suggestion I have is to be careful with the gurney as you enter a house. A few of my decorations on my coffee table were knocked over, minor problem.</p>
20-02-48	5/7/2020		<p>Very professional.</p>
20-02-49	5/8/2020		<p>The paramedics were here in a matter of minutes to pick me up and take me to the USNH at Camp Pendleton. All of the paramedics were efficient, courteous, and I knew I was in good hands. Thank you ever so much. I hope to never have to call again but I know if I do I'll be in good hands. God bless you all during these trying times.</p>



**North County Fire Protection District**  
**Customer Satisfaction Survey**  
**Second Quarter 2020**  
**April-June**  
**Attachment A**

Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-50	5/13/2020		Filling this form for my mother and she said you did a great job and that she was very happy with the service. They stayed with her at Palomar! I will take this time also to let you know that I concur, you responded to our needs many times in 2019 when my husband needed many trips to the ER. He has passed on but I know you are there if I need you! God bless you all!
20-02-51	5/19/2020		Thanks, all good.
20-02-52	5/21/2020		These gentlemen were great! Whoever hired them and trained them earned their keep. Station 5 "B" crew is the best!
20-02-53	5/22/2020		Excellent.
20-02-54	5/22/2020		They were very kind, considerate, and gentle.
20-02-55	5/22/2020		Excellent.
20-02-56	5/22/2020		Excellent.
20-02-57	5/23/2020		They did an excellent job.
20-02-58	5/23/2020		Excellent. No comments.
20-02-59	5/23/2020		The firefighters and paramedics were so professional and helpful when my dad was taken to Palomar Hospital. I appreciate too how kind they were with my mom because she was so concerned. Really appreciated all they did!
20-02-60	5/23/2020		The Fire Dept. personnel are the greatest. They have such a roll that I feel deeply for their lives and services. My brother, retired now, was a fireman in LA for 30 years. I have deep feelings for all parties that support the many dangerous tasks focused on the care and services of all the fire, police, and ambulance personnel.
20-02-61	5/25/2020		Very well informed and knowledgeable.
20-02-62	5/25/2020		I, as the spouse and person who called, liked that one person talked to me while a team took care of my husband.
20-02-63	5/26/2020		Excellent.
20-02-64	5/26/2020		Cannot evaluate. This was for my mom who is 99 years old and unable to fill out questionnaires. I am her legal POA but was not present at this incident.
20-02-65	5/26/2020		Paramedics arrived quickly and soon had me on the way to Palomar Hospital. Very impressive. Crew "C" was efficient, caring, and kind. My compliments to Ryan, Sam, Ben, and Chris. Thank you. Thank you.
20-02-66	5/26/2020		The paramedics that came into the house were very professional. They used all precautions due to the COVID-19 and treated my mother with the utmost care. Thank you for all the support.
20-02-67	5/26/2020		All the men were very knowledgeable and very friendly.
20-02-68	5/26/2020		Excellent.
20-02-69	5/28/2020		I was not alert, due to the fact that I was in the middle of a grand-mal seizure. However, my family told me that the crew was very timely, courteous, and professional. Thank you!



North County Fire Protection District  
 Customer Satisfaction Survey  
 Second Quarter 2020  
 April-June  
 Attachment A



Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-70	5/28/2020		Wonderful!
20-02-71	5/30/2020		Arrived very quickly. Everyone was very nice and helpful as can be during this COVID-19 situation. Took care of my dad very well.
20-02-72	6/1/2020		The response time was amazing and much appreciated. Furthermore, the professional manner in which they diagnosed my condition and treated me went a long way towards alleviating my fears and concerns. Thank all of the room that made the run to my need for assistance.
20-02-73	6/1/2020		It was all very satisfying. They came quickly and they took good care of me. Thank you for the assistance.
20-02-74	6/5/2020		The fire department crew were amazing! We so appreciate your dedication to serving our community!
20-02-75	6/12/2020		Thank you so much!
20-02-76	6/12/2020		Excellent indeed! We could not live without you!!!
20-02-77	6/16/2020		Response time excellent. They were courteous and knowledgeable. My households first time to need their services.
20-02-78	6/16/2020		They are the very best group of people we have ever met.
20-02-79	6/16/2020		In May, I fell and fractured my femur in three places. Your paramedics were exceptional in every way. They tried to keep my husband calm who could not go to the ER because of COVID. While Chris was with me in the ambulance, he explained every little detail of my trip to the ER staying with me until my admittance to the ER.
20-02-80	6/17/2020		Very prompt and very helpful. Keep up the good work.
20-02-81	6/18/2020		As marked above service has always been excellent. No suggestions. Keep up your good service. Thank you.
20-02-82	6/19/2020		Excellent.
20-02-83	6/19/2020		The assistance provided by the fire department was timely, professional, and unsurpassed in terms of patient focus, quality of care, and attention to detail! We are grateful to the team and thankful to be in their district.
20-02-84	6/19/2020		This is my third experience calling 911. Your service is always fast and very professional. All, not just some, but all of the paramedics are way above most doctors I use. If it were not true, I would not be here to write this. Thank you for that. The only thing where we could use some improvement is the ride in the ambulance. Need more or stronger shocks. It's a rough ride to the hospital especially for the medic who rides in back with me. Thanks again for keeping me alive. I have a lot of good kids that depend on me.
20-02-85	6/19/2020		I had a car accident in May. You came right away, and I was rescued from my car. Your service was perfect thank you so very much.
20-02-86	6/20/2020		Good as usual. Very polite.



North County Fire Protection District  
 Customer Satisfaction Survey  
 Second Quarter 2020  
 April-June  
 Attachment A

Intake Number	Date Received	Follow Up	Customer Comments
20-02-87	6/20/2020		I could not have been more satisfied with both the service & professionalism demonstrated by the officers who entered our home to assist my wife. My wife had been fighting cancer for nearly 5 years and had taken so much chemotherapy over the years to try and stay alive that she was unable to control her ammonia levels any longer. She went into a coma a few hours before your officers arrived. This was confirmed by the TV Hospital staff. She was taken to the absolutely right location. I sat in the ambulance and listened to the emergency health officers in the back keeping her alive & breathing. I couldn't believe how serious they were treating the situation, how much care they were placing in keeping my wife alive. There was literally nothing that could have been handled better and we are here as a family in our home once again because of your District's work and care.
20-02-88	6/22/2020		The care and concern were excellent. Could not ask for better attention.
20-02-89	6/22/2020		Good.
20-02-90	6/22/2020		Excellent.
20-02-91	6/22/2020		Excellent.
20-02-92	6/23/2020		The guys were all very, very helpful and kind. They helped my husband feel comfortable and at ease. They were all very professional yet humble at the same time We thank them for the job they do and appreciate them.
20-02-93	6/25/2020		Great service, thank you!
20-02-94	6/25/2020		So grateful for the services provided to my father in May of this year. Paramedics were helpful and provided information to keep my mom calm. I do know that my father felt better by the time he arrived at Palomar. The get-well cards that my dad received were so sweet. My father passed away shortly after, but we want you to know that we know that Fallbrook paramedics were so helpful, and the residents are in good hands.
20-02-95	6/25/2020		Thank you for being so understanding, professional, & thorough, especially given the circumstances of the situation with my mom's mental status and COVID-19.
20-02-96	6/25/2020		In May, I had a TIA. I do not remember the ride to the Temecula Valley hospital.
20-02-97	6/26/2020		No suggestions for improvement. The two men were amazing and made a bad situation easy!





**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
FLEET MAINTENANCE DIVISION

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** DIVISION CHIEF MAHR AND CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL FLEET SERVICES REPORT

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **BACKGROUND:**

This annual report is intended to provide the Board with information pertaining to the condition and status of the NCFPD fleet of vehicles. Fleet maintenance is responsible for the maintenance and repair of all NCFPD vehicles, generators and other associated power equipment and tools.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Currently the two mechanics in Fleet Services are working diligently to repair and maintain a fleet of vehicles, facility generators and multiple other pieces of smaller power equipment. It is worth mentioning that having this very specialized fleet services capability within our own agency is of tremendous value. Having this capability in-house not only allows for detailed preventative maintenance and reduced out of service times on our vehicles, but the service center also performs a variety of other functions that would otherwise have to be sent out to other vendors which would have a significantly higher financial impact to the District.

During FY19/20 the District replaced one staff vehicle and had one of our existing ambulances refurbished and remounted. The following tables provide a summary of the age and mileage of our existing fleet of vehicles.

**Front Line Engine Age and Mileage:**

Fleet Number	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
19023	1	2200	10497
19022	1	2200	9846
12021	8	46168	54750
12020	8	82775	94334
08018	12	92390	98516
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>45146</b>	<b>53589</b>

NFPA recommends replacement of front-line engines at 15 years.

**Reserve Engine Age and Mileage:**

Fleet Number	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
06017	13	114756	123370
03015	17	133560	139633
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>124158</b>	<b>131501</b>

NFPA recommends replacement of reserve engines at 20 years. The Board has already approved replacement of both units during FY18/19.

**Front Line Ambulance Age and Mileage:**

Fleet Number	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
18422	2	11021	57733
18421	2	34822	57449
17420	3	96172	155716
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>47338</b>	<b>90299</b>

The goal is to have these units in front line status for 3 years. This table does not include the new ambulance that will go in service July 2020.

**Reserve Ambulance Age and Mileage:**

Fleet Number	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
16419	4	102104	120945
11417	9	190510	192642
09415	11	163716	166533
<b>Average</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>152110</b>	<b>160040</b>

The agency goal is to have these units in reserve status for 2 years.

**Type 3 (Brush) Engine Age and Mileage:**

Fleet Number	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
18317	2	3900	6472
02314	18	39071	39608
02312	18	30568	32101
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24513</b>	<b>26060</b>

NFPA recommends replacement at 15 years.

**Chief Officer Vehicles:**

Unit	Unit Age	Unit Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
18640- 1102	2	9890	19454
17639- BC Truck	3	24069	37817
17638- 1103	3	16657	23638
08636- 1101	12	100297	107958
08635- 1104	12	128000	133998
08634- 1151 (FM)	12	94500	103435
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>62235</b>	<b>71050</b>

These vehicles are replaced between 10 -15 years depending on mileage and purpose and are then used to replace older support staff vehicles within the District.

**Staff / Support Vehicles / Misc.:**

Unit	Unit Age	Mileage	
	2020	2019	2020
20641- 1121 (MSO)	1		1946
08637- Van	12	27561	27670
07633- Back-Up BC	13	117089	117493
04632- Prev Explorer	16	79162	99415
04631- Prev Explorer	16	88900	92195
04630- Admin Captain	16	146865	150987
03629- Utility PU	17	45193	48216
02628- Utility PU	17	86704	94213
01627- Utility PU	19	133373	138633
00626- Shop Truck	20	35700	37474
00625- Crown Vic	20	108863	109315
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>86941</b>	<b>83414</b>
<b>Misc. Units</b>			
97311 / Type 6	22	34789	34833
05315 / Water Tender	14	9490	10524
<b>Avg. Age and Miles</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22139</b>	<b>22678</b>

These vehicles are replaced at 15 years depending on mileage and purpose. Some of the vehicles in this table are retired Chief Officer vehicles that have been repurposed.  
 Reserve Apparatus

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

Fleet Services Department 108 continues to maintain fiscal responsibility by operating within budget.

**SUMMARY:**

The District has made good progress in the replacement of our engines as ambulances. That said, and evident in the tables above, that the District still has an aged fleet of Type 3 engines and staff/support vehicles. As such, it will be important that the District continue to fund and replace vehicles in accordance with the recently adopted Capital Equipment Plan.



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
TRAINING DIVISION**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** D/C McREYNOLDS AND CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** 2020 TRAINING PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Board information only, no action required.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The purpose of the District's training program is to ensure a state of readiness with the skills and knowledge necessary to respond and perform both emergency and non-emergency operations effectively, efficiently, and safely. Minimum established monthly training hours for Safety members (20 hours) meet requirements established by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and industry standards. In addition, the Training Program ensures compliance with various local, State and Federal mandates regarding training of emergency personnel.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The NCFPD Training Division continues to serve all the various ranks and groups in the organization. Chief Officers, Captains, Engineers, Firefighters, Single Role EMT's, Paramedics, Support Staff and Administrative Staff all receive training on various levels. We not only provide and support in-house training, but a considerable amount of external training such as the Palomar College Fire Academy and Emergency Education Program, North Zone Joint Training, and Regional Training.

Although COVID-19 presented significant challenges to our training program during the first six months of 2020, we continued to provide instruction that met or exceeded minimum standards. Our training has covered a wide range of skills from live structural and wildland firefighting scenarios to extended fire attack training for our Chief Officers. The skills our people hold not only serve the NCFPD and North Zone but also the State of California through overhead and strike team assignments. Many of the trainings are scenario-based that require crews to function both individually and as a team. Emergency Medical Education also remains a high priority to keep our personnel highly trained in Emergency Medical Service skills and abilities.

**Training Report**  
**July 28, 2020**  
**Page 2 of 2**

With Staff's reorganization, B/C Brian Macmillan has begun taking on a larger role in the development and administration of monthly training. Much of our in-house training that occurs is the result of the hard work from our various training cadres. I would like to recognize the following individuals for their commitment to performance excellence:

**Wildland**

Capt. Rob DeCamp  
 Capt. Chris Mattarollo  
 Eng. Nick Crilly  
 Eng. Bruce Moore

**Rope Rescue**

Capt. Joey Bradshaw  
 Eng. Sam Russell  
 Eng. Tyler Ruiz

**Auto Extrication**

Capt. Joel Hammer  
 Eng. Matt Lindsey  
 Eng. Joe Harlin

**Truck Operations**

Capt. Ryan Garing  
 Capt. Danny Sahagun  
 Eng. Matt Lindsey  
 Eng. Collin Baker

**Live Burn**

Capt. Danny Sahagun  
 FF Jorge Gonzalez  
 FF Rob Hager  
 FF Justin Rivera  
 FF Dennis Soriano

**EMS**

MSO Mary Murphy  
 Eng. Dave Helman  
 Eng. Matt Lindsey  
 FF Josh Kortekaas

**Multi-Company**

Capt. Pete August  
 Capt. Rick Rees  
 Capt. Tom Harrington

**Explorer Program**

FF Rob Hager  
 FF Dennis Soriano

**Pump Testing**

Eng. Joseph Harlin

**Driver/Operator**

Capt. Rick Rees  
 Capt. Mike Benoit  
 Eng. Sam Russell

**Haz Mat**

Capt. Ryan Garing

**Fire Command/ICS**

B/C Greg Mann  
 Capt. Rick Rees

<b>Total Training Hours Through July 7, 2020</b>	
Total Hours logged:	12,670
Average Total Hours per Month:	2,111
Average Total Hours per Day:	67

**SUMMARY:**

Training hours for our personnel, when evaluated on an average basis, remain above the minimum requirements. Through the talents of in-house and North Zone Training Cadres, NCF continues to deliver exceptional training to all our District employees.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## OPERATIONS DIVISION STAFF REPORT

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** CHIEF ABBOTT AND DIVISION CHIEF MAHR  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES

### **ACTION AGENDA**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is the recommendation of Staff that the Board of Directors deem four District owned vehicles as surplus.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

On occasion and usually after the purchase of new vehicles, the District will evaluate the reserve fleet of vehicles and determine if any unused and/or older vehicles should be sold as surplus, as they no longer have the ability to meet the District's Mission. In most cases, these vehicles will be sent to the San Diego County or other approved auction.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The assessment described above was recently conducted by Operations and NCF Fleet Services personnel. It was determined that one 2000 Ford Crown Victoria (VIN: 2FAFP71W9YX166814), one 2005 Ford Explorer (VIN:1FMZU72E45ZA22546), one 2011 Leader Ambulance (VIN:1GB6G5CL4B1100855), and one 1966 Allis Chalmers Forklift (VIN:51229000) should be sold as they are no longer serviceable within the District. In accordance with NCF Policy Section 217.04 and these vehicles having an anticipated value of greater than \$1000.00, Staff is requesting the Board deem these District owned vehicles as surplus, so they may be released for sale.

#### **FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

It is anticipated that these vehicles will have a combined value of approximately \$10,000.00

#### **SUMMARY:**

By the approval of this request, the District would remove these surplus vehicles from the fleet via an approved method.

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN

**ACTION AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- **Public Hearing 4:15 p.m. – Time Certain** for the establishment of a Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan for the Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Program and adoption of Resolution No. 2020-09.
- Approve the FY 2019/2020 Fire Mitigation Annual Report, FY 2020/2021 Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan and Resolution 2020-09 as presented.
- Direct Staff to send the adoptive Resolution and Report to the County of San Diego.

**BACKGROUND:**

The District is required to adopt a Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan to participate in the San Diego County (FMF) program, which are otherwise known as "developer impact fees." FMF funds are restricted and can only be used for facility improvements. In FY 18/19 the FMF committee reapproved District expenditures toward construction of Fire Station #4. The Multi-Year Plan is required to be updated annually.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff has developed the attached Fire Mitigation Annual Report and the Five-Year Plan. The Report and the adoptive Resolution will be sent to the County when the Board approves it. As the District has expended \$800,000 in FMF committee approved projects in excess of what has been collected in FMF funds, subsequent fiscal years on this plan simply indicate that the District will employ the "payback option," although it is highly unlikely we will do so given the aforementioned construction cost of F.S. #4 (currently estimated to be \$6.5M), which is in considerable need of replacement.

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

The projected Fire Mitigation Fee Revenue for FY 2020/2021 is approximately \$300,000.00 from fees and interest.

**MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN**

**JULY 28, 2020**

**PAGE 2 OF 2**

**SUMMARY:**

Adoption of the Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan and Fire Mitigation Fee Annual Report will allow the District to continue to participate in the Fire Mitigation Fee Program for the purpose of collecting developer impact fees in order to offset increased demands upon District infrastructure.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION No. 2020-09

### RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA ESTABLISHING A MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the North County Fire Protection District participates in the San Diego County Fire Mitigation Fee Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the District must meet facilities and equipment needs caused by new growth; and

**WHEREAS**, any portion of the Fire Mitigation Fees, which have been collected yet unexpended or uncommitted five or more years after deposit shall be returned;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North County Fire Protection District adopts the attached Multi-Year Mitigation Capital Expenditures Plan to meet facilities and equipment needs caused by new growth.

**APPROVED, SIGNED and ADOPTED**, by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District, County of San Diego, State of California, on this **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020** by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

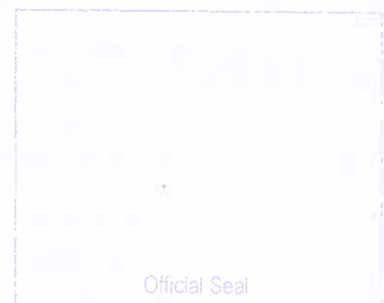
**RECUSED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Van Doorn, Board Vice President

**ATTEST: I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District thereof held on the **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**, and that the same now appears on record in my office.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and affixed by official seal this **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Loren A. Stephen-Porter, Board Secretary



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION 2020-09



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA ESTABLISHING A MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRE MITIGATION FEE PROGRAM  
"ATTACHMENT A"

### FIRE MITIGATION FEE MULTI-YEAR FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN (Estimates reflect only that portion of facility cost necessitated by new growth)

	<u>MITIGATION FEES</u>	<u>DISTRICT'S SHARE</u>
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021:</u></b>		
1. Debt Service Pay Back		
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022:</u></b>		
1. Debt Service Pay Back		
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023:</u></b>		
1. Debt Service Pay Back		
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024:</u></b>		
1. Debt Service Pay Back		
<b><u>FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025:</u></b>		
1. Debt Service Pay Back		

APPROVED: 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020

MOTION BY: \_\_\_\_\_

SECOND BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL RESULTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

RECUSED: \_\_\_\_\_



John Van Doorn, Board Vice President

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District thereof held on the **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**, and that the same now appears on record in the Office of the Board Secretary.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereto set my hand and affixed by official seal this **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**.

Loren-Stephen Porter, Board Secretary

# FIRE MITIGATION FEE (FMF) PROGRAM

FY 2020/21 Fee Rate per Development Type  
(assessed per square foot of floor area per building)

Effective July 1, 2020

Fire Agency	General Building	Agricultural Buildings w/o Sprinklers*	Agricultural Buildings w Sprinklers*	Greenhouse and Poultry House*
Alpine Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Borrego Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
County Service Area No. 135 – San Diego County Fire	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Deer Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Lakeside Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
North County Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Ramona Municipal Water District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
San Marcos Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
San Miguel Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Valley Center Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Vista Fire Protection District	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01

\*Agricultural building as defined by the Uniform Building Code.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

[www.ncfireprotectiondistrict.org](http://www.ncfireprotectiondistrict.org)

330 S. Main Avenue

Fallbrook, California 92028-2938

Phone: (760) 723-2005

Fax: (760) 723-2072

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RUTH HARRIS  
FRED LUEVANO  
KENNETH E. MUNSON  
BOB HOFFMAN  
JOHN VAN DOORN

STEPHEN J. ABBOTT- Fire Chief/CEO - [sabbott@ncfire.org](mailto:sabbott@ncfire.org)  
ROBERT H. JAMES - District Counsel Robert James - [roberthjameslaw@gmail.com](mailto:roberthjameslaw@gmail.com)  
LOREN A. STEPHEN-PORTER - Board Secretary - [lstephen@ncfire.org](mailto:lstephen@ncfire.org)

July 28, 2020

Kat Anady  
San Diego County Fire Authority  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92123

### **Subject: Mitigation Expenditure Justification**

Dear Ms. Anady:

Please review and approve the use of mitigation funds for the North County Fire Protection District growth needs.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Over the past decade, growth driven by new development has had a significant impact on the North County Fire Protection District. Using information provided by SANDAG, between the years 2018 and 2050, the area served by the District will grow by nearly 25,000 residents (a 50% increase), thereby increasing our anticipated call volume by 50% as well. Considering that 60% of this population growth will be from the elderly and children (over 65 years old and under 10 years old), we anticipate a disproportionate increase in call volume, as our call volume has escalated from 70 calls per thousand in 1990 to 120 calls per thousand now.

Population, growth and development have driven these major increases in service demands, and inflation has dramatically increased the costs of construction. As evidenced by the Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Annual Report, to date the District has expended \$800,000 more than allotted through the FMF program. Due to this negative balance the District would like to continue to exercise the debt service payback option for the forthcoming year.



PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FALLBROOK, BONSALE AND RAINBOW

*FIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM*

*JULY 28, 2020*

*PAGE 2 OF 2*

Additionally, the District ultimately anticipates moving forward with construction of a permanent facility for Fire Station #4, located at 4375 Pala Mesa Dr., Fallbrook. Use of FMF funds for this facility was originally approved by the FMF Committee in FY 02/03, again in FY 06/07, and most recently in FY 18/19. The new anticipated total cost for construction is \$6,581,165.

If either you or the Committee has any questions, please contact me at (760) 723-2012.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Abbott  
Fire Chief/CEO



**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA 92028  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

I am a citizen of the United States,  
over twenty-one years of age, and  
the Associate Editor of said  
newspaper The Village News, Inc.,  
111 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028  
a newspaper adjudicated by the Superior Court,  
County of San Diego GIN013243 is a newspaper  
of general circulation, published and is circulated  
at least once a week in Fallbrook, County of  
San Diego, State of California.

**The Notice of** \_\_\_\_\_  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Multi-Year Facilities and Equipment Plan  
for the Fire Mitigation Fee Program  
North County Fire Protection District

**Legal Number: NA**

Which the attached is a true printed copy, and  
Published in said newspaper for 2 weeks, and  
on the following day: 06/04/20, 06/11/20

\_\_\_\_\_ in the regular issue of said newspaper,  
**THE VILLAGE NEWS, INC.,**  
**111 W. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028**  
and not in any other supplement.

I certify and declare under penalty that  
this statement is true and correct to the  
best of my knowledge.

Dated: June 11, 2020  
Fallbrook, California 92028

Lucette Moramarco  
Signature  
**LUCETTE MORAMARCO**  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT**  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT, 330 South Main Avenue,  
Fallbrook, California, County of San Diego,  
will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday,  
July 28, 2020, at a time certain of 4:15  
p.m. at the Fallbrook Public Utility District, 990  
East Mission Road, Fallbrook, California. OR  
alternatively, if COVID-19 meeting restrictions  
continue to apply, the public hearing will be  
TELEPHONIC, to establish a Multi-Year  
Facilities and Equipment Plan for the  
Fire Mitigation Fee Program to comply  
with Government Code §§66000-66002  
and the County of San Diego Fire Mitigation  
Fee Ordinance.

Any taxpayer may appear at said time and  
place and be heard regarding this item.

Dominic Fieri, Fire Marshal  
North County Fire Protection District  
(760) 723-2010

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.**

Loren Stephen-Porter  
Board Secretary  
Dated: May 26, 2020

Published June 4, 11, 2020



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego County Fire Authority, PSG

## FIRE MITIGATION FEE (FMF) PROGRAM

(SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
CODE OF REGULATORY  
ORDINANCES TITLE 8,  
DIVISION 10, CHAPTER 3)

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL  
AND FIVE-YEAR MITIGATION  
FEES REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

*Published May 19, 2020*

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Board of Supervisors established the Fire Mitigation Fee (FMF) Review Committee (Committee) on September 24, 1986. The Committee is charged with annually evaluating the Fire Mitigation Fee Program and ensuring agency compliance with the FMF Ordinance.

The seven-member Committee consists of the following representatives: two fire chiefs, one elected director of a fire district, plus one representative each from the Building Industry Association, the San Diego County Farm Bureau, the County Planning Commission, and the San Diego County Fire Authority ([TABLE ONE](#)).

The FMF Review Committee's annual meeting was on held February 20, 2020, with a follow-up meeting on February 28, 2020. The Committee's review of the program entailed:

- Review of Fiscal Year 2018-19 Annual Reports for all participating agencies, including a review of the Fire Mitigation Fee Revenue, Expenditures, and the Multi-Year Facility and Equipment Plans;
- Annual Evaluation of Fee Ceilings for upcoming Fiscal Year 2020-21; and
- Recommended Amendments to the Fire Mitigation Fee Ordinance.

### TABLE ONE

#### Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Membership Roster Fire Mitigation Fee Review Committee

Member Name	Organization Represented
Fred Cox	Fire Chief, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District
Joe Napier	Fire Chief, Valley Center Fire Protection District
Ken Munson	Elected Director, North County Fire Protection District
Hannah Gbeh	San Diego County Farm Bureau
David Pallinger	San Diego County Planning Commission
Matt Adams	Building Industry Association of San Diego County
Liz Johnson	County Service Area No. 135 - San Diego County Fire
Susan Quasarano*	County Service Area No. 135 - San Diego County Fire

\*Resigned from FMF Review Committee effective 2/24/2020

## FMF ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

The primary purpose of Committee review is to ensure proper allocation of fee revenue as outlined in the FMF Ordinance. The Committee reviewed the Annual Reports of all participating agencies regarding FMF revenue, expenditures, and multi-year facility and equipment plans, evaluating any unexpended funds for conformance with the Ordinance.

County records show that \$2,114,736.34 in Fire Mitigation Fees was collected during Fiscal Year 2018-19 (**TABLE TWO**). The Committee reviewed the Multi-Year Facility and Equipment Plans submitted with the Annual Reports. Generally, the Multi-Year Plans gave clear descriptions of the participating agencies' planned use of fire mitigation fees. The Committee was able to find the proposed expenditures for Fiscal Year 2020-21, included in **TABLE THREE**, were in compliance with the FMF Ordinance.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee recommends a finding that the participating fire agencies' FMF annual reports for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 conform with the FMF Ordinance's requirements.

**TABLE TWO**

### Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Fire Mitigation Fee Revenue Received Total Distributions Issued to Fire Agencies by County

Fire Agency	Total Distribution Issued
Alpine Fire Protection District	\$ 74,514.74
Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District	\$ 21,048.84
Borrego Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 1,374.80
County Service Area No. 115 – Pepper Drive*	\$ 881.44
County Service Area No. 135 – San Diego County Fire	\$ 158,449.42
Deer Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 35,646.84
Julian-Cuyamaca Fire Protection District	\$ 15,426.72
Lakeside Fire Protection District	\$ 100,911.80
Mootamai Municipal Water District**	-
North County Fire Protection District	\$ 587,046.47
Pauma Municipal Water District**	-
Ramona Municipal Water District	\$ 90,283.49
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District	\$ 607,202.62
Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District	\$ 67,545.38
San Marcos Fire Protection District	\$ 14,801.68
San Miguel Fire Protection District	\$ 176,760.34
Valley Center Fire Protection District	\$ 93,309.78
Vista Fire Protection District	\$ 67,706.94
Yuima Municipal Water District**	\$ 1,825.04
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,114,736.34</b>
*Dissolution of CSA 115 finalized on 11/16/2018	
**Divestiture of Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Service Powers for Pauma, Yuima and Mootamai Municipal Water Districts finalized on 10/4/2019	

**TABLE THREE**  
**Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Expenditures**  
**Approved by FMF Review Committee**

Fire Agency	Assigned Project No.	Description	Percentage/ Amount
Alpine Fire Protection District	AFPD-1	Debt Service Buyback – Fire Station Construction	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District	BONITA-2	Debt Service Buyback – Fire Station Construction	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Borrego Springs Fire Protection District	BORREGO-2	Payment towards new station	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
County Service Area No. 135 – San Diego County Fire	CSA 135-1	Palomar Station renovation and expansion	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Deer Springs Fire Protection District	DSFPD-1	Debt Service Buyback – Fire Station Construction	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Lakeside Fire Protection District	LAKESIDE-1	Debt Service Payback - Fire Station Construction and Apparatus	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
North County Fire Protection District	NCFPD-4	Debt Service Payback – Fire Station 4	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	NCFPD-7	Debt Service Payback – Prior Fire Station and Apparatus	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Ramona Municipal Water District	RMWD-1	Fire Station Expansion	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	RMWD-2	New Fire Station and Equipment	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District	RSFFPD-18	Harmony Grove Fueling Station	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	RSFFPD-19	Harmony Grove Emergency Generator	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	RSFFPD-20	Increase to PY approved Fire Station 5 project of \$1,445,000 to \$2,000,000 due to cost increases.	\$ 555,000
	RSFFPD-22	New Printer/Plotter/Scanner due to increased workload on existing equipment. Total cost \$46,154.	\$ 30,000
	RSFFPD-23	Updating fire prevention software due to increased volume. Total \$47,059 - 85% requested.	\$ 40,000
	RSFFPD-24	New fire prevention vehicle for inspections on new construction. Total \$70,588 - 85% requested.	\$ 60,000
	RSFFPD-25	FY20/21: Training Tower Improvements due to staff increase. Total cost \$176,471 - 50% requested.	\$ 88,236

	RSFFPD-26	FY20/21: New Utility Vehicle for operations to cover growth in district. Total cost \$82,353 - 50% requested.	\$ 35,000
	RSFFPD-27	FY20/21: New quick attack vehicle due to building growth in wildland areas. Total cost \$411,765 - 85% requested.	\$350,000
Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District	RDD MWD	New Project Saving	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
San Marcos Fire Protection District	SAN MARCOS-1	Debt Service Buyback	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
San Miguel Fire Protection District	SAN MIGUEL-1	Debt Service Buyback	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	SAN MIGUEL-2	Station 19 Reallocation	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
Valley Center Fire Protection District	VALLEY-5	Station #3 Construction - to start in FY20/21	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-9	NextGen Radio System Equipment	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-10	Additional SCBA units to prior approved project due to higher than expected growth. Prior approval 75% of \$126,000 or \$94,500. New proposal to increase project to \$232,000 with 75% funded, totaling of \$174,000 in FMF.	\$ 79,500
	VALLEY-11	Debt Service - Apparatus	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-14	Debt Service - Fire Station Land Purchase	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-15	Fire Station Design and Build	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-18	New Fully Equipped Type I - to start in FY20/21	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected
	VALLEY-19	New Security systems for all fire stations to prevent increased crime resulting from increased community growth. \$60,000 total - 75% requested.	\$ 45,000
	VALLEY-20	FY21/22: New Cardiac Monitor Defibrillators to expand ALS & BLS systems to growing communities. Total \$67,500 - 67%.	\$ 45,000
Vista Fire Protection District	VISTA-2	Build New Fire Station	100% Income from FMF Fees Collected

# FIVE-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF FMF CEILING

The formula for calculating the FMF ceiling is determined by dividing the average cost of constructing a fully equipped fire station within the unincorporated portion of the County of San Diego by the average square footage of structures served by this average fire station (Section 810.309(a) of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances).

**TABLE FOUR**

## Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Fee Ceiling FIRE MITIGATION FEE FORMULA & FEE CEILING CALCULATION

Dwelling Units <sup>1</sup>	158,453
Fire Stations <sup>2</sup>	54
Dwelling Units per Fire Station	2,934
Construction Cost per Station <sup>3</sup>	\$ 5,269,250
Dwelling Units per Station	2,934
Cost per Dwelling Unit	\$ 1,796
Cost per Dwelling Unit	\$ 1,796
Ave. Sq. Ft. per Dwelling Unit <sup>4</sup>	2,400
Cost per Square Foot	\$ 0.75
<b>Percent Increase from FY19-20</b>	<b>29%</b>

- (1) 2019 ESRI Data, Total dwelling units for unincorporated San Diego County
- (2) 2019 SANGIS Data; includes all County and FPD fire stations that fall within the unincorporated San Diego County
- (3) Average size of 18 County fire stations: 5,600 sq ft
- (4) 2010 Census Data- Average sq. ft. of new single-family houses in western portion of United States

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon an analysis of the costs of construction as required under Section 810.310(a) of the Fire Mitigation Fee Ordinance (**TABLE FOUR**), the Committee proposes the following:

- General Building Fee increase of \$0.17, from \$0.58 per square foot to \$0.75 per square foot.
- No change in the per-square foot fee for Agriculture Buildings with or without sprinklers or the Poultry/Greenhouse fee.

Proposed Fire Mitigation Fees: The proposed Fire Mitigation Fees to become effective July 1, 2020 for the 14 participating agencies are included in **TABLE FIVE** of the Report.

The Committee will conduct a review of the fee calculation stipulated in the Ordinance, to include, but not limited to the following topics:

- Type of Development (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, multi-residential, agricultural)
- Usage Type (e.g., non-fire rated, fire resistive construction, fire sprinklered, agricultural)
- Modern Fire Station Design (e.g., industry standards, size, materials, construction cost)

**TABLE FIVE**

**Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed FMF Fee Rates per Development Type  
(assessed per square foot of floor area per building)**

Fire Agency	General Building	Agricultural Buildings w/o Sprinklers*	Agricultural Buildings w Sprinklers*	Greenhouse and Poultry House*
Alpine Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Borrego Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
County Service Area No. 135 – San Diego County Fire	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Deer Springs Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Lakeside Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
North County Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Ramona Municipal Water District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
San Marcos Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
San Miguel Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Valley Center Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01
Vista Fire Protection District	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.01

\*Agricultural building as defined by the Uniform Building Code.





**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** DOMINIC FIERI, FIRE MARSHAL AND STEVE ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVE/AUTHORIZE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT

**ACTION AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board approve and authorize the Administrative Staff to deliver the Fixed Charge Special Assessment forms to San Diego Property Tax Services on or before the deadline of August 10th, 2020.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for the annual weed abatement of properties with hazardous growth that is not maintained by property owners. Throughout the year, staff has mailed weed abatement notices to those property owners who have a known or existing fire hazard on their parcel(s). The District maintains a Special Services Agreement with California Tree Services, Inc. to bring specifically hazardous properties into compliance with North County Fire Protection District's Ordinance No. 2000-01.

Property owners are required to remove dead/dying vegetation and annual growth from their property, maintaining the parcel in accordance with the District's Ordinance. Those who have failed to comply with District notices to abate within a specified time period have been brought to compliance by the District's Special Service contractor. The property owners have been invoiced for the final costs and fees associated with abating their parcel.

**DISCUSSION:**

The majority of property owners who received a Notice to Abate willingly complied within the timeframe allowed; however, some parcels were cleared by the Fire District. Administrative Staff has mailed courtesy notices and invoices requesting payment to the following non-compliant property owners:

**APPROVE/AUTHORIZE FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT**  
**JULY 28, 2020**  
**PAGE 2 OF 2**

APN	COST TO ABATE	ADMIN FEES	TOTAL
121-351-101-00	\$4600.00	\$887.00	\$5487.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			

After the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting, a final request for payment was sent to the property owner noting the July 31<sup>st</sup> payment deadline. A list of non-compliant owners was publicly posted and placed on the website on June 10, 2020; it will remain posted through the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

This is the final list of properties eligible for the Special Tax Assessment for the Board's review. The property owner has failed to pay at this time and remains on the list to be submitted to the County of San Diego. If approved by the Board and payment is not received by the deadline of **July 31<sup>st</sup>**, the charge will be delivered to the County of San Diego as required by no later than August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The County of San Diego will reimburse the Fire District for all charges, including the administrative fees, and will include them on the owner's next property tax bill.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Abatement Packets originally submitted to Chief Abbott
2. Invoices from California Tree Services
3. Receipts for Payments made by North County Fire
4. County required form - Attachment B
5. Certification of Fixed Charge Special Assessment - Attachment E
6. Notice Posting



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 S. Main Avenue • Fallbrook, California 92028-2938 • Phone: (760) 723-2005 • Fax: (760) 723-2072 • Web: [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RUTH HARRIS  
BOB HOFFMAN  
FRED LUEVANO  
KENNETH E. MUNSON  
JOHN VAN DOORN

STEPHEN J. ABBOTT - Fire Chief/CEO - [sabbott@ncfire.org](mailto:sabbott@ncfire.org)  
ROBERT H. JAMES - District Counsel - [roberthjameslaw@gmail.com](mailto:roberthjameslaw@gmail.com)  
LOREN A. STEPHEN-PORTER - Executive Assistant/Board Secretary - [lstephen@ncfire.org](mailto:lstephen@ncfire.org)

## Attachment E

July 28, 2020

County of San Diego  
Auditor and Controller  
Property Tax Services  
5530 Overland Avenue, Suite 410  
San Diego, CA 92123

### CERTIFICATION OF FIXED CHARGE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

This letter is to certify that, according to the records of North County Fire Protection District, all assessments and special taxes are in compliance with Article XIIC and D of the Constitution of the State of California, that the total number of parcels subject to Fixed Charge Special Assessments and the dollar amount by fund for 2019/2020 are as listed below:

Fund Number	Count	Amount
3107-01	1	\$5487.00

Certified By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dominic Fieri  
Fire Marshal



PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FALLBROOK, BONSALE AND RAINBOW

DUTY ~ INTEGRITY ~ RESPECT

July 28, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting

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# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 S. Main Avenue • Fallbrook, California 92028-2938 • Phone: (760) 723-2005 • Fax: 760) 723-2072 • Web: www.ncfire.org

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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STEPHEN J. ABBOTT - Fire Chief/CEO - [sabbott@ncfire.org](mailto:sabbott@ncfire.org)  
ROBERT H. JAMES - District Counsel - [roberthjameslaw@gmail.com](mailto:roberthjameslaw@gmail.com)  
LOREN A. STEPHEN-PORTER - Executive Assistant/Board Secretary - [lstephen@ncfire.org](mailto:lstephen@ncfire.org)

## NOTICE OF WEED ABATEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LISTING

The following parcel numbers will be sent to the County of San Diego as a special assessment on property taxes unless paid by close of business day **July 31, 2020**.

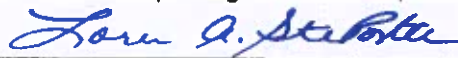
APN	COST TO ABATE	ADMIN FEES	TOTAL
121-351-101-00	\$4,600.00	\$887.00	\$5,487.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,600.00</b>	<b>\$887.00</b>	<b>\$5,487.00</b>

Loren Stephen-Porter  
Board Secretary  
Posted: June 10, 2020

### CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

"I certify that this Notice was posted at the following locations: [1] the entrance of North County Fire Protection District Administrative Offices, [2] Fallbrook Public Utility District Administrative Offices and [3] the Roy Noon Meeting Hall, [4] District's website at <http://www.ncfire.org> The date of posting was **June 10, 2020**."

Board Secretary Loren Stephen-Porter:



Date: June 10, 2020



PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FALLBROOK, BONSALE AND RAINBOW

DUTY ~ INTEGRITY ~ RESPECT



# North County Fire Protection District

330 South Main Avenue • Fallbrook • California 92028  
Tel (760) 723-2010 • Fax (760) 723-2045

**Board of Directors**  
*Ruth Harris*  
*Bob Hoffman*  
*Fred Luevano*  
*Kenneth E. Munson*  
*John Van Doorn*

**Fire Chief**  
*Stephen J. Abbott*

## NOTICE OF PENDING FORCED ABATEMENT AND DUE BILL

**NOTE: THIS IS NOT A NOTICE TO GRADE YOUR PROPERTY**

Dear: Sharon Thoreson  
5256 S Mission Rd Suite 703  
Bonsall Ca 92003

Date: 8/27/2019

Parcel: A.P.N. 1213510100

San Diego County Property records show you as owner of the parcel number listed above. A series of recent inspections determined that fire hazard(s) exist on your property as defined in North County Fire Protection District's *Ordinance 2000-01* for abatement of public nuisances. Visit [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org) to view Ordinance 2000-01 in its entirety.

**LOCATION OF HAZARD: 4374 Highland Oaks St**

### INSTRUCTION FOR ABATEMENT: PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE OF NOTICE

AT LEAST TWO SEPARATE NOTICES HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE PROPERTY OWNER OF RECORD AND/OR POSTED ON YOUR PROPERTY ADVISING OF THE NEED TO ABATE FIRE HAZARDS BY THE POSTED DEADLINE. AS A RESULT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE NOTICES, THIS PROPERTY IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR FORCED ABATEMENT OF THESE HAZARDS. ABATEMENT WILL OCCUR ON OR AFTER TEN (10) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE. AT THIS TIME, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF NON-COMPLIANCE INSPECTION EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DISTRICT AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
10/23/2018	Non-Compliance Weed Abatement Reinspection	\$ 283.00
10/23/2018	Forced Weed Abatement Administrative Fee	\$ 612.00

If payment is not received from you, these inspection and administrative charges will be placed on the parcel by the County Auditor and collected at the time and in the manner of ordinary property taxes. Additionally, you will also be responsible for forced abatement charges incurred by the Fire District to abate the fire hazards present on your property.

If you do not own this property, have already cleared this property, feel you have received this notice in error, or wish to schedule an on-site meeting, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 760-723-2010 as soon as possible. Additionally, should you disagree with the determination that a hazard exists, you may request an administrative review with the Fire Marshal.

Sincerely,

Stephen Abbott, Fire Marshal



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 South Main Ave Fallbrook, CA 92028  
Prevention Division

## FINAL NOTICE - AFTER FORCED ABATEMENT

12/20/2019)

Sharon Thorson  
5256 S Mission Rd. Suite 703  
FALLBROOK, CA 92028  
APN: 1213510100

DATE	AMOUNT	UNITS	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
10 23 2018	\$ 283.00	1	Non-Compliance Weed Abatement Reinspection	\$ 283.00
10 23 2018	\$ 604.00	1	Forced Weed Abatement Administrative Fee	\$ 604.00
09 10 2019	\$ 2,000.00	1	Abatement work	\$ 2,000.00
10 14 2019	\$ 2,600.00	1	Abatement work	\$ 2,600.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$ 5,487.00</b>

## FINAL NOTICE - AFTER FORCED ABATEMENT

Your cooperation is expected. Failure to pay or correct by **January 24, 2020** will make you liable to the penalties provided by law and subject to forced abatement procedures in accordance with the Consolidated San Diego County Fire Code, Division II, Appendix II-A and NCFPD Ordinance 2000-01.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

330 S. Main Avenue, Fallbrook, CA 92028-2938

Phone: (760) 723-2010; Fax: (760) 723-2045

## NOTICE TO ABATE FIRE HAZARD

DATE: 07/24/2019 APN: 1213510100

NAME: Sharon Thoreson

ADDRESS: 5256 S Mission Rd Suite 703

CITY: Bonsall

STATE: Ca ZIP: 92003

**Attention Property Owner:** This is a second and final notice to abate fire hazards that exist on your property in accordance with the County of San Diego Consolidated Code and NCFPD Ordinance 2016-02.

LOCATION OF HAZARD: 4374 Highland Oaks St

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABATEMENT: Need to cut all annual weeds within 100ft of home. Also remove any dead or dying vegetation within that zone. Trim up all trees within 100ft of home. Remove all built up trash next to home.

The fire hazard identified on this notice must be abated within fifteen (15) days of this notice. Failure to comply with this written order is a violation of the California Health and Safety Code Section 13871 and Consolidated Fire Code Section 109.4, which is punishable pursuant to Section 19 of the California Penal Code by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both. Additionally, it will be charged an administrative fee of \$604.00 by the District and the case will be assigned to forced abatement. All said costs of abatement, costs for collection, attorney fees and administrative fees will be charged to the property owner per NCFPD Weed Abatement Ordinance 2016-02. **If the indicated hazard is abated within fifteen (15) days of this notice, please call (760) 723-2010 so no further action is taken.** Properties which comply but fail to do so after expiration of this fifteen (15) day notice, but prior to assignment to forced abatement will be charged an administrative fee of \$263.00.

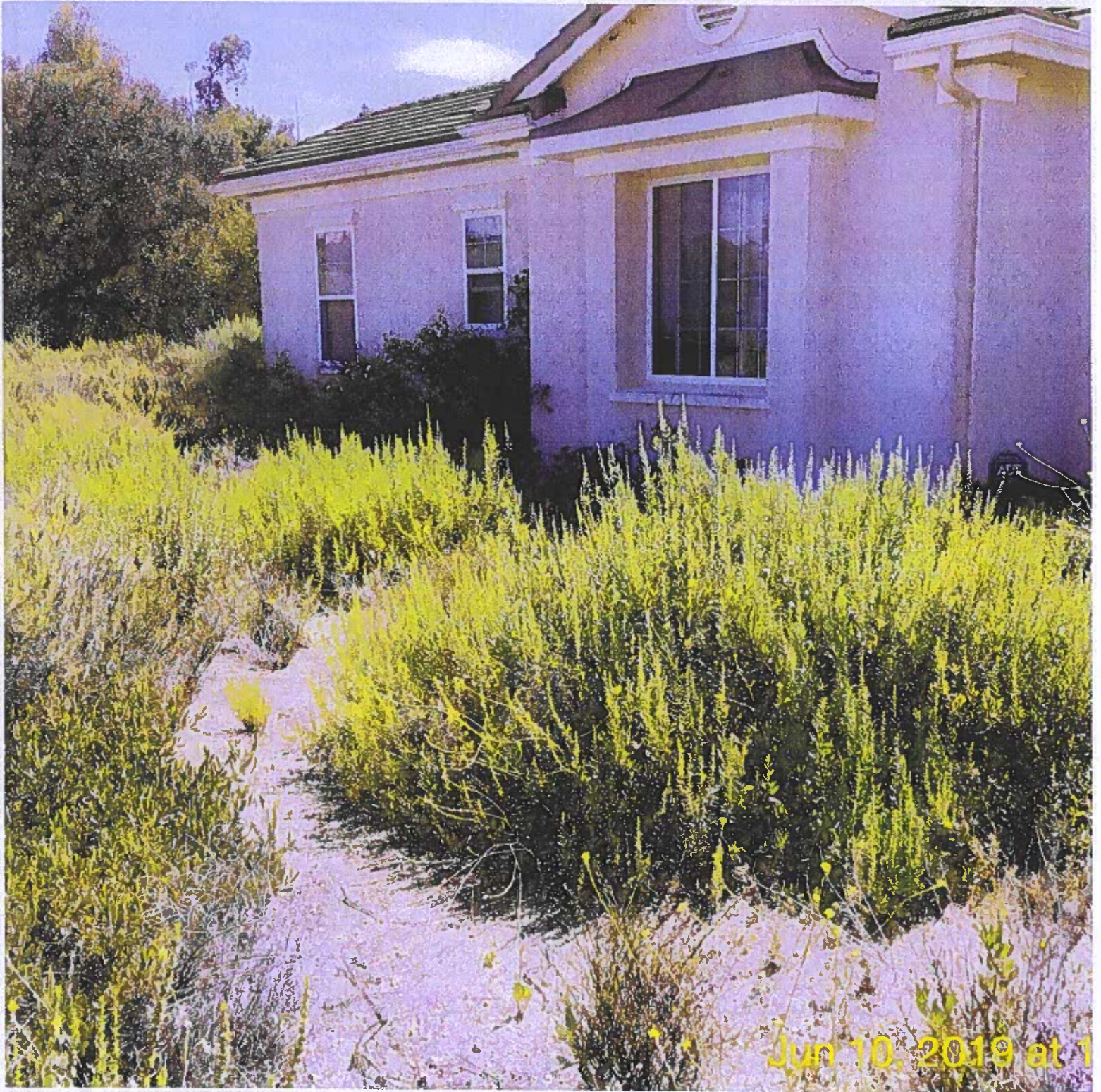
**Note:** If you suspect you may have any environmental concerns, please refer to the attached Abatement Standards for further instructions. Additionally, a copy of the previous notice has been included for your reference.

Property owners wishing to appeal the requirements of Ordinance 2016-02 shall submit such appeal in writing along with an administrative fee of \$25.00 to the Board Secretary at 330 S. Main Avenue., Fallbrook, CA 92028-2938, within twenty-three (23) days of the date of this notice. Property owners submitting an appeal must also present their appeal to the Board of Directors for action at a normally scheduled board meeting.

_____		201813	_____	_____
Issuing Officer Signature	I.D. Number	Date	Time	
REVIEWED: <u>05-31-17</u>	Updated: <u>05-31-17</u>	Approved: <u>05-31-17</u>	FORM#: <u>390 52</u>	Page <u>1 of 2</u>











Jun 10, 2019 at 1







**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE PREVENTION**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** FM FIERI AND CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** STATE MANDATED INSPECTION REPORTING

**ACTION AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Approve the Report on Certain State Mandated Inspections and Resolution 2020-08.

**BACKGROUND:**

Senate Bill 1205, codified in September 2018 as Health & Safety Code §13146.4, requires annual reporting of completed inspections for certain "State Mandated" occupancies during the "budget appropriations process." The purpose of this legislation is for governing bodies to determine the adequacy of its fire prevention activities, particularly as it relates to obligatory requirements, so that it can adjust future appropriations for prevention activities accordingly. As we have now just completed the 18/19 fiscal year, staff is providing this report to the Board for consideration.

**DISCUSSION:**

The District is required to report on the number of educational facilities and the number of certain congregate residential facilities present within its jurisdiction, and the percent of inspections completed for both types. As noted in the resolution, there are 15 educational facilities and 132 congregate residential facilities, all of which 100% of initial inspection were inspected Fiscal Year 2019/2020. However, 58% of the R occupancies are completed at this time. Single family dwellings are excluded from this legislative inspection requirement.

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

No fiscal impact at this time

**SUMMARY:**

At the time of the first COVID 19 shutdown, initial inspections for R occupancies were completed and compliance inspections were stopped to protect the fire staff and the community from spreading the virus. The District is currently working toward completing the reinspection's of the R occupancies in order to fulfill its inspection and reporting obligations in accordance with SB 1205.

# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION 2020-08



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF A REPORT MADE BY THE FIRE CHIEF/CEO REGARDING THE INSPECTION OF CERTAIN OCCUPANCIES AS REQUIRED TO PERFORM THESE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS IN SUCH OCCUPANCIES PURSUANT TO §13146.2 AND §13146.3 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE.

**WHEREAS**, California Health & Safety Code §13146.4 was added in 2018, and became effective on September 27, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, California Health & Safety Code §13146.2 and §13146.3 requires all fire departments, that provide fire protection services, including the North County Fire Protection District, to perform annual inspections in every building used as a public or private school, hotel, motel, lodging house, apartment house and certain residential care facilities for compliance with building standards as provided; and

**WHEREAS**, California Health & Safety Code §13146.2 requires all fire departments, that provide fire protection services, including the North County Fire Protection District, to report annually to its administering authority on its compliance with California Health & Safety Code §13146.2 and §13146.3; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of North County Fire Protection District intends this Resolution to fulfill the requirements of the California Health & Safety Code regarding acknowledgment of the North County Fire Protection District's compliance with California Health and Safety Code §13146.2 and §13146.3.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District expressly acknowledges the measure of compliance of the North County Fire Protection District with California Health and Safety Code §13146.2 and §13146.3 in the area encompassed by the North County Fire Protection District, as follows:

**1.0. EDUCATIONAL GROUP "E" OCCUPANCIES:**

- 1.1. Educational Group E occupancies are generally those public and private schools, used by more than six (6) persons at any one time for educational purposes through the twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade. Within the North County Fire Protection District, there lie 15 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities.



# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION 2020-08



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF A REPORT MADE BY THE FIRE CHIEF/CEO REGARDING THE INSPECTION OF CERTAIN OCCUPANCIES AS REQUIRED TO PERFORM THESE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS IN SUCH OCCUPANCIES PURSUANT TO §13146.2 AND §13146.3 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE.

- 1.2. During F/Y 2019/2020, the North County Fire Protection District completed the annual inspection of 15 Group E occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This is a compliance rate of 100 % for this reporting period.
- 1.3. Additional items of note regarding this compliance rate can be found in the accompanying staff report for this Resolution.
- 2.0. **RESIDENTIAL GROUP “R” OCCUPANCIES:**
  - 2.1. Residential Group R occupancies, for the purposes of this Resolution, are generally those occupancies containing sleeping units and include hotels, motels, apartments (three units or more), etc., as well as other residential occupancies (including a number of residential care facilities). These residential care facilities have a number of different sub-classifications and they may contain residents or clients that have a range of needs, including those related to custodial care, mobility impairments, cognitive disabilities, etc. The residents may also be non-ambulatory or bedridden. Within the North County Fire Protection District, there lie 112 Group R (and their associated sub-categories) occupancies of this nature.
  - 2.2. During F/Y 2019/2020, the North County Fire Protection District performed initial annual inspection of 132 Group R occupancies, buildings, structures and/or facilities. This 58% comply for this reporting period and 42% are making correction to be in compliance or awaiting reinspection. Due to COVID 19, R occupancies were placed on hold to protect the fire staff and community from the spread of the virus caused a delay in gaining compliance.
  - 2.3. Additional items of note regarding this compliance rate can be found in the accompanying Staff report for this Resolution.

# NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION 2020-08



RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF A REPORT MADE BY THE FIRE CHIEF/CEO REGARDING THE INSPECTION OF CERTAIN OCCUPANCIES AS REQUIRED TO PERFORM THESE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS IN SUCH OCCUPANCIES PURSUANT TO §13146.2 AND §13146.3 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE.

**APPROVED, SIGNED AND ADOPTED** at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District held on this **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**, by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**RECUSED:**

---

John Van Doorn, Board Vice President

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the North County Fire Protection District at the meeting thereof held on the **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**, and that the same now appears on record in my office.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and affixed by official seal this this **28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020**.

Handwritten signature of Loren A. Stephen-Porter in blue ink.

---

Loren A. Stephen-Porter, Board Secretary

Attachments: Exhibit "A" – Staff Report Submitted to Board July 28, 2020.

Official Seal



**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** PRESENTATION BY STRADLING, YOCCA, CARLSON & RAUTH ON  
DISCLOSURE RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive and discuss presentation on disclosure responsibilities under the Federal Securities Laws.

### **BACKGROUND:**

As a component of recently issuing a Pension Obligation Bond, which is a form of securities, the District's Board and key officers must receive training relative to the disclosure requirements under various Federal Securities Laws. This ensures that investors are informed on the fiscal health of the District and remain informed through annual disclosures.

### **DISCUSSION:**

This presentation covers the various components of disclosure required of the District. To ensure ongoing compliance, as a part of Pension Obligation Bond issuance the District is entering into an agreement with NHA Advisors, which will assist the District in complying with its Continuous Disclosure Policy, which was recently approved by the Board.

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

Approximately \$3,000 annually, included in Preliminary Budget.

### **SUMMARY:**

Conducting this training and maintaining a contract arrangement with NHA Advisors will satisfy compliance with our Continuous Disclosure Policy and applicable Federal laws.



North County Fire Protection District

Disclosure Responsibilities  
under the  
Federal Securities Laws

June 25, 2020

Reed Glyer  
Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth  
(949) 725-4027  
rglyer@sycr.com

## Why Is Disclosure Necessary?

- North County Fire Protection District issues securities in the public capital markets
- Investors in municipal securities have rights under federal securities laws
- All “material” information must be disclosed

# The Securities Act Of 1933

- 1933 Act has two substantive rules:
  - Registration requirement
  - Antifraud rule
- Municipal securities are exempt from the registration requirement, but are subject to antifraud rule
- Section 17(a)(2) prohibits any person from, directly or indirectly, obtaining money or property by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or by a misleading omission.

# Securities Exchange Act Of 1934

## Rule 10b-5

- Also contains antifraud provisions
- 1975 amendments to 1934 Act made it clear that antifraud provisions apply to government issuers

## Rule 10b5

“It shall be unlawful for any person . . .

- a) To employ any device, scheme or artifice to defraud,
- b) To **make** any untrue statement of a **material** fact or to **omit** to state a **material** fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading . . . .”



## The “Materiality” Standard

- “[w]hether or not there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor or prospective investor would consider the information important in deciding whether or not to invest.”
- Materiality is determined in context of all the facts and circumstances
- Guidance comes primarily from court decisions and SEC enforcement cases
- SEC has declined to provide advance guidance on materiality

## Levels Of Culpability

- Negligence – Failed to meet Prudent Person Test
- Recklessness – Ignored “red flags”
- Intent to defraud – Scierter

## When Do Disclosure Rules Apply?

- New offerings
- Annual Report under Rule 15c2-12
- Any other circumstance where an Issuer is “speaking to the market”
  - Applies to an official with responsibility for such disclosures
  - At this time, securities law does not impose a requirement to update or correct any statement previously made, if there is no other reason to be making a statement to the market

## Primary Offerings

- A sale of bonds to the public
- Official Statement is offering document to investors – equivalent to prospectus
- Must contain all material information for the particular bond sale
- Official Statement is North County Fire Protection District's document
- Underwriters, municipal advisors and lawyers can help develop the Official Statement but North County Fire Protection District is ultimately responsible for content

# Annual Reports

- Annual Reports are due as long as bonds are outstanding
- Includes Audited Financial Statements
- Includes Financial Information identified in Continuing Disclosure Agreement (Adopted Budget, specific tables from Official Statement)
- Consider Rule 10b5 implications – is there more you should be saying?
- When filing Annual Report ask if anything happened since the date of the audited financial reports that has materially impacted the District's financial condition?

## What Should Be Disclosed?

- Unlike corporate securities, there is no “line item” set of rules for what goes into an Official Statement
- Starting in 1975, leaders in municipal market created a set of Guidelines for Official Statement content
- Other groups have suggested disclosure for particular market segments
- Look at practices in the industry; recent SEC enforcement actions
- In the end, issuer must use its own good judgment

## Disclosure Process

- Seek input from key officials
- Fire Chief and Deputy Chief oversee and coordinate process
- Involve all key staff with relevant information
- Disclosure Counsel helps pull information together and produces a draft Preliminary Official Statement (“POS”)
- Draft POS reviewed by working group and revised prior to submission to Board

# Disclosure Process

- Board Members
  - Review key sections of POS related to District and its finances
  - Notify Fire Chief/Deputy Chief of any changes and questions prior to release of POS
- “Due diligence” meeting/call before distribution of POS
- Fire Chief or Deputy Chief deems POS final as of its date before release to investors



# Timing Considerations For Bond Sale

- Progression of an offering
  - POS
  - Bond Sale
  - Final OS
  - Closing
- Be mindful of timing of public actions or releases
  - State budget, District budget, budget updates
  - District financial information
  - Events related to pending litigation

## Disclosure Topics for Preliminary Official Statement

- Experience of District Management Team
- Tax base
- Pension Plans and OPEBs (GASB 68 and 75)
- Labor negotiations
- Source of District moneys
- Climate/weather issues
- Historical revenues, expenses and coverage
- Multi-year projections
- Capital Improvement Program
- Litigation and investigations
- Impact of State budget on District
- Information on debt – types and amounts

## Areas of Emphasis

- Possible impact of next economic downturn
- Status of fund balances and reserves
- Continuing disclosure compliance
- Pension and OPEB liabilities/impact of new assumptions and GASB standards
- Impact of COVID-19

## Disclosure Considerations

- Disclosure must evolve to reflect changing circumstances
- Read the disclosure with “fresh eyes”
- If you think something may be a concern, raise the issue with colleagues and the working group
- There are no “stupid questions”
- Political sensitivity and confidentiality considerations are not exceptions to disclosure

## S.E.C. Enforcement

- SEC enforcement actions are the primary vehicle to ensure compliance
- SEC has power to bring civil actions or refer to Justice Department for criminal action
- SEC has brought actions against municipal issuers, including individual officers, as well as other participants in the market, such as underwriters, lawyers, advisers, etc.

## Consequences of Bad Disclosure

- SEC Investigation – fees for lawyers and consultants
- Adverse publicity
- Reduced market access
- May have to impose new procedures and oversight to settle SEC actions

# What Can Go Wrong?

- Orange County – (Board approved Official Statement without review.)
  - Board that authorizes securities is responsible for disclosure
  - Reliance on professionals must be reasonable

“A public official who approves the issuance of securities and related disclosure documents may not authorize disclosure that the public official knows to be materially false or misleading; nor may the public official authorize disclosure while recklessly disregarding facts that indicate that there is a risk that the disclosure may be misleading. When, for example, a public official has knowledge of facts bringing into question the issuer’s ability to repay the securities, it is reckless for that official to approve disclosure to investors without taking steps appropriate under the circumstances to prevent the dissemination of materially false or misleading information regarding those facts.”

# What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- San Diego (Inaccurate disclosure on pension and retiree healthcare liability and errors in financial statements.)
  - City commissions a review of its disclosure practices
  - Conclusions from review:

“the City’s procedures, policies and practices for disclosure and financial reporting are inadequate in major respects. Undermining the reliability of its public disclosure have been, among other factors, the (1) the City’s excessive reliance on outside professionals to generate its disclosure documents, (2) its lack of procedures to verify the accuracy of those documents and (3) the absence of high-level oversight to judge the clarity and completeness of information provided to the investment markets.”



## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- State of New Jersey (State fails to disclose material information on two pension plans and specifically underfunding.)
  - Failure left investors unable to evaluate State's financial condition
  - State Treasurer did not read Official Statement
  - State Treasurer had no written policies or procedures relating to review or update
  - State Treasurer did not provide training concerning disclosure obligations

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

“Treasury had no written policies or procedures relating to the review or update of the bond offering documents. In addition, Treasury did not provide training to its employees concerning the State’s disclosure obligations under the accounting standards or the federal securities laws. Accordingly, the State’s procedures were inadequate for ensuring that material information concerning [the pension plans] or the State’s financing of [the pension plans] was disclosed and accurate in bond offering documents.”

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- West Clark Community Schools District (Indiana) – (fraudulent misstatement in a 2007 Official Statement that it was in compliance with its disclosure obligations related to prior bond offerings.)
- The district had not submitted any of the required annual reports or notices for a previous 2005 bond offering, and the underwriter did not conduct adequate due diligence with respect to continuing disclosure compliance.

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- State of Illinois – (Omission of material information relating to the **unfunded liabilities of its pension system.**)

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- City of South Miami (Florida) – (**Material misstatements related to the City’s compliance with various tax requirements for the bonds.**)

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- City of Allen Park (Michigan) – The SEC found that City bond offering documents used outdated budget information in offering documents that failed to disclose a known budget deficit of at least \$2 million.

### Allen Park - Settlement with the City:

- The City agreed to cease and desist from future securities law violation. No fines were levied against the City, but the City agreed to adopt written policies and procedures, to disclose the cease and desist order in any offering in the next two years and to undertake disclosure training.

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

Allen Park - Settlement with the City Administrator and Mayor:

- The City Administrator entered into settlement agreement, which included an order not to violate the federal securities laws in the future and **not to participate in an offering of municipal securities in the future**, but no payment of a fine.
- The Mayor entered into a settlement agreement, which included an order not to violate the federal securities laws in the future, not to participate in an offering of municipal securities and **payment of a \$10,000 fine.**

## What Can Go Wrong? (cont)

- Westlands Water District – The SEC found that the Water District bond official statement contained **misleading debt service coverage ratio information due to failure to disclose (1) extraordinary accounting transactions and (2) a later adjustment to prior year expenses.**
- Westlands Water District – Settlement:
  - SEC’s cease and desist order found violation of Section 17(a)(2) of the Securities Act.
  - District ordered to pay **\$125,000.**
  - General Manager ordered to pay **\$50,000 from personal funds.**
  - Assistant General Manager ordered to pay **\$20,000 from personal funds.**



## Summary of Recommended Actions

- Schedule periodic training
- Review policies and procedures from time to time
- Make sure that responsible officials are familiar with disclosure
- Review the entire POS
- Seek information and ask questions of the officials, employees and professionals who supplied information to be included in the POS
- Ask follow up questions to determine the reasonableness of any assumptions or estimates that were used in the POS

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** CHIEF ABBOTT  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** CSUSM ALTERNATIVE REVENUE OPTIONS-PRESENTATION

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **BACKGROUND:**

In the wake of the failure of Measure 'A,' which would have substantially addressed the District's deferred facility maintenance, the District has been in need of exploring other sources of potential revenue to address these challenges, as 4 out of 5 of the District's fire stations are near or at the end of their useful life. In order to provide an objective and comprehensive set of recommendations, it was felt that obtaining research from an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party would be beneficial. Given the District's experience with research projects conducted by Cal State University San Marcos' Senior Experience program, which proved to be contemporary, thorough, and very cost efficient, the District opted to engage them to perform this research.

### **DISCUSSION:**

This research encompassed canvassing fire service professionals from around the Nation to determine contemporary best practices for alternative sources of revenue. An interview of those professionals identified the most viable options for further consideration by this District. These options were then examined in light of current and potential department operations to determine the potential return on investment (ROI) for each cost recovery option.

The Board will be presented with the various cost recovery options. It is staff's desire to obtain direction from the Board as to which options the District should pursue. From these recommendations staff can more fully develop, with consultant assistance, a financial model that will serve as the foundation for a facilities replacement plan. The Board would then be presented with implementation plans as those options are more fully developed and tailored to the District's circumstances.

## **Alternative Revenue Options**

**July 28, 2020**

**Page 2 of 2**

It is worthwhile to note that these revenue options collectively represent the District's "Plan C," with Measure 'A' being its "Plan B" and its historical conventional means of cost recovery instituted years ago (paramedic ambulance & communications fees) representing "Plan A." This "Plan C" represents the last viable means of revenue generation short of cost-cutting measures that would impact levels of service and/or loss of local control (Plan "D").

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

The fiscal impact of implementing these options will depend upon which are selected. Presently, there is no source of ongoing revenue dedicated to facility maintenance & construction beyond that already allocated in the budget (currently \$140,000), which represents only 14% of the nearly \$1,000,000 needed annually to address the District's facility issues. If all options were implemented (excluding the "floating mill levy"- another special tax subject to Prop 13 & 218), the District could realize an additional \$400,000 in ongoing annual cost-recovery revenue, which would provide funding for an additional 40% of the District's facility needs. These calculations are roughly equivalent to the District's initial estimates.

### **SUMMARY:**

With a calculated deferred facility maintenance need of approximately \$1,000,000 in ongoing revenue, implementing these measures will substantially augment the District's ability to address these concerns.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Are there any options that the Board DOES NOT wish staff to pursue?
2. Are there any modifications that the Board would like to make to any of these specific options?
3. Does the Board wish to prioritize any of these particular options?

# North County Fire Protection District Economic Impact Report



2020



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# **Economic Impact of North County Fire Protection District in 2020**

**California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)**  
**Office of Business Research and Analysis (OBRA)**  
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road  
San Marcos, CA 92096  
[www.csusm.edu/coba](http://www.csusm.edu/coba)

**North County Fire Protection District**  
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(760) 723-2005

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Printed in the United States of America

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## **Executive Summary**

Fire protection districts provide emergency services and uphold the responsibility of protecting surrounding communities. Funding and cost recovery have become key issues for fire districts nationwide, but California fire districts have been especially impacted from tax legislation such as Proposition 13.

The North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD) looks to diversify revenue streams by enhancing the efficiency of 11 current cost recovery methods used. New cost recovery methods proposed within the report are based upon programs and policies currently established by other fire districts. Prospective methods identified include short term rental inspections, residential annual inspection programs, business license inspections, false alarm billing, fire code violation billing, intergovernmental agreements, first responder fees, and floating mill levies. Proposed cost recovery methods are explained in further detail starting on page 26.

Not only does the NCFPD protect the community, it also brings value to the local economy. According to Chief Abbott, annual general revenue for the NCFPD is approximately \$19.5M with 80% of the budget allocated to labor. The total economic output measured from NCFPD operations equates to \$27,146,369. This provides stimulus amongst business to business spending as well as the earnings spent at a household level.

As housing and population numbers are projected to grow into 2024 it is vital the NCFPD secure funding to scale services to meet the needs of the growing population. By doing so the district can ensure the highest quality service possible while securing financial security in the process.

## **About This Report**

This report analyzes the economic impact of activities associated with the North County Fire Protection District. Information within this report was produced by the Office of Business Research and Analysis (OBRA) at California State University San Marcos, which is a joint effort between the College of Business, the Department of Economics, and the University Library.

### **Office of Business Research and Analysis**

Founded in 2018, the Office of Business Research and Analysis (OBRA) is a joint partnership between California State University San Marcos' College of Business Administration (CoBA) and the Department of Economics. OBRA works directly with the local community in creating a suite of research services, including economic impact reports, industry analyses, and business plans.

### **California State University San Marcos**

Building on an innovative 30-year history, California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) is a forward focused institution, dedicated to preparing future leaders, building great communities, and solving critical issues. Located on a 304-acre hillside overlooking the city of San Marcos, the University is just a short distance from some of Southern California's best beaches and an hour from the US-Mexico border. CSUSM enrollment is over 14,000 and growing. The University is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

### **COVID-19 Impacts**

The findings in this report do not reflect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as comprehensive information on economic activity and insights are not yet available.

### **Data**

The data supporting this report was collected from several sources during the first half of 2020. A combination of secondary sources were used to produce information within the report. Each data source has varying effective dates, and every precaution has been taken to ensure relative comparability.

### **Geographic Information System (GIS) Software**

Geographic Information System (GIS) software was used for the graphing data and mapping in this report. Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) builds GIS to analyze geographic information to help maximize opportunities and make strategic decisions based on the data. ESRI

gathers data from sources such as the US Census Bureau to capture accurate information on the local population, economy, housing, and business aspects in the United States. Business Analyst is a function within the GIS framework that applies ESRI data with GIS capabilities to conduct spatial analysis and mapping of an area of interest.

## **IMPLAN®**

To properly measure and quantify the flow of dollars through the San Diego economy, OBRA uses leading economic impact software, called IMPLAN®. IMPLAN® is advanced input-output modeling software with regional data and economic multipliers built in. IMPLAN® extracts and measures data from local sources, rather than extrapolating regional data from national averages, to properly incorporate regional trade-flow assumptions and economic multipliers into customizable models to view economic impacts. All IMPLAN® modeling within this report uses inputs provided by the Office of Business Research and Analysis.

## **InDesign**

InDesign was used to design the layout of the report. This software creates posters, brochures, newspapers, and ebooks through Adobe software. InDesign publishes content in conjunction with Adobe Digital Publishing Suite and exports to multiple platforms. Main users of InDesign include graphic designers and production artists for publications, print media, and posters.

## **Photographs**

The photographs used within this report are action shots taken by North County Fire Protection District personnel of the district's first responders to depict efforts in training and service calls.

## **Acknowledgements**

A special thank you to Chief David Wolf of Estes Fire Protection District, Chief Gigliotti of Apple Valley Fire Protection District, Chief Schwartz of North Tahoe Fire Protection District, and Chief Parsons of the Oceanside Fire Department. The named fire chiefs devoted time to speak with OBRA to provide insights on cost recovery methods and approaches to implementing special procedures.

## **Disclaimer**

Every effort has been made to verify the findings provided in this report to the best of the ability of CSUSM researchers, including a focus on consistency and clarity of the information provided. Any feedback or corrections may be forwarded to [obra@csusm.edu](mailto:obra@csusm.edu).

Further, the information provided in this research document does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information, content, and materials provided are for general

informational purposes only. Readers of this document should contact their attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular legal matter. No reader or user of this document and its content should act or refrain from acting on the basis of the information provided without first seeking legal advice from counsel in the relevant jurisdiction.

# Firefighter Industry

## Funding

### Federal Versus State Funding Sources

Fire districts and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) face increasingly steepening costs for expenses such as training, equipment, and salaries, all which require continual maintenance and funding. First responder services commonly receive funding from the local municipal government's budget. Also, state and federal governments allocate funds on a supplemental basis. State constitutions and laws regulate municipal approaches used to diversify sources of revenue and recover costs at a local level. Local strategies and funding structures are unique to each district to provide the most cost effective methods. Fire departments are a part of EMS and are often stretched within government provided budgets. A needs assessment survey was created by the U.S. Fire Administration to review the necessary improvements for training and resources. Fire departments have limited funding which may prevent additional training for situations such as flooding or hazmat. As a higher service is expected by the community, fire departments and EMS are experiencing "tighter budgets, fewer government subsidies, and fewer donations."<sup>30</sup> Fortunately, there are other funding options available for struggling fire departments.

### Municipal

Municipal funding is dependent on a broad spectrum of revenue sources such as taxes, development impact and user fees, fines, forfeitures, citations, enterprise funds and utility rates, sale of assets and services, benefit assessments, and borrowing. Primary revenues typically rely on property taxes within the respective jurisdiction. Due to this heavy reliance on property taxes, population growth or decline can directly correlate to gains or losses in future revenue. US population growth rates vary depending on the area. Population migration can cause communities to experience a range of growth rates or deficits and can affect the age makeup of the region. This is an important consideration for first responders as it dictates the emergency services and needs for a community.<sup>58</sup>

### State

State level funding reflects legislation unique to each state. Funding is available either based on the physical location of the fire district for direct funding or via grant and loan opportunities available from the federal government. California funds the state-run agency called Cal Fire that primarily protects state-owned wildland property. Cal Fire offers a variety of emergency services such as hazard aid, water rescue, medical aid, disturbance calls, earthquakes, floods or other natural disasters. Cal Fire works alongside local fire departments to aid in emergency services defined through contracts with local governments. According to the Cal Fire website, 62% of all counties in California work with Cal Fire. Additional resources are available through Cal Fire

such as grants for specific initiatives.

### **Federal**

Federal funding for fire districts are available specifically through grants. Grants available for EMS and fire districts include block, project, demonstration, and congressional earmarks.<sup>30</sup> Each grant has different levels of competition and formulas for determining funds allocated. Federal funding can also be found for assistance. With no specified formula or geographic region, assistance is awarded to the fire districts based on the needs and merit of the community.<sup>30</sup> While states are responsible for suppressing wildfires on non-federal land, it is not uncommon for local fire districts to battle fires on federal lands.<sup>34</sup>

### **Challenges of Political Funding**

Another way fire districts experience funding challenges is through the political climate within the federal government. Political opportunities inhibit the ability to prepare for disaster and to stay updated within their stations. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has gone through cutbacks for aid programs, creating challenges for grants which are the largest opportunity for fire districts to receive excess funding. The grants available to fire districts through the federal government are set at a competitive level which disallows other districts from receiving funding. Grants such as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program are awarded through a designated allocation process. In 2011, PDM was cut in half and the federal administration pushed for no funding at all. Some grant funding may only be made available after a major disaster which limits the ability of fire stations to freely access funds. The reduced funding to acts and programs like the Recovery Act, Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, and the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program is caused by allocation of funds to other political campaigns like education or police activity. With minimal prioritization of the aid to fire districts, and little recognition of the need for funding, districts see little political funding support.

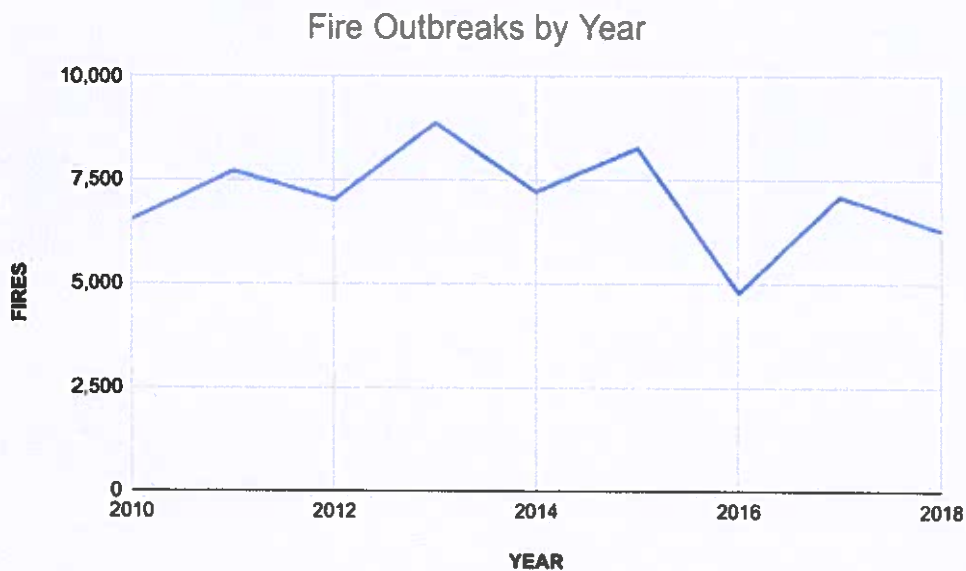
### **Increased Need for Services**

Community needs for emergency services are continually increasing. COVID-19 is the most recent example of a spike in demand for emergency services across the United States. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, emergency personnel have one of the highest rates of illness and injury. Additional demand for services increases exposure for first responders. Because of COVID-19, workers showing any symptoms of the virus are required to stay home resulting in new pressures on paramedics and fire districts. These pressures ultimately produce gaps in the workforce when aid and services are in highest demand in the community and prove difficult to replenish. Fire districts are experiencing an increase in the need for funding to decrease the deficits created by emergency situations such as pandemics and large fire outbreaks.<sup>46</sup>

The number of wildfires across the United States is not declining which emphasizes the need for better preparation. According to Cal Fire, from January 2016, through December 2016, there

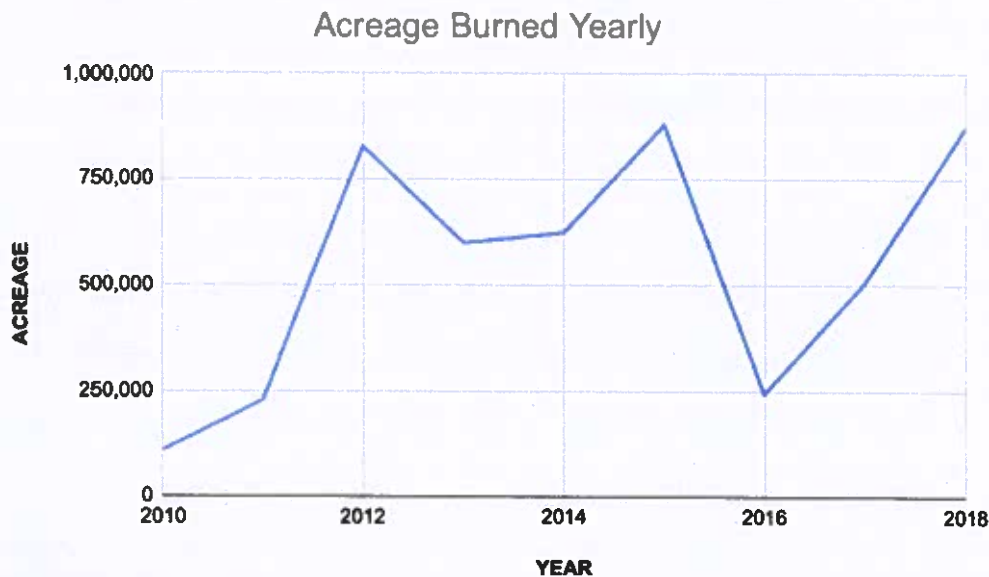
were 4,785 fires in the state of California alone. A year later, from January 2017, through April 2017, there was an increase of 67% with 7,117 fires within the state. Throughout the years, the duration of the fire season gets longer and much more severe, climate change plays a major factor. The risk of wildfires can come from variables that all have direct or indirect ties to climate change such as temperature, soil moisture, and the presence of trees and other potential fuels for fire such as shrubs.<sup>9</sup> The number of fires has doubled in the western United States between 1984 and 2015 as a result of climate change, and California has had the worst fires nationwide. Due to understaffing, more so in California, the demand placed on firefighters in the United States continues to rise. Firefighters not only respond to fires but all emergency call types, causing understaffing issues to expand even in the off season of fires. To compensate for the limited resources, California's firefighters work overtime to meet rising community needs.

**FIGURE 1: CALIFORNIA'S FIRE OUTBREAKS**



(2020, June 28). Wildfire Activity Profile.

**FIGURE 2: CALIFORNIA'S YEARLY BURNED ACREAGE**



Source: CalFire (2020, June 28) Wildfire Activity Profile.

## California

### Common Issues

For California, its geography and topography create an additional challenge in terms of fire safety. The state is balanced between “both developed and relatively rural lands” whose fire districts are available mainly for structure and medical response.<sup>33</sup> In addition, there are areas considered to be wildland that are under the protection of state or federal agencies. Depending on the geographic location, federal, state, or municipal resources, determines who could be called into the current emergency.

To ensure that resources are at a maximum capacity, “the wildland fire protection system is built upon the premise that agencies will respond to incidents beyond their jurisdiction.”<sup>36</sup> The fire system in California tries to pull together all of the available labor, equipment, and funds to continue to provide protection across that state.

California has a well known history with wildfires; each include the factors of “firefighting, vegetation management, and land ownership are known to impact fire in complex ways.”<sup>52</sup> Although these each play a part in fires, it is not proven which is more influential. Along with the terrain and vegetation, water resources are difficult to reproduce. With water resources at low levels, droughts begin to occur and the risk of wildfires increases as there becomes more and more dry brush.



## **Legislation**

One of the most discussed reasons for the underfunding of public services is Proposition 13 (Prop 13). Prop 13 was passed in 1978 to maintain affordability for homeownership throughout California by modifying how increases in property values are assessed and how those property values are taxed. The key provisions of the Proposition that affect fire districts are:

- (a) It decreased available property tax revenue by basing property tax on the property's assessed value in 1976.
- (b) It slowed the rate of future increases in a property's assessed value to no more than 2% per year for any property not sold or having undergone major construction. If there is a change of ownership or the property undergoes construction changes, the property is reassessed. Following that reassessment, the annual maximum increase of the property's value will not exceed 2% per year of the assessed property value going forward.
- (c) The amount of tax assessed on a property can be a maximum amount of 1% per year of the assessed value of the property.
- (d) Prop 13 "includes homes, businesses and farms," which originally had no restriction on property value assessment and tax rate changes.<sup>7</sup>
- (e) A special tax proposed by a municipality requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote majority in local elections for local governments wishing to increase taxes.

Without Proposition 13, property taxes would have continued to rise much more quickly as the assessed values of homes for taxation purposes would have more closely reflected changes in the real market value of properties.

Fire districts use property taxes to fund services performed within the community. Once Prop 13 passed, each district "was proportionally allocated a share of the 1% property tax in the existing district area."<sup>35</sup> Although Prop 13 has been especially beneficial for homeowners such as seniors who live on a fixed income to afford their property taxes while California's housing market values continue to rapidly climb, it has simultaneously caused a reduction in revenue streams for municipal entities such as fire districts. Throughout these funding changes, communities still expect and require the same volume of services without funds for delivery.

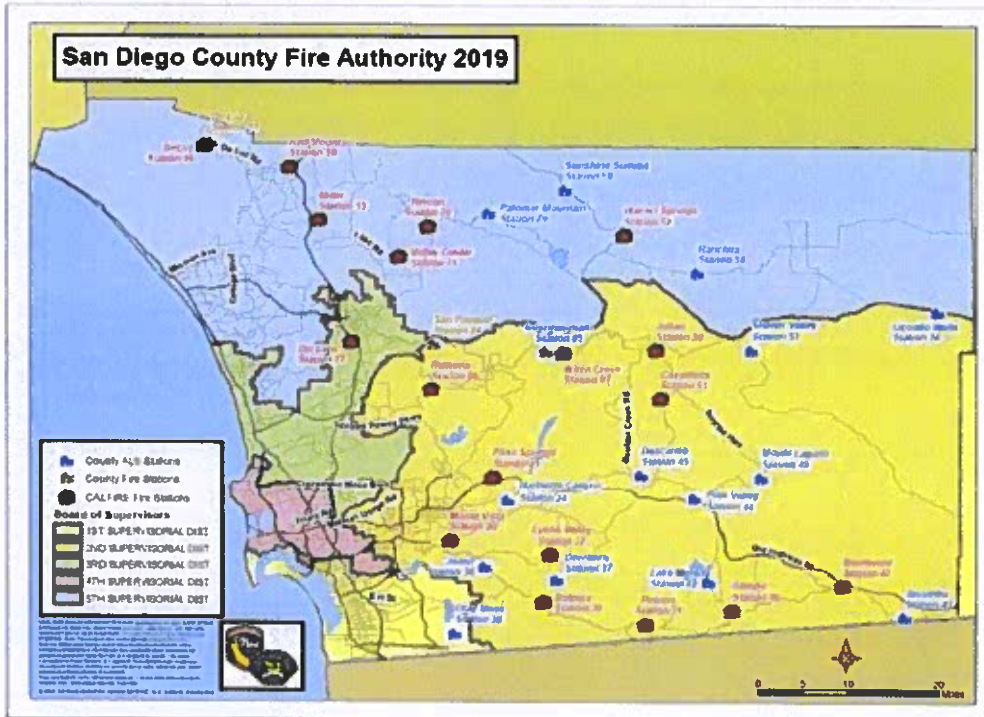
A different "Prop 13", which was called the "School and College Facilities Bond," was put before voters in March of 2020. It asked voters to approve a \$15 billion bond but did not pass. While its proposition number did create confusion in the mind of some voters, it would not have any effect on the Prop 13 that was passed in 1978.

# San Diego County

## Fire Districts Overview

Figure 3, illustrates San Diego’s fire stations that service the 40 communities across the County; 15 of these stations have been constructed within the past four years. Each station uses the same equipment and follows the same requirements to protect all 2.897 million acres of San Diego County<sup>21</sup> To fill the need for fire apparatus, these stations leverage the seven million dollars received from County General Fund, Tobacco Trust Funds, Community Development Block Grant Funds, and Indian Gaming Trust Funds.<sup>46</sup> Each station is a part of the Wildfire Resilience Program which aims to warn the public and plan for upcoming fires along with the help of the Working Group. The Working Group develops detailed risk assessments of physical, social, and economic vulnerabilities in the region, its communities and citizens. The participation in achieving the National Preparedness Goal and improving the National Planning Frameworks is part of the North County Fire Protection District's collective duties. Each station works to keep the County ahead of the next disaster and takes a proactive approach.

**FIGURE 3: SAN DIEGO COUNTY TOTAL FIRE DISTRICTS IN 2019**



Source: San Diego Fire Authority (n.d). Fire Stations

## North County Fire Protection District (NCFPD)

The NCFPD has a rich and long-standing history within the Fallbrook area. Starting as a 'bucket brigade' in 1888, the area utilized volunteers and donations to staff fire protection efforts in the area. Throughout the years, fire protection resources relied on a wide variety of equipment including a man-powered cart, Model A, biplane, and a 4x4 military truck. Officially established in 1953, it was originally named the Fallbrook Local Fire District, but in 1961 was reorganized into the Fallbrook Fire Protection District due to advantageous legislation. With the help of federal matched funds the district expanded throughout the years until it reached the five fire stations that serve the growing populations of Fallbrook, Bonsall, and Rainbow. Serving as a combination fire district, the modern-day NCFPD relies on both compensated staff and volunteer personnel to provide emergency services to the surrounding communities. Operations of the NCFPD include both EMS and fire prevention services although the primary services are medical approximating 80% of the area's emergency calls.<sup>38</sup>

### Mission

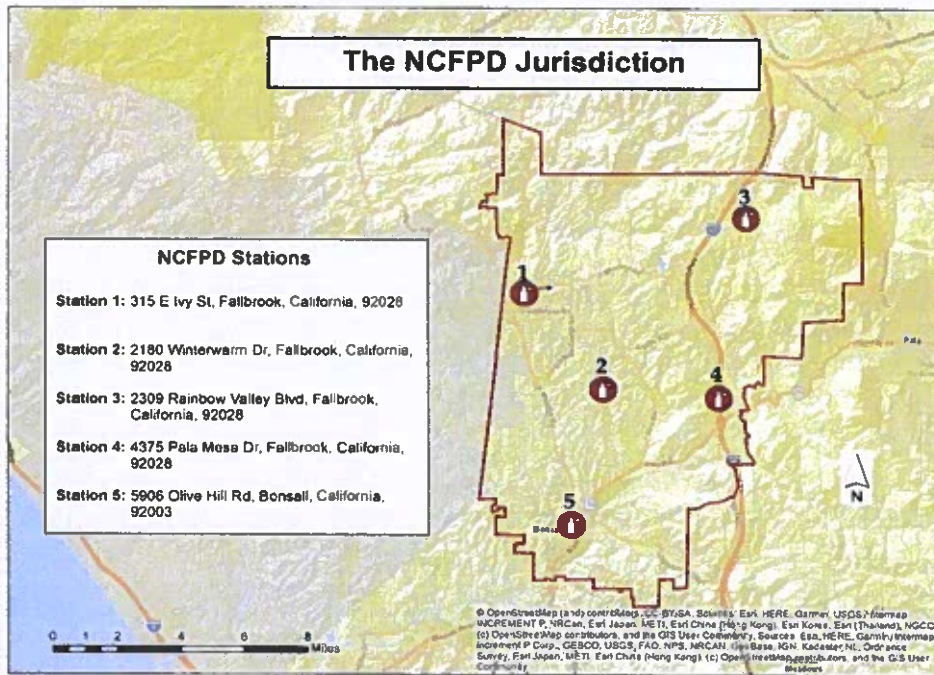
*"The Mission of North County Fire Protection District is to meet our community's expectations through excellence in public safety and service. It is our shared vision to be a trusted and respected public safety leader, committed to ensuring the safest community possible through service, collaboration and innovation. We are dedicated to saving lives and protecting property."*<sup>35</sup>

### NCFPD Area

The NCFPD Jurisdiction spans across 86.65 square miles in North East San Diego County. Figure 4 is a Geographic Information Systems boundary file that defines the outline of the NCFPD jurisdiction. Each red icon represents the district's five fire department locations. These departments are located throughout each of the towns within the district..

The shapefile in Figure 4 was constructed by creating a subset of SANDAG shapefiles using ArcGIS desktop software. This subset shapefile was uploaded onto ArcGIS Online, creating the region for data analysis of this report.

**FIGURE 4: NORTH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT JURISDICTION**



Source: Arc GIS. (2020) [SANDAG Map of NCFPD Jurisdiction With Fire Department Location Flags].

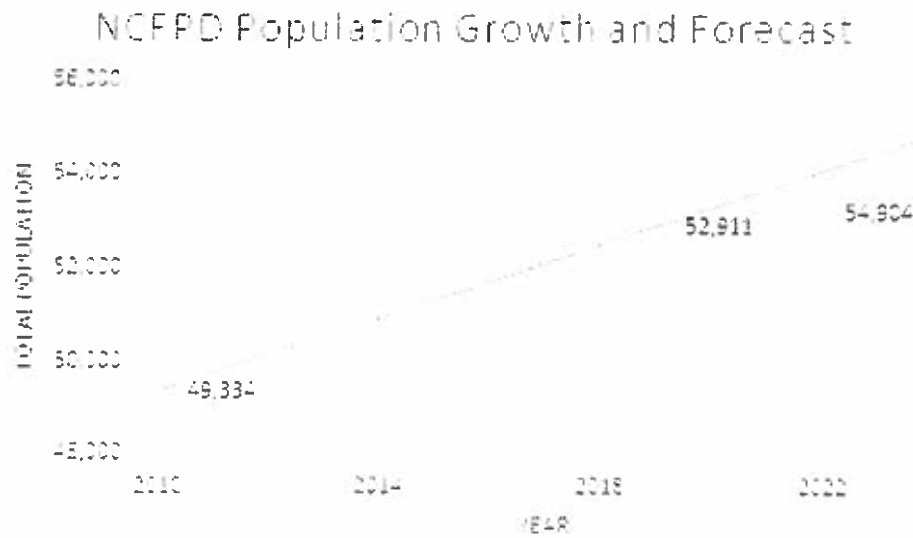
## Size and Growth

The NCFPD report sourced data from GIS which provides U.S. Census information on population, housing trends, and changes from 2010 and 2019, basing calculations for a five-year projection into 2024. The five-year projection estimates are based on current and past trends to provide insight for future statistics and events.

### Population Growth

Figure 5 shows the population within the NCFPD jurisdiction in 2010 totalling 49,334 people, while in 2019 it grew to 52,911 people. The population is projected to grow to 54,904 people by 2024. The line graph in Figure 5 indicates a positive slope for the total population at an estimated annual growth rate of 0.74% between 2019 and 2024. These figures illustrate the NCFPD jurisdiction's population is continually expanding and is expected to do so moving forward.

**FIGURE 5: POPULATION OF NCFPD JURISDICTION**

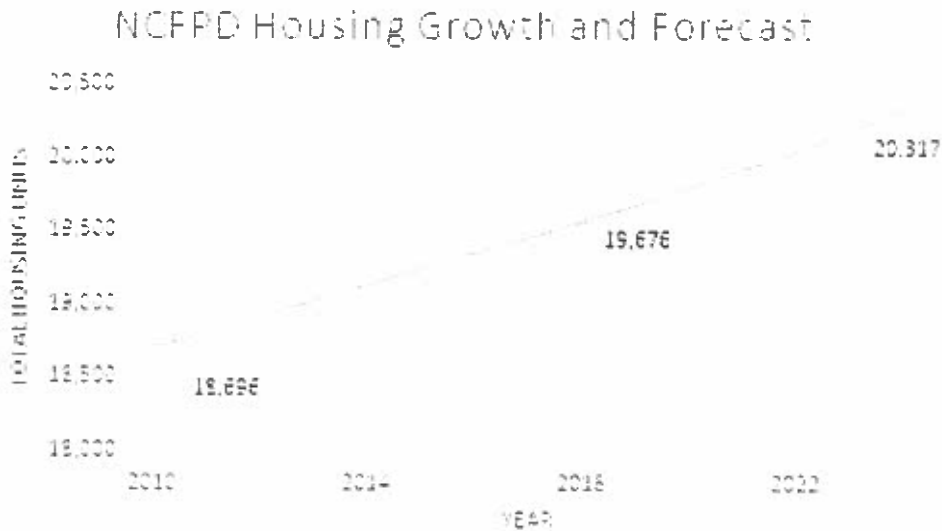


*Source: ESRI. (2020, April 10). Housing Profile.*

**Housing Forecast**

The NCFPD jurisdiction’s growth in housing is increasingly rising each year. Figure 6 depicts total housing units within the NCFPD jurisdiction. In 2010 there were 18,696 housing units, while in 2019 there were 19,676. Estimated projections for 2024 are set to rise to 20,317 total housing units. The positive slope in both Figure 5 and Figure 6 indicate the need for NCFPD services as population and housing rates continue to rise. However, the district will require more funding to provide needed services to the growing population within the community.

**FIGURE 6: HOUSING UNITS OF NCFPD JURISDICTION**



Source: ESRI. (2020, April 10). Housing Profile.

### **Revenue Stability and Growth**

California, specifically in San Diego, is considered to be one of the most populated areas in the United States. According to ESRI, the annual growth rate of the population is 0.74% between 2019 to 2024 for the NCFPD jurisdiction. Not only is the population increasing, but housing values tend to gradually rise in parallel. The district's population growth directly affects the necessary resources required to operate and protect boundaries.

Back in 2010, NCFPD's population of 49,334 is expected to climb to 54,904 by 2024.<sup>25</sup> With more and more families or individuals building their household in the San Diego area, the larger number of taxes that are paid will allow for increased budgets and needed labor resources to maintain sustainability of the district. Another variable reported by ESRI is each household income will increase by 3.04% starting in 2019 and ending in 2024.<sup>26</sup> In only five years, population size, housing units, and household income will all increase for the North County Fire Protection District of San Diego County.

Property taxes for residential and commercial real estate, state funding, federal grants, and municipal budgets will individually contribute to the County's preparation for population growth. A majority of San Diego County's housing units are within an urban region, allowing resources to be allocated evenly in the dense areas and more sporadic in the rural areas.<sup>23</sup> Localized areas in the district can provide input as areas continue to change by the years.

## Economic Impact

To measure the economic impact on San Diego, data indicating industry changes within a spending pattern were used to produce an IMPLAN® model which provides reproducible quantitative results displayed in three impact categories:

**Direct Impacts** result from the immediate expenditures associated with operating expenses and payroll for the five fire departments within the NCFPD.

**Indirect Impacts** result from the business to business transactions throughout the supply chain within the San Diego region. This includes supplier expenditures to manufacture goods and services purchased by the fire departments, as well as hiring the labor required to meet demand. These secondary impacts would not occur if it were not for the demand resulting from original fire department operations.

**Induced Impacts** result from the employees of the fire departments utilizing earnings to purchase goods and services at a household level. This represents initial change through respending that income into the economy.

For the purpose of this report, indirect and induced impacts from the IMPLAN® model were combined into a *multiplier effect*. A *multiplier effect* is a change in which an increase in spending produces an increase in income and consumption greater than the initial amount spent.

The total economic impact is composed of *direct* and *multipliers effects*. *Employment* represents full-time, part-time, and seasonal workers within the organization and supporting economy. *Labor income* refers to employee total compensation. *Value added* measures the economic impact of the NCFPD activities in San Diego County and is equivalent to the industry's contribution to the GDP. The *output* is the total annual value of all production activities generated by the NCFPD in San Diego County. See Figure 7 for the economic impact of the NCFPD.

**FIGURE 7: ECONOMIC IMPACT OF 2020 NCFPD EXPENDITURES**

<b>North County Fire Protection District Economic Impact</b>				
<b>Impact Type</b>	<b>Employment</b>	<b>Labor Income (\$)</b>	<b>Valued Added (\$)</b>	<b>Output (\$)</b>
<b>Direct Effect</b>	90	\$15,600,000	\$17,865,033	\$19,500,000
<b>Multiplier Effect</b>	44	\$2,675,476	\$4,583,696	\$7,646,369
<b>Total Effect</b>	134	\$18,275,476	\$22,448,729	\$27,146,369

Calculations for this report are based on a unique Fire Station Institutional Spending Pattern established by IMPLAN®. The spending pattern shows the percentage of spending allocated to each commodity and labor costs incurred by the fire district. Coefficients within the spending pattern were multiplied by total expenditures to encapsulate the commodity and labor expenditures by the fire department. Direct effects of employment, labor income, and direct output were manually modified to reflect known inputs. Total results were recalculated to reflect modifications.



## **Evaluation of Current Cost Recovery Methods**

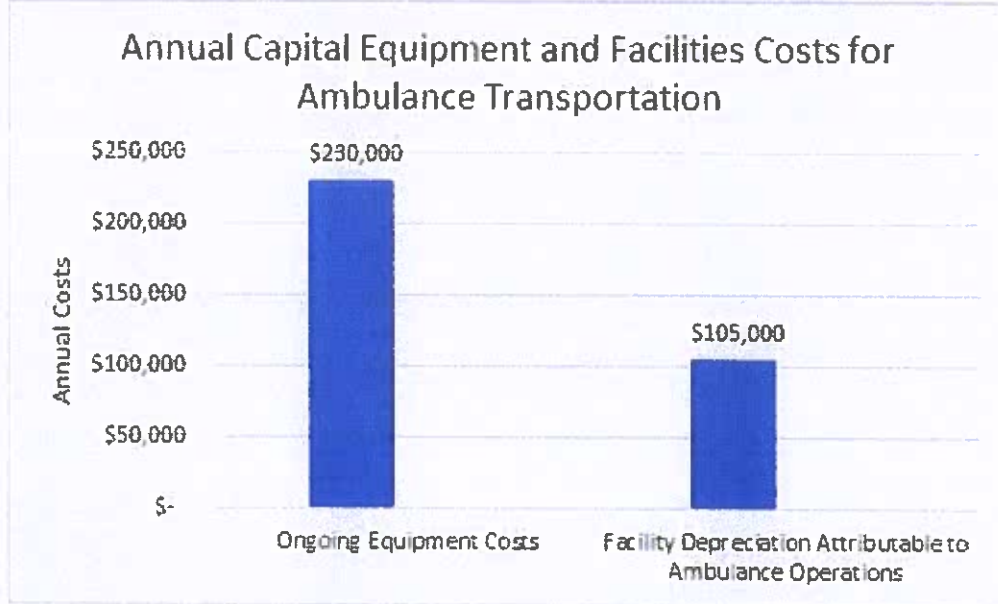
The NCFPD currently utilizes 11 cost recovery methods to independently diversify district revenue streams. A review of each measure is necessary in order to maximize efficiency and increase revenues from the respective stream.

### **Ambulance Transportation Revenue**

The ambulance transportation program is currently operated by NCFPD as a cost recovery method and generates approximately \$2M annually in revenue. The rates charged, however, are below County-wide regional averages. Determining an approach to legally modify rates to fit within the regional average is the most effective approach in generating more cost recovery revenue from this source. The Federal Government for Medicare fees sets the Ambulance Inflation Factor (AIF) each year. The current ambulance inflation rate is 0.9% for 2020 and based on the NCFPD website the current ambulance fee structure was updated in 2018 where the AIF was 1.1%. Depreciation of capital equipment facilities and regional averages are vital in capturing the full potential for the ambulance transportation cost recovery. It is advisable to reconsider the current fee structure and confirm that it aligns with the current AIF rates as well as analyzing the loss of value of equipment and facilities. As shown in Figure 8, NCFPD data reflects \$230,000 per year of ongoing capital equipment costs consisting of debt service for ambulances, radios, gurneys, EKGs & Autopulse devices. Accumulated facility depreciation attributable to ambulance operations indicate costs of \$105,000 per year, comprising a portion of facilities used primarily for ambulance operations.

By taking a look at neighboring fire departments such as San Marcos Fire Department, it appears it is possible to increase ambulance rates to better capture cost recovery. A report conducted by Abaris Group, who was contracted by the County of San Diego, highlighted that in order to increase the rate there must be an increase in expenses and a manual review request must be submitted.<sup>1</sup> Appendix B on page - highlights the 2019 San Diego County Ambulance Rate Survey, provided by Chief S. Abbott via personal communication on July 08, 2020.

**FIGURE 8: COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION**



Source: NCFPD. (2020, July 7).

### **Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Quality Assurance Fee**

The NCFPD takes part in the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation Quality Assurance Fee (GEMTQAF) program. Participation in this program increases Medi-Cal payments to the equivalent of Medicare rates. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) organized the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Quality Assurance Fee as a way to provide Medi-Cal payments to Ground Emergency Medical Transportation providers. The DHCS calculates an annual GEMTQAF rate that is imposed on all emergency transport the GEMTQAF provides. This program helps augment reimbursement to the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation providers by adding a charge to the fee-for-services fee for the emergency medical transport billing codes.<sup>50</sup>

An intergovernmental transfer (IGT) program is an opportunity for local fire agencies to support the Emergency Medical Services Fund because those who participate can recover a greater amount of their transport fees. Currently, the IGT program transfers money from a city to the DHCS. The DHCS then uses these funds from local governments to increase rates paid to Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Providers in the fiscal year prior. This in turn helps the DHCS receive federal funding from Medicare and Medicaid services so that Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Providers receive those payments and pay it to the local governments who had initially transferred the funds. This results in the funding provided being reimbursed to local fire agencies. For example, the San Rafael Fire Department participates in the IGT program and has made approximately \$265,738 in net revenue for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.<sup>49</sup> Those who do not participate in the IGT program receive less than 10% of the cost of the emergency transport services reimbursed. Therefore, it would be beneficial for the NCFPD to participate in the IGT program so the city can collect emergency transport fees and receive a larger reimbursement.

The GEMT program has the opportunity to bring in more revenue by utilizing and exploring funds known as Headroom. Headroom is a funds account that has not been spent in the previous year and available to be claimed in the present year. These funds will continue to remain until they have been claimed. In many cases, cities have high Medi-Cal percentages and are low on commercial insurance percentages, however, the city of Fullerton has an average Medi-Cal percentage and has similar rates of commercial percentages. This will have a positive effect on the overall reimbursement for the city of Fullerton.<sup>16</sup>

### **First Responder Fees**

First responders fees are a cost recovery method that the NCFPD does not actively implement but neighboring cities, such as the city of Vista does. This program helps recover expenses provided by fire departments related to first-response emergency medical services. A First Responder User Fee is allowed due to the California Health and Safety code section 13916. This safety code was created to allow paramedic services to recover costs. As of May 9, 2017, the rate in the city of Vista for a First Responder per call is \$154.86.<sup>32</sup> According to the City of Vista's Website, "most medical insurances cover the First Responder User Fee and the Ambulance Fee to transfer a patient to the hospital." The First Responder User Fee is charged to anyone who receives services, on the occasion that no services are provided no fee will be assessed.

### **Tower Lease Agreement**

The NCFPD owns a radio tower and leases it to cellular providers who utilize cellular antennas. One way to improve revenue streams from the radio tower is to modify leasing agreements. Some suggestions for the NCFPD can include adding antennas and radios so that they can be leased at a higher rate. Rent base should be calculated on the number of antennas a tower has and if it is in an urban or rural area. For example, an annual base fee on July 1, 2020, in an urban area with a facility for nine or more antennas is estimated at \$41,436 per year.<sup>51</sup> Another way to enhance the radio towers can be to add devices to handle LTE traffic due to heavier data traffic in certain areas. Renegotiating contracts for a reasonable time period is also a modification that can be implemented. It is important to be cautious when charging the maximum price because leases include a termination clause that let's cellular providers quit at any time. If the cell provider decides to quit, the leaser is still adhered to the contract. In the case of a client wanting to terminate their lease, they can be charged a termination fee paid to the NCFPD.<sup>10</sup>

## **Incident Cost Recovery**

The Vehicle Accident Cost Recovery Program charges insurance companies for services performed on vehicle accidents. An additional service fee can also correspondingly charge insurance companies for a response to hazardous materials incidents. Additional service fees are not currently collected. With revenue declines, the NCFPD has resorted to charging for accident responses as a method of incident cost recovery, otherwise known as “crash taxing.” Typically a crash tax is applied to persons who have been under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs or when hazardous materials have negligently been exposed to the point the problem requires an emergency response. NCFPD is the only fire district in San Diego County to impose complete accident response fees including vehicular accidents. Bills are fulfilled by the insurance companies of those in the accident. In 2010, the estimated revenue received from the crash tax was over \$140,000. There are five core levels of fees as shown below in Figure 8.

**FIGURE 9: SAN DIEGO COUNTY ACCIDENT RESPONSE FEES**

<b>San Diego County Accident Response Fees</b>			
<b>Charge</b>	<b>North County Fire Protection District</b>	<b>San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District</b>	<b>National City</b>
Charges Assigned to Responsible Parties	All at-fault parties	All at-fault parties	Only nonresidents for motor vehicle incidents and vehicle incidents and vehicle fires-all for hazardous material cleanup
Motor Vehicle Incidents	L1: \$345 (basic); L2: \$495; L3-Car Fire: \$605; L4: \$1,800; L5: \$2,100		(per hour) L1: \$435 (basic); L2: \$495; L3-Car Fire: \$605; L4: \$1,800; L5: \$2,200; L6:itemized
Motor Vehicle Incidents - Other Charge	\$0	\$0	\$0
Hazardous Material Cleanup	L1: \$700 (basic); L2: \$2,500; L3: \$5,900 (plus disposal fees)	\$416 initial cost; extra \$258 if duty chief comes out.	(per hour) L1: \$700 (basic); L2: \$2,500; L3: \$5,900
Hazardous Material Cleanup - Other Charges	\$300 for each additional hour of a HAZMAT team	\$300/hour + cost of damaged equipment \$200/hour if the duty chief remains there.	\$300 for each additional hour of a HAZMAT team.
Vehicle Fire	\$605	\$389 initial cost, extra \$258 if duty chief comes out.	\$605
Vehicle Fire - Other Charges	\$0	\$300/hour + cost of damaged equipment \$200/hour if duty chief remains there.	\$0

Source: San Diego County Taxpayers Association. (2011, April). Proposal on Restriction of Accident Response Fees.

## **Fire Prevention Related Permits**

Fire prevention-related services allow for charging of fire prevention related permits for public events that call for a fire department on standby. Currently, the NCFPD only charges for permits at specific public events but is allowed to issue permits for a mixture of other operations.

Charging for all fire prevention-related services should be considered as it will help the NCFPD cover extra costs and will increase the safety of citizens in the community. The fire code allows fire departments to charge fees to cover costs for their permitting services. For instance, the city of Sonoma, CA has hourly based fees and a minimum established hourly number for their different types of fire prevention permits. The city of Sonoma charges \$204 per hour for residential construction fees, \$204 per hour for commercial construction fees, and an hourly rate of \$171 for operational permits and inspection fees.<sup>25</sup>

Charging events depending on occupant load can help current cost recovery efforts instead of only charging events exceeding over a certain size.

Late payment penalties can be implemented if permits are not paid on time. The city of Riverside, CA, for instance, executes a 20% base fee when a fire prevention related permit payment is 30 days past due and a 100% base fee when payment is past due 60 days.<sup>17</sup> Additional late fees for extended non-payment can also be considered.

## **Standby Fees**

Standby fees are charged on particular public events that require the presence of a fire department, currently, the NCFPD does not charge for these services. Charging to have an ambulance on standby for a contracted event should be considered since it's vital for events to have first responder presence in case of an emergency and can also lead to increased revenue streams. These events can range from parades, fairs, concerts and graduations. For example, Sonoma Valley Fire rescue has a three-hour minimum for contracted events and charges \$116 per hour for basic life support.<sup>53</sup> The revenue received from these contracts could result in having enough funds to purchase extra vehicles to support demand.

## **Weed Abatement**

The weed abatement program helps NCFPD recover costs associated with physically abating weeds and charging for repeated inspections. Services can be charged even if the fire district does not coercively abate the property. San Diego County land is covered by over 300,000 acres of brush which raises the issue of brush fire. To reduce risk of fire, weed abatement is an essential program enlisted by fire departments. Specifically in the Spring, the Fire Marshal determines which properties have overgrown weeds and supplies notices to property owners. Property owners are fully responsible for contractor fees and maintaining fire safety standards for the protection of neighbors and properties near-by. North County's fire ordinance can fine

property owners who do not follow the provisions up to \$500. Weed abatement is a simple cost recovery method that acts as a fire preventative measure and can help mitigate the threat of fire season and maximize community preparedness.<sup>37</sup>

### **State Mandated Inspections**

The NCFPD recently authorized cost recovery through state-mandated inspections for multifamily inspections. California state law requires local jurisdictions to ensure both utility and structural construction are safe and accessible to the public in new buildings. The Department of Building Safety is the authority in overseeing and maintaining new construction oversight. Residential inspections are not required by the Building Standards Commission but are enforced by the Department of Community Development and Housing. Jurisdictions adopt and amend the California building code dependent upon established requirements. Other local ordinances can enforce inspections such as public infrastructure, land use conditions, and life safety systems.<sup>8</sup> Such inspections prove a key component of fire prevention measures.

### **Citation Program**

The citation program is authorized by the fire code to issue citations for infractions, such as parking in a red zone, but the NCFPD has decided not to partake. The current fee structure for parking violations in the city of San Diego is \$47.50 for parking within 15ft of a fire hydrant, \$62.50 for red curb violation, and \$342.50 for disabled parking spot violation. One way of implementing the citation program gradually to the community is by starting to issue warning citations for parking in fire lanes or handicap spots without a permit. The city website should announce that citations can be issued by the fire department to help spread news about the citation program.

### **Mello Roos Fees**

The NCFPD conducted a district-wide election to create a Mello Roos fee for facilities. The measure to make this happen was unsuccessful because of the  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote needed for it to pass. Mello Roos are bonds that are received after the filing of a yearly fiscal status report with the Commission. In return, the bonds are issued which include limited tax obligation bonds, special tax bonds, certificates of participation, and bond anticipation notes. Any recipient of these bonds is responsible to comply with Section 53359.5 of the government code.<sup>56</sup> In past years, businesses were allocated a large sum of bond reserves ranging from \$1.5 million to \$9,480,000.00.<sup>11</sup>

# **Proposed Future Cost Recovery Methods and Return On Investments For Future Funding**

Proposed cost recovery methods reflect alternative recovery methods currently utilized by fire districts throughout California and Colorado. Alternative cost recovery methods proposed for the NCFPD jurisdiction underwent considerations such as state law, county law, and geographic makeup when proposing the application of each method.

Approximate return on investments (ROI) for proposed cost recovery methods are calculated using a basic formula. To identify the ratio between total increased revenue and cost of investment, the estimated net revenue is divided by the total cost of investment and then multiplied by one hundred. The answer is expressed as a percentage and can help guide future investments for the NCFPD.

Assumptions established and used to calculate each cost recovery ROI are documented in detail within Appendix A on page 38.

## **Inspection and Review Options**

### **Short Term Rental Fire Inspections**

Fire districts that implement short term rental inspections work with the city to design short term rental permit ordinances. Such ordinances require property inspections that follow life safety inspection items and work with code ordinances to review building codes. This inspection program only applies to a townhome, condo, or other residence where there is a short-term rental license and the property owner does not live on the premises.

A short term rental refers to any legally permitted residence unit for residence or sleeping purposes for a period up to no more than 30 consecutive days. This does not include hotels, motels, or timeshares.

The city of Oceanside partakes in this program and started enforcing the Short-Term Rentals Ordinance on November 1, 2019. They currently charge a permit fee of \$250 that must be renewed annually. The application for a short-term rental permit is also joined by a non-refundable application fee established by the city council. An initial property inspection fee is also charged at \$119.

The city of North Tahoe and Meeks Bay currently conduct a short term rental program. The purpose of this is to make sure smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and fire extinguishers are installed in all short term rental/vacation home rental units. Requirements in the city of North Tahoe and Meeks Bay include a smoke alarm in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping room,



and on every story of the building. Carbon monoxide alarms should be included outside each sleeping room, on every story of the building, and in sleeping rooms with a fuel-burning appliance. Fire extinguishers should be located on every story of every building and within 75-foot reach. If these guidelines are not met, a \$140 re-inspection fee is charged.<sup>40</sup>

**FIGURE 10: ANNUAL SHORT TERM RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Short Term Rental Fire Inspection</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$51,225
<b>Total Estimated Annual Cost</b>	(\$19,127.72)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$32,097.28
<b>ROI (%)</b>	168%

**Residential Apartment Annual Inspection Program**

Mandatory fees and inspections based upon the size of multifamily residents are required annually. Oceanside and Chula Vista conduct such programs but structure the costs per inspection differently. Figure 11 shows how the city of Oceanside not only structures the inspection costs on units but also on the hourly rate incurred. Figure 12 illustrates the fee schedule in Chula Vista that is a flat fee-based structure dependent upon the range of units. Comparing the two cities and the two different fee structures, the NCFPD may consider two approaches for costs. It is advisable to determine the costs it will take to perform these inspections and charge accordingly.

**FIGURE 11: CITY OF OCEANSIDE FEE PER HOUR INSPECTION SCHEDULE**

<b>City of Oceanside Fee Schedule</b>	
<b>Units</b>	<b>Costs/ per Hour</b>
3-10 units	\$119/ per 1 hour
11-30 units	\$179/ per 1.5 hours
31- 50 units	\$238/ 2 hours
50+ units	Additional \$10 for every 10 units/ hour

Source: Oceanside Fire Department. (n.d). Residential Occupancy Inspection Program.

**FIGURE 12: CHULA VISTA FLAT FEE INSPECTION SCHEDULE**

<b>City of Chula Vista Fee Schedule</b>	
<b>Units</b>	<b>Flat Fee</b>
3-25 units	\$280
26-50 units	\$320
51-100 units	\$400
Additional groups of 100 units	Additional \$80 per group

Source: City of Chula Vista (2019, June 1). New Apartment/ Condominium Fire Inspection Program

**FIGURE 13: HOURLY ANNUAL INSPECTIONS RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Hourly Residential Apartment Annual Inspections</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$33,816
<b>Total Estimated Annual Cost</b>	(\$19,250.40)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$14,565.60
<b>ROI (%)</b>	76%

**FIGURE 14: FLAT RATE ANNUAL INSPECTIONS RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Flat Rate Residential Apartment Annual Inspections</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$60,731
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$19,250.40)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$41,480.60
<b>ROI (%)</b>	215%

**Business License Inspections**

The NCFPD cannot require a business license, but various hazardous fire-related processes require an inspection and permit. A hazardous material business licensing permit is required for businesses including industrial, residential, educational, licensed health care facilities, City Bus Yards, City Yards, and high-rise buildings or other facilities that use, handle, store, or dispose of hazardous materials. It helps these businesses and organizations ensure that all codes are followed like the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) and items are properly disposed of for the safety of the community. According to the California Health & Safety Code, Division 20,

Chapter 6.5, hazardous waste is a waste or combination of wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, can cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible illness; or can pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.<sup>32</sup>

**FIGURE 15: ANNUAL BUSINESS INSPECTIONS RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Business License Inspections</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$103,525
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$99,846.19)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$3,678.81
<b>ROI (%)</b>	4%

## Alternative Options

### False Alarm Billing

False alarm billing refers to charging a fee for first responder services when a call is answered but services are not required for the situation. Currently, the Oceanside Fire Department has a false alarm program created to keep commercial alarm systems maintained and to make sure any malfunctioning alarms are repaired. If the Fire Department is dispatched for the first false alarm within 365 days there is no fee, if there is a second false alarm within 365 days the fee will be \$100. The third false alarm will have a fee of \$200 and the fourth false alarm will have a fee of \$500. If there is a fifth false alarm the fee will be \$1,000 and any false alarm after that would be charged \$1,000. Figure 16 illustrates the fee schedule for the city of Oceanside. The Vista Fire Department charges a fee of \$51 as a one-time alarm permit fee for the first false alarm and doesn't charge a fee for the second occurrence. For the third false alarm, the fee would be \$100 and \$200 for the fourth. For the fifth occurrence and any after the total charge would be \$500.

**FIGURE 16: CITY OF OCEANSIDE FALSE ALARM BILLING**

<b>City of Oceanside False Alarm Billing Schedule (within 365 days)</b>	
<b>First False Alarm</b>	<b>No Fee</b>
Second False Alarm	\$100
Third False Alarm	\$200
Fourth False Alarm	\$500

Fifth False Alarm	\$1000
Any Occurrence After	\$1000

Source. City of Oceanside. (2014). Consolidated Fee Schedule.

**FIGURE 17: ANNUAL FALSE ALARM BILLING RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>False Alarm Billing</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$14,630
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$5,502.64)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$9,127.36
<b>ROI (%)</b>	166%

**Fire Code Violations Billing**

Fire code violation inspections rely on California Fire Code and municipal ordinances to enforce safety regulations. Application to commercial structures may provide the most effective as a cost recovery method for the NCFPD. The city of Riverside enacted commercial fire code inspections and billing in 2010 as a cost recovery method for the fire district. Various factors affect fee amounts and frequency of inspections including business occupancy, industry type, life safety standards, and complexity of the inspection. Common code violations include annually serviced fire extinguishers, improper use of extension cords, unsecured gas cylinders, etc. Initial reinspections are free of charge but successive re-inspection visit charges start at \$100 per visit.<sup>26</sup> Figure 18 illustrates the city of Riverside’s fee schedule and occupancy types relevant to the NCFPD jurisdiction. The far-right column converts Riverside’s inspection fees to the higher cost of living of the NCFPD jurisdiction. The percentage difference between each region reflects the cost of living equating to 1.47% in favor of the NCFPD jurisdiction.

**FIGURE 18: CITY OF RIVERSIDE FIRE CODE INSPECTION TYPES**

<b>Fire Code Billing Fee Schedule</b>		
<b>Occupancy Type</b>	<b>Riverside Fee</b>	<b>Adjusted NCFPD Fee</b>
Theatre and Concert Halls	\$190	\$279
Banquet Halls	\$90	\$132
Arcades, Churches, Bowling Alley's	\$90	\$132
Office/ Restaurant	0-299 Sq Ft. \$54 300-9,999 Sq Ft \$90 10,000 Sq Ft + \$161	0-299 Sq Ft. \$79 300-9,999 Sq Ft \$132 10,000 Sq Ft + \$236
Educational	1-100 Students \$106 101-500 Students \$190 501-1500 Students \$359	1-100 Students \$156 101-500 Students \$279 501-1500 Students \$527
Hotels	3-4 Rooms \$54 5-10 Rooms \$72 11-20 Rooms \$90 21-30 Rooms \$125 31- 50 Rooms \$161	3-4 Rooms \$79 5-10 Rooms \$106 11-20 Rooms \$132 21-30 Rooms \$183 31- 50 Rooms \$236
Factory Manufacturing	\$161	\$236
Institutional Jails	\$274	\$402
Retail	0-9,999 Sq Ft. \$90	\$132
Storage Facilities	\$161	\$236
Garages, Misc. Buildings	0-299 Sq Ft. \$54 300-10,000 SqFt. \$90 10,001 Sq Ft. + \$125	0-299 Sq Ft. \$79 300-10,000 SqFt. \$132 10,001 Sq Ft. + \$183

Source: City of Riverside Fire Department. (n.d.). Fire Safety Inspection Program and Fee Schedule.

**FIGURE 19: ANNUAL FIRE CODE BILLING RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Fire Code Violations Billing</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$103,746
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$91,507.88)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$12,238.12
<b>ROI (%)</b>	13%

**Intergovernmental Agreements**

Intergovernmental agreements (IGA) are when two or more governmental or quasi-governmental entities cooperate to solve mutual problems. Intergovernmental agreements are also used by governments and can include cooperative planning, resource sharing, joint planning, commissions, and more. Intergovernmental agreements are common legal agreements with their local jurisdiction to share fire, police, and fleet maintenance or to make use of bulk purchases for common resources. This can lead to price reductions if purchasing supplies in bulk. This may not work if purchasing uses federal funds.

The use of several intergovernmental agreements by local governments is also used to improve fire protection and emergency medical services. IGAs can range from simple agreements to more complex agreements that demand high levels of administrative and/or operational coordination. It is important for fire departments to partake in these agreements so that they are able to have access to additional and/or specialized resources to manage critical events. IGAs also result in building reliable and stable relationships with other fire departments and emergency medical services organizations.<sup>12</sup>

Intergovernmental agreements involve a multitude of factors and a wide variety of variables. Because of this, accurate calculations of ROI for this recovery method are difficult to assess. These agreements depend on what other municipalities' agreements decide to merge with. With this, there is a percentage breakdown based upon determinants such as population size, equalized value, and usage.

For example, the North Shore Fire Department takes part in an intergovernmental agreement and is consolidated with seven other cities near their community in the state of Wisconsin. North Shore Fire is connected with the City of Glendale, the Villages of Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, River Hills, Shorewood, and Whitefish Bay. Percentage breakdowns for these municipalities are divided so that allocation and revenue can be provided fairly. Figure 20 identifies the cost breakdown that is dependent on each city's percentage based on population size and/or usage along with budgeted revenue and the budgeted expenditure summary.<sup>39</sup>

**FIGURE 20: 2018 BUDGET SUMMARY OVERVIEW**

<b>Amendment 8 Percentage Breakdown</b>	
Village of Bayside	6.27%
Village of Brown Deer	18.12%
Village of Fox Point	9.59%
City of Glendale	28.09%
Village of River Hills	3.10%
Village of Shorewood	17.50%
Village of Whitefish Bay	17.33%
<b>2018 Budgeted Revenue Summary</b>	
2018 Operating Budget Community Allocation	\$12,302,449
Public charges (fees for service)	\$2,260,000
2% Dues/State Grants/Miscellaneous	\$400,000
2018 Capital Services Community Allocation Funding	\$157,563
2018 Debt Service Community Allocation Funding	\$533,174
<b>Total 2018 Budgeted Revenues</b>	<b>\$15,653,186</b>
<b>2018 Budgeted Expenditure Summary</b>	
Personnel Services	\$12,706,730
Other Expenses	\$2,255,720
Capital Fund/Outlay	\$157,563
Debt Service Fund/Outlay	\$533,174
<b>Total 2018 Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>\$15,653,187</b>

Source: North Shore Fire/Rescue. (2018). 2018 North Shore Fire/Rescue Budget.

**First Responder Fees**

A First Responder Fee is authorized under Section 13916 of the California Health and Safety Code. The First Responder Fee allows fire departments to recover non-transport costs when providing services to a patient on site. Currently the city of Vista has an active First Responder

Fee that charges \$154 per call, this rate was developed by using the standard rate formula provided by the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and adding the current per call dispatch fee charged by the North County Dispatch Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The Cal EOS rate is dependent on the jurisdiction's cost which consists of pay rates, benefits, etc and by equipment type. The Cal EOS rate is calculated on an hourly rate and is reviewed annually. The city of Vista First Responder Fee will be assessed if an individual is treated on scene, if the patient denies care no fee will be accessed. If the patient is treated and transported to the hospital there will be two fees accessed, it will be the First Responder Fee and the Ambulance Transport Fee. The city of Vista estimates that the First Responder Fee will increase revenue by \$90,000 per year.<sup>32</sup>

**FIGURE 21: ANNUAL FIRST RESPONDER FEES RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>First Responder Fees</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$743,600
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$437,072)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$306,528
<b>ROI (%)</b>	70%

## **Tax Options**

### **Floating Mill Levy**

A mill levy is a form of property tax applied to the property based on its assessed value. Mill levies are calculated by first establishing the revenue a jurisdiction needs to fund services for the upcoming year. To calculate a mill levy, the total needed revenue is divided by the total value of property within the area. This rate of taxation is expressed in "mills" and is common for jurisdictions to use an assessment ratio to express the percentage formula.

An example of a floating mill levy is as follows, if the jurisdiction area has \$100 million in property value and the NCFPD needs \$1.5 million, the needed funding amount is divided by the area property value (\$1.5 million/\$100 million). This equates to .015 or "15 mills," If passed, this assessment ratio can be levied on all applicable real estate within the jurisdiction. This revenue option can be explored through the city tax authorities of Fallbrook, Bonsall, and Rainbow.

Apple Valley in San Bernardino County passed a special tax called Measure V in 1997 that increased district revenues for emergency services by approximately \$2.4M annually. This special tax rate was levied on all applicable real estate property within the district, imposed every year on July 1<sup>st</sup>. In 2017 Measure A acted to extend Measure V and continue funding emergency services. Election financing for the Measure A campaign totaled more than \$32,000 in campaign



expenses.<sup>5</sup> Successfully passing a special tax such as Apple Valley will require capital intensive efforts and a 2/3 majority vote. The verbiage used by Apple Valley on the ballot is as follows,

*“To reduce emergency/medical response times; reopen two closed neighborhood fire stations; and increase firefighter/paramedic staffing levels, improving response time to multiple emergencies at the same time; shall Apple Valley Fire Protection District's voter-approved fire protection/emergency response tax be continued at the rates set forth in the ordinance, providing \$4,800,000 annually, until ended by voters, requiring citizen's oversight, independent audits, no money for the State, all funds controlled locally?”<sup>2</sup>*

Estes Valley Fire Protection District in Colorado has successfully implemented a floating mill levy in the fire jurisdiction of Estes Park.<sup>28</sup> Recently the fire district considered lobbying to propose a new initiative to increase the established floating mill levy. The below quote is the suggested verbiage to place on the ballot in order to increase preexisting special tax.

*“Shall \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Protection District Taxes be increased \$0 in 2019, and shall the District's entire operating mill levy rate of X.XXX mills be subject to adjustment beginning in collection year 2020 and annually thereafter to offset revenue losses from refunds, abatement, and changes to the percentage of actual valuation used to determine assessed valuation?”<sup>28</sup>*

**FIGURE 22: YEAR 1 FLOATING MILL LEVY RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Year 1 Floating Mill Levy</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$997,361
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$254,000)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$743,361
<b>ROI (%)</b>	293%

**FIGURE 23: YEAR 2 FLOATING MILL LEVY RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

<b>Year 2 Floating Mill Levy</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$1,007,334
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$13,095.34)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$994,238.66
<b>ROI (%)</b>	7,592.30%

## **Nontraditional Methods**

### **Enterprise Funds and Utility Rates**

Some examples that benefit fire departments and EMS services are enterprise funds and utility rates. This is where city-provided services can set up “general funds to help pay for operating costs for general governmental services with police, fire, EMS and parks and recreation.”<sup>27</sup>

Training private companies and individuals for a fee can become a good cash flow. This also allows for a safer community as training for CPR and first-aid certifications are cheaper to perform.

### **Fundraising Options**

Non traditional fundraising ideas are areas to consider for cost recovery options. Such cost-recovery method options include raffles, 5k running events, and barbecue fundraisers, are all events that fire districts host within communities to solicit needed support on a continued basis.

## **A Philanthropic View of First Responders**

The NCFPD protects a district of over 55,000 residents by preserving life, promoting public safety, and educating the public on available services. The district has experienced cutbacks while continuing to protect their community. Funding is a big problem and continues to limit the necessary services that the NCFPD provides. With the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the County, NCFPD continues to protect the district by attending calls and providing first responder services all while putting the safety of the community first. This dedication comes at a price, such as sacrificing time, typically dedicated to the summer fire prevention preparation. With limited funding, it is difficult for the fire district to cover all aspects of services, including fire prevention and training. Unfortunately, recognition for NCFPD's preventative efforts is not given until there is a dire emergency that faces the community.

# Appendices

## Appendix A: ROI Assumptions

Proposed cost recovery methods represent pre-existing methods in various regions throughout the United States. A cost of living adjustment was created and applied to each pre-existing method's fee schedule to best adjust pricing to reflect the NCFPD jurisdiction's price range. Cost of living adjustments are calculated using the average of median value home prices in Fallbrook, Rainbow, and Bonsall and then compared to the median value home price within the jurisdiction where the pre-existing fee schedule originates. By finding the percentage difference between each region's median Zillow home valuation, the difference is applied to each respective fee schedule to best reflect the NCFPD's regional cost of living. Average labor costs for both firefighters and administrative workers were provided by Chief S. Abbott (personal communication, July 08, 2020).

### Short Term Rental Fire Inspections

As of May 21, 2020, the total Airbnb applicable units on the market within the NCFPD jurisdiction total 123 units. This number only involves units that are empty and do not include rooms that are rented inside a person's home. A cost of living adjustment was used to adjust Oceanside's short term rental program to the price adequate for the NCFPD jurisdiction. Figure 24 shows the flat rate inspection fee adjusted for the NCFPD jurisdiction to be \$275.

**FIGURE 24: REGIONAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

Average Property Value for 2020	
NCFPD Jurisdiction	Oceanside Jurisdiction
\$627,302	\$568,585
<b>Flat Rate Fee:</b> $\$627,302 / \$568,585 = 110\% \times \$250 = \$275$ <b>Reinspection Fees:</b> $1.1 \times \$119 = \$131$	

### Revenue Assumptions

To find total estimated revenue during the first year, the total number of Airbnb units are multiplied by the flat rate inspection fee and is also multiplied by the initial inspection fee of \$119. Both numbers are added to find the sum of total revenue.

**FIGURE 25: REVENUE CALCULATIONS**

<b>Revenue Assumptions</b>
<b>Units x Flat Rate:</b> 123 units x \$275 = \$33,825 <b>Units x Initial Property Inspection Fee:</b> 123 units x \$131 = \$16,113
<b>Reinspection Costs:</b> 13 units x \$99 = \$1,287
<b>Total Annual Revenue:</b> \$33,825 + \$16,113 + \$1,287 = \$51,225

Establishing a short term rental inspection program such as North Tahoe and Meeks Bay may include establishing requirements such as smoke alarms and fire extinguishers to be installed in rental units.<sup>41</sup> A margin for error of rentals that do not meet the first inspection requirements is worth calculating into potential revenue estimates. An estimated percentage of the available AirBnb's that may not meet the inspection requirements the first time can be charged with additional fees. A conservative approximation of units not meeting these requirements is an estimate of 10%.

The cost of living adjustment between North Tahoe and the NCFPD jurisdiction is 71% (\$627,302 / \$883,479).<sup>54</sup> This percentage is multiplied by North Tahoe's re-inspection fee of \$140,<sup>40</sup> the adjusted re-inspection fee totals \$99. The estimate of 10% of total units needing reinspections equates to 13 units. Units not meeting these requirements can boost revenue to an estimated amount of \$1,287 when the \$99 one-time re-inspection fee is charged.

Adding the total estimated flat fee revenue with the initial property inspection fee and the revenue made from re-inspection fees totals \$51,225 of estimated revenue for the NCFPD jurisdiction for the first year.

Cost Assumptions

The NCFPD's labor costs for an administrative worker is \$30.38 per hour. Assuming there is one administrative person keeping record of the program, it is estimated this person will spend around 30 hours a year on administrative work. Total estimated administrative costs calculate to \$911.40 annually. Labor for an inspection per unit is based upon the NCFPD's labor costs per firefighter which totals \$32.96 per hour. Presuming it takes an hour to inspect each unit it will take two inspectors per job, therefore labor will cost \$65.92 an hour for inspections. An additional hour is added for both firefighters commuting to and from the location, adding an additional \$32.96 an hour of labor costs to each firefighter. This totals \$131.84 of labor costs per job. Cost for labor inspection fees are \$16,216.32, when combined with administrative costs, total annual costs equate to \$17,127.72.

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate to a total annual cost of \$19,127.72.

**FIGURE 26: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Cost Assumptions</b>	
<b>Firefighter Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Administrative Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$58,329.60	\$30.38
<b>Total Firefighter Inspections Wage: \$131.84 x 123 = (\$16,216.32)</b>	
<b>Total Administrative Wage: \$30.38 x 30 = (\$911.40)</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Start-Up Cost: (\$2,000)</b>	
<b>Total Annual Cost: \$911.40 + \$16,216.32 + \$2,000 = (\$19,127.72)</b>	

ROI Calculation

Total ROI for short term rental inspections in the first year is 168%.

**FIGURE 27: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Short Term Rental Fire Inspection</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$51,225
<b>Total Estimated Annual Cost</b>	(\$19,127.72)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$32,097.28
<b>ROI (%)</b>	168%

**Residential Apartment Annual Inspection Program**

Residential Apartment Annual Inspections are a yearly mandated inspection that must be performed under the California Health and Safety Code. According to ESRI Housing Profile for North County Fire Protection District, in the year 2024, there will be approximately 5,752 rental housing units.<sup>23</sup> An estimated that 90% of the total rental units are presumed to be apartments, resulting in a total of 5,176 rental apartment units.

Establishing a residential apartment annual inspection program such as the Oceanside Fire Department requires a cost of living adjustment as shown in Figure 28. The Oceanside Fire Department charges an hourly fee for the residential apartment annual inspection, the charge for a complex that has up to 30 apartment units is \$179 per 1.5 hours. The adjusted residential apartment annual inspection fee for NCFPD is \$196 per 1.5 hours. With an estimate that it will

take 1.5 hours to inspect an average of 30 apartment units, the total annual estimated revenue is \$33,712.

**FIGURE 28: REGIONAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

Average Property Value for 2020	
NCFPD Jurisdiction	Oceanside Jurisdiction
\$627,302	\$568,585
<b>Residential Apartment Annual Inspection Hourly Fee:</b> $\$627,302 / \$568,585 = 110\% \times \$179 = \$196$	
<b>Total Annual Revenue:</b> $5,176 / 30 = 172 \times \$196 = \$33,712$	

Revenue Assumptions

The 2020 average property value in Chula Vista is \$569,273.<sup>13</sup> The Chula Vista Fire Department charges a flat fee of \$320 for every 30 units inspected.<sup>12</sup> The adjusted flat rate fee for NCFPD is \$352 and assuming the inspections will average 30 units, the total revenue for this fee structure is \$60,544.

**FIGURE 29: REVENUE CALCULATIONS**

Average Property Value for 2020	
NCFPD Jurisdiction	Chula Vista Jurisdiction
\$627,302	\$569,273
<b>Residential Apartment Annual Inspection Flat Fee:</b> $\$627,302 / \$569,273 = 110\% \times \$320 = \$352$	
<b>Total Annual Revenue:</b> $5,176 / 30 = 172 \times \$352 = \$60,544$	

Cost Assumptions

According to the NCFPD, labor costs per firefighter totals to \$32.96 per hour. The total annual cost for two firefighters working 1.5 hours on 5,176 units is \$17,007.36. The NCFPD's labor costs for an administrative worker is \$30.38 per hour. Assuming there is one administrative person keeping record of the program, it is estimated this person will spend around 8 hours annually on administrative work, the total administrative costs are \$243.04. In sum, the total cost with administrative fees and firefighter labor fees is \$17,250.40. Unlike other cost recovery methods, drive time to the inspection site is not incorporated into residential apartment inspection calculations as total units in buildings are not defined, thus the number of actual locations are not available.

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate a total annual cost of \$19,250.40.

**FIGURE 30: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Annual Salary Break Down</b>	
<b>Firefighter Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Administrative Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$58,329.60	\$30.38
<b>Firefighters Wage Per 1.5 hr Inspection: \$49.44</b>	
<b>Firefighter Wage Total: 172 x \$49.44 x 2 = (\$17,007.36)</b>	
<b>Administrative Wage Total: \$30.38 x 8 = (\$243.04)</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Start Up Cost: (\$2,000)</b>	
<b>Total Annual Cost: \$17,007.36 + \$243.04 + \$2,000 = (\$19,250.40)</b>	

ROI Calculation

Total ROI for annual inspections based on an hourly rate program is 76% while the estimated ROI for a flat rate fee is 215%.

**FIGURE 31: HOURLY ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Hourly Residential Apartment Inspections ROI</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$33,816
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$19,250.40)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$14,565.60
<b>ROI: <math>(\\$33,816 - \\$19,250.40) / \\$19,250.40 \times 100 = 76\%</math></b>	



**FIGURE 32: FLAT RATE ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Flat Rate Residential Apartment Inspection ROI</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$60,731
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$19,250.40)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$41,480.60
<b>ROI: <math>(\\$60,731 - \\$19,250.40) / \\$19,250.40 \times 100 = 215\%</math></b>	

**Business License Inspections**

The average 2020 property value for the San Diego City Fire District is \$679,568<sup>48</sup> while the average property value of the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$627,302.<sup>29</sup> The rate for the annual inspection fee in San Diego City is \$111 by using the calculation in Figure 33 the cost of living percentage can be used to adjust pricing for the NCFPD jurisdiction. This adjustment estimates the fee to \$102 per hour for an annual inspection.

**FIGURE 33: REGIONAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

<b>Average Property Value for 2020</b>	
<b>NCFPD Jurisdiction</b>	<b>San Diego City Fire District Jurisdiction</b>
\$627,302	\$679,568
<b>Annual Inspection Fee: <math>\\$627,302 / \\$679,568 = 92\% \times \\$111 = \\$102</math></b>	

Revenue Assumptions

According to the ESRI Business Summary report, there are an estimated 447 hazardous material businesses within the NCFPD jurisdiction. Assuming it takes an average of two hours per business inspection, the total revenue for the initial inspection would be \$91,188. The City of San Diego set a reinspection rate of \$300. The adjusted rate for a reinspection fee within the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$276. It is estimated that 10% of these businesses will encounter a reinspection, totaling 44.7 units. The \$276 fee will be multiplied by the estimated 44.7 businesses that require the reinspection fee totaling to \$12,337 additional revenue. Total annual revenue for hazardous materials business inspection equates to \$103,525.

**FIGURE 34: REVENUE CALCULATIONS**

<b>Business License Inspections Revenue</b>
<b>Initial Inspection Revenue:</b> $447 \times \$102 \times 2 = \$91,188$
<b>Reinspection Rate:</b> $\$300 \times .92 = \$276$
<b>Reinspection Revenue:</b> $276 \times 44.7 = \$12,337$
<b>Total Annual Revenue:</b> $\$103,525$

Cost Assumptions

The costs associated with inspections are primarily labor costs. Based on the NCFPD's labor costs per firefighter, the average hourly salary of a firefighter is \$32.96 and with two people expected to complete an inspection, at a rate of approximately 2 hours per job, estimated labor costs total \$131.84 per inspection. An additional hour is added for both firefighters commuting to and from the location, adding an additional \$32.96 an hour of labor costs to each firefighter. This equates to \$197.76 for labor costs per inspection job. Costs of inspection will be calculated by multiplying the 447 estimated hazardous business inspections by the \$197.76 labor costs, totaling \$88,398.72 annually. With the estimated 10% of businesses needing reinspections, the additional labor costs for reinspections will be \$8,839.87. When combined, the annual inspection costs are \$76,705. An estimated 20 hours of annual administrative labor are required to handle hazardous inspections. Administrative costs of \$607.60 are added based upon the NCFPD's labor costs per administrative worker of \$30.38 per hour. All costs bring the total to \$97,846.19.

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate a total annual cost of \$99,846.19.

**FIGURE 35: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Business License Inspection Cost</b>	
<b>Firefighter Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Administrative Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$58,329.60	\$30.38
<b>Firefighters Inspection Wage Total: 447 x \$197.76 = \$88,398.72</b>	
<b>Firefighters Reinspection Wage Total: 44.7 x \$197.76 = \$8,839.87</b>	
<b>Administrative Wage Total: \$30.38 x 20 = \$607.60</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Start-Up Cost: \$2,000</b>	
<b>Total Annual Cost: \$88,398.72 + \$8,839.87 + \$607.60 + \$2,000 = \$99,846.19</b>	

ROI Calculation

Total ROI for business license inspections in the first year is 4%.

**FIGURE 36: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Business License Inspections ROI</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$103,525
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$99,846.19)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$3,678.81
<b>ROI: <math>(\\$103,525 - \\$99,846.19) / \\$99,846.19 \times 100 = 4\%</math></b>	

Figure 37 was sourced from the ESRI business summary and reflects hazardous industries within NCFPD jurisdiction.

**FIGURE 37: HAZARDOUS INDUSTRIES WITHIN THE NCFPD JURISDICTION**

<b>Types of Industries Within Region</b>	
<b>NCFPD Hazardous Industries</b>	<b>Number of Businesses in Region</b>
Agriculture & Mining	80
Auto Dealers, Gas Stations, Auto Aftermarket	34
Construction	165
Manufacturing	56
Transportation	29
Utility	4
Wholesale Trade	79
<b>Total:</b>	<b>447</b>

Source: ESRI. (2020, May 20). Business Summary.

### **False Alarm Billing**

False Alarm billing is a cost recovery method that allows fire departments to recover costs when responding to a false alarm. Currently, the Oceanside Fire Department has a false alarm billing program created to keep commercial alarm systems maintained and make sure any malfunctioning alarms are repaired. In 2019 the NCFPD serviced a total of 5,500 calls with 133 of those calls false alarms considered billable according to Chief S. Abott (personal communication, July 16, 2020).

**FIGURE 38: REGIONAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

<b>Average Property Value for 2020</b>	
<b>NCFPD Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Oceanside Jurisdiction</b>
\$627,302	\$568,585
<b>False Alarm Fee: <math>\\$627,302 / \\$568,585 = 110\% \times \\$100 = \\$110</math></b>	
<b>Total Annual Revenue: <math>225 \times \\$110 = \\$24,750</math></b>	

Revenue Assumptions

The Oceanside Fire Department does not currently charge a fee for the first occurrence of a false alarm within 365 days. If there is a second occurrence the fee is \$100. If the NCFPD charged \$100 on the second false alarm call it could generate additional revenue. All calculations are based upon false alarm fees charged at a rate of the second occurrence. Any additional occurrences after the second false alarm will generate additional revenues for the district. Shown in Figure 38, the adjusted fee schedule for the False Alarm Billing in the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$110. The estimated total annual revenue for NCFPD when the False Alarm Fee is implemented is \$14,630

Cost Assumptions

The NCFPD’s labor costs per firefighter totals \$32.96 per hour. It’s estimated that a total of two firefighters would respond to a call. False alarm calls typically result in an average of 15 minutes on site, costing approximately \$8.24 per firefighter. This totals \$16.48 of labor costs per false alarm call. NCFPD administrative costs equate to \$30.38 an hour, documentation of each false alarm will take approximately 15 minutes per call, costing \$7.60 per job. If the false alarm billing is implemented, all data held constant, the labor total costs equal \$5,418.

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate a total annual cost of \$3,502.64.

**FIGURE 39: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Annual Salary Break Down</b>	
<b>Firefighter Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Administrative Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$58,329.60	\$30.38
<b>Firefighter Wage Per Call: <math>\\$8.24 \times 2 = \\$16.48</math></b>	
<b>Firefighter Wage Total: <math>\\$16.48 \times 133 = \\$2,191.84</math></b>	
<b>Administrative Wage Per Job: \$7.60</b>	
<b>Administrative Wages Total: <math>\\$7.60 \times 133 = \\$1,010.80</math></b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Start-Up Cost: \$2,000</b>	
<b>Total Annual Cost: <math>\\$2,191.84 + \\$1,010.80 + \\$2,000 = \\$5,502.64</math></b>	

ROI Calculation

Total ROI for false alarm billing in the first year is 233%.

**FIGURE 40: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>False Alarm Billing ROI</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$14,630
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$5,502.64)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$9,127.36
<b>ROI (%)</b>	166%
<b>ROI Calculation: <math>(\\$14,630 - \\$5,502.64) / \\$5,502.64 \times 100 = 166\%</math></b>	

**Fire Code Violations Billing**

Fire code violations billing is a cost recovery method that promotes fire prevention measures for the community. According to ESRI Business Summary, there are 611 business units that correspond with fire code occupancy types the city of Riverside has established within their preexisting city fire code violation policy.<sup>20</sup> Figure 41 illustrates the various occupancy types and the assumptions made to estimate specific business units within the NCFPD jurisdiction. To

ensure conservative estimation, for occupancy types with price ranges dependent on size, the median range is utilized for calculations.

**FIGURE 41: TYPES OF INDUSTRIES WITHIN NCFPD JURISDICTION**

<b>Occupancy Types and Assumptions</b>			
<b>Occupancy Type</b>	<b>Adjusted NCFPD Fee</b>	<b>Total Business Units in NCFPD Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Revenue Generated per Occupancy Type</b>
Theatre and Concert Halls	\$209	11 (25% of 47 entertainment units)	\$3,069
Banquet Halls	\$99	4 (Based on google search)	\$528
Arcades, Churches, Bowling Alley's	\$99	32 (15% of 211 other services units)	\$4,224
Office/ Restaurant	0-299 Sq Ft. \$59 300-9,999 Sq Ft \$99 10,000 Sq Ft + \$177	85 restaurants	\$11,220
Educational	1-100 Students \$116 101-500 Students \$209 501-1500 Students \$395	49 educational services	\$13,671
Hotels	3-4 Rooms \$59 5-10 Rooms \$79 11-20 Rooms \$99 21-30 Rooms \$137 31- 50 Rooms \$177	6 hotels and lodging	\$792
Factory Manufacturing	\$177	56	\$13,216
Institutional Jails	\$301	1	\$402
Retail	\$99	317	\$41,844
Storage Facilities	\$177	20 (10% of 200 unclassified establishments)	\$4,720
Garages, Misc. Buildings	0-299 Sq Ft. \$59 300-10,000 SqFt. \$99 10,001 Sq Ft. + \$137	30 (15% of 200 unclassified establishments)	\$3,960
<b>Total Units</b>			611
<b>Total Revenue</b>			\$97,646

Source: ESRI, (2020, May 20). Business Summary.



Revenue Assumptions

As seen in Figure 39, the sum of annual revenue generated per occupancy type equates to \$97,646. Currently, the city of Riverside does not charge for the first reinspection fee but does so for the third inspection at a cost of \$100. Assuming that 10% of the 611 businesses will require a third inspection (61 businesses), a conservative estimate of revenue generated from reinspection fees is \$6,100. Combining the inspection fees leaves a total of \$103,746 annual revenue generated in the first year.

**FIGURE 42: REVENUE CALCULATIONS**

<b>Fire Code Violations Billing Revenue</b>
<b>Revenue:</b> $10\% \times 611 \text{ business} = 61 \text{ business} \times \$100 = \$6,100$
<b>Total Revenue:</b> $\$97,646 + \$6,100 = \$103,746$

Cost Assumptions

Costs for fire code violations primarily revolve around labor. The NCFPD’s salary for administrative work is \$30.38 per hour. Assuming it takes an annual amount of 30 hours to manage filing and paperwork for this billing structure, the total cost for administrative work is \$911.40 per year.

An estimated two firefighters are assigned to inspect each job for fire code violations with an average time to complete the inspection of one hour. Based on the NCFPD’s labor costs, hourly salary for a firefighter equates to \$32.96 per hour. An additional hour is added for both firefighters commuting to and from the location, totaling \$131.84 of labor costs per job. The total number of jobs including reinspections equates to 672 inspections. With each job taking an hour with two inspectors, the annual labor costs are \$88,596.48, when combined with administrative costs, total annual costs equates to \$89,507.88

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate to a total annual cost of \$91,507.88.

**FIGURE 43: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Fire Code Violations Billing Cost</b>	
<b>Firefighter Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Administrative Annual Salary</b>	<b>Hourly Wage</b>
\$58,329.60	\$30.38
<b>Firefighter Wage Total: 672 hours x \$131.84 = (\$88,596.48)</b>	
<b>Administrative Wage Total: \$30.38 x 30 = (\$911.40)</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Cost: (\$2000)</b>	
<b>Total Annual Cost: \$911.40 + \$88,596.48 + \$2,000 = (\$91,507.88)</b>	

ROI Assumptions

Total ROI for fire code violation billing in the first year is 13%.

**FIGURE 44: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Fire Code Violations Billing</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$103,746
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$91,507.88)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$12,238.12
<b>ROI (%)</b>	13%
<b>ROI: (\$103,746 - \$91,507.88) / \$91,507.88 x 100 = 13%</b>	

**First Responder Fees**

First Responder Fees are a cost recovery method that allows fire departments to recover non-transport costs when providing services to a patient on-site. According to Chief Abbott, in 2019 the North County Fire Protection District serviced a total of 5,500 calls. Approximately 80% of calls are emergency medical situations.<sup>35</sup> In order to calculate the amount of emergency medical calls, 5,500 multiplied by 80 percent to get the adjusted call amount of 4,400. Based on the number of service calls, a return on investment from implementing first responder fees can be calculated

Revenue Assumptions

The Vista Fire Department currently charges a \$154 fee per call if a firefighter attends the patient on-site.<sup>31</sup> The fee will not be accessed if the patient denies service. According to Zillow, the average property value in 2020 in Vista is \$565,638.<sup>59</sup> The average property value of the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$627,302.<sup>29</sup> As shown in Figure 45, the adjusted rate for First Responder Fee charges within the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$169. If the first responder fee was implemented in 2019 the total revenue would have been \$743,600.

**FIGURE 45: REGIONAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

Average Property Value for 2020	
NCFPD Jurisdiction	Vista Jurisdiction
\$627,302	\$565,638
<b>First Responder Fee:</b> $\$627,302 / \$565,638 = 110\% \times \$154 = \$169$	
<b>Total Annual Revenue:</b> $4,400 \times \$169 = \$743,600$	

Cost Assumptions

A firefighter’s hourly salary according to the NCFPD totals to \$32.96. If there are three firefighters responding to calls lasting a total of one hour, the estimated cost for firefighter wages per call is \$98.88. If the first responder fee was implemented in 2019 the total cost would have been \$435,072.

An additional \$2,000 one-time estimated miscellaneous start-up cost will be added to equate to a total annual cost of \$437,072.

**FIGURE 46: COST CALCULATIONS**

First Responder Fee Cost	
Firefighter Annual Salary	Hourly Wage
\$68,556.80	\$32.96
<b>Firefighter Wage Per Response:</b> $\$32.96 \times 3 \times 1 = (\$98.88)$	
<b>Firefighter Wage Total:</b> $\$98.88 \times 4,400 = (\$435,072)$	
<b>One-Time Miscellaneous Start-Up Cost:</b> $(\$2,000)$	
<b>Total Annual Cost:</b> $\$435,072 + \$2,000 = (\$437,072)$	

ROI Calculation

Total ROI for the implementation of first responder fees is 70%.

**FIGURE 47: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>First Responder Fee Cost/ROI</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$743,600
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$437,072)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$306,528
<b>ROI (%)</b>	70%
<b>ROI%: <math>(\\$743,600 - \\$437,072) / 437,072 \times 100 = 70\%</math></b>	

**Floating Mill Levy**

According to 2018 US Census data, the median assessed valuation for a home in the NCFPD jurisdiction is \$545,400.<sup>57</sup> The assessed property value can be used to extrapolate the jurisdiction's return on investment for a floating mill levy. According to ESRI, the total housing within the jurisdiction is 20,317 units. Based on these numbers the area's estimated property valuation is \$11,080,891,800. If the NCFPD needs \$100 million added to their budget, this results in a 9 mill levy. The 9 mills can be applied to all real estate, including land and buildings.

Revenue Assumptions

If successfully passed on a ballot, the mill levy can be applied to the 1% taxable amount of a property's assessed value. For the average property valuation of \$545,400, the taxable rate would equate to \$5,454. When applying the mill levy (9 mills) the average tax amount collected per housing unit within the NCFPD jurisdiction would be \$49.09. To understand the total impact, multiply the average tax amount per unit by total housing units in 2024 this approximates to \$997,361 of additional revenues collected for the fire district in the first year. Calculations for the second year reflect a 1% increase in annual property taxes.

**FIGURE 48: REVENUE CALCULATIONS**

<b>Floating Mill Levy Revenue</b>
<b>NCFPD Jurisdiction Assessed Property Value</b>
\$545,400
<b>Total Estimated Land Evaluation: \$545,400 x 20,317 units = \$11,080,891,800</b>
<b>Amount of Mills: 100,000,000 / \$11,080,891,800 = .009 or 9 Mills</b>
<b>Year 1 Application of Mill Levy (at 1%): \$5,454 x .009 = \$49.09</b>
<b>Year 1 Total Mill Levy Impact: \$49.09 x 20,317 = \$997,361</b>
<b>Year 2 Application of Mill Levy (1% Increase): \$5,508 x .009 = \$49.57</b>
<b>Year 2 Total Mill Levy Impact: \$49.57 x 20,317 = \$1,007,114</b>

Cost Assumptions

To achieve a 2/3 vote, lobbying for education and public approval are required and will be the most capital-intensive aspect. According to Chief Abbott, the NCFPD spent \$254,000 on campaign costs for Prop A in 2019 (personal communication, July 08, 2020). For moderate estimation, calculations are based upon the assumption that it will cost \$254,000 for funding ballot initiatives. Only the first year ROI will account for the \$254,000 in start up costs. The second year's floating mill ROI will account for Prop 13's 1% increase in annual property tax. According to Chief S. Abbott (personal communication, July 12, 2020) the Assessors Office charges a fee of 1.3% based on the taxes collected.

**FIGURE 49: COST CALCULATIONS**

<b>Floating Mill Costs</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
\$266,965.69	\$13,095.34
<b>NCFPD Estimated Campaign Cost: ( \$254,000)</b>	
<b>Year 1 Assessor's Office Fee (1.3%): \$997,361 x 1.3% = (\$12,965.69)</b>	
<b>Year 2 Assessor's Office Fee (1.3%): \$1,007,334 x 1.3% = (\$13,095.34)</b>	

ROI Calculations

Total ROI for the implementation of a successful mill levy at these assumptions in year 1 is 293% while in year 2 the ROI is 7,529%.

**FIGURE 50: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Year 1 Floating Mill Levy</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$997,361
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$254,000)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$743,361
<b>ROI (%)</b>	293%
<b>Year 1 ROI: <math>(\\$997,361 - \\$254,000) = \\$743,361 / \\$254,000 \times 100 = 293\%</math></b>	

**FIGURE 51: ROI CALCULATIONS**

<b>Year 2 Floating Mill Levy</b>	
<b>Total Estimated Annual Revenue</b>	\$1,007,334
<b>Total Estimated Annual Costs</b>	(\$13,095.34)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$994,238.66
<b>ROI (%)</b>	7,592.30%
<b>Year 2 ROI: <math>(\\$1,007,334 - \\$13,095.34) = \\$994,238.66 / \\$13,095.34 \times 100 = 7,592.30\%</math></b>	

# Appendix B: 2019 Ambulance Rate Survey

City	ALS1		ALS		BLS		Treat and Release		Add Fee		Notes
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Mileage	O2	
Alamo	\$ 3,377.00	\$ 3,177.00	\$ 3,024.00	\$ 2,824.00	\$ 2,452.00	\$ 2,252.00	\$ 118.00	\$ 118.00			
Alamo	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 1,458.61	\$ 182.24	\$ 24.21	\$ 33.96		
Arroyo Grande	\$ 2,161.07	\$ 1,616.07	\$ 1,662.08	\$ 1,167.08	\$ 1,176.11	\$ 1,176.11	\$ 150.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 44.00	\$ 71.00	\$ 253.66
Arroyo Grande	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 2,270.00	\$ 303.00	\$ 76.13			
Castroville	\$ 1,268.75	\$ 1,370.25	\$ 1,167.25	\$ 1,268.75	\$ 952.33	\$ 952.33	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00			
Chula Vista	\$ 3,147.57	\$ 3,147.57	\$ 2,867.48	\$ 2,867.48	\$ 1,776.11	\$ 1,776.11	\$ 43.33	\$ 156.54	\$ 155.09		
Ceres	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 93.00			
El Cajon	\$ 2,803.57	\$ 2,803.57	\$ 2,803.57	\$ 2,803.57	\$ 1,191.81	\$ 1,191.81	\$ 46.18	\$ 203.17			
Escondido	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 1,444.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00			
Escondido	\$ 2,994.47	\$ 2,994.47	\$ 2,994.47	\$ 2,994.47	\$ 1,076.11	\$ 1,076.11	\$ 165.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 100.00	
La Mesa	\$ 3,312.11	\$ 3,312.11	\$ 3,312.11	\$ 3,312.11	\$ 1,487.05	\$ 1,487.05	\$ 63.39	\$ 228.91	\$ 155.09		
La Mesa	\$ 4,843.15	\$ 4,843.15	\$ 4,843.15	\$ 4,843.15	\$ 2,066.88	\$ 2,066.88	\$ 83.77	\$ 317.49			
Northridge	\$ 3,286.43	\$ 3,286.43	\$ 2,650.93	\$ 2,650.93	\$ 857.65	\$ 857.65	\$ 39.90	\$ 127.39			
Northridge	\$ 1,330.11	\$ 1,569.89	\$ 1,308.41	\$ 1,504.78	\$ 475.41	\$ 589.18	\$ 24.00	\$ 73.38	\$ 128.15	\$ 43.41	\$ 621.13
Orangevale	\$ 1,220.00	\$ 1,240.00	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 1,680.00	\$ 980.00	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 34.60	\$ 50.00			
Orland	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 127.00			
Poway	\$ 1,822.00	\$ 1,846.00	\$ 1,829.00	\$ 1,866.00	\$ 866.00	\$ 1,196.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 66.00			
Rancho	\$ 1,635.00	\$ 1,834.00	\$ 1,523.00	\$ 1,712.00	\$ 1,479.00	\$ 1,668.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 94.00			
Rancho	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 127.00			
San Diego	\$ 2,871.24	\$ 2,871.24	\$ 2,396.98	\$ 2,396.98	\$ 1,227.21	\$ 2,032.21	\$ 202.74	\$ 202.74	\$ 41.32	\$ 33.65	
San Marcos	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 1,255.00	\$ 915.00	\$ 915.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 65.00			
San Marcos	\$ 4,451.84	\$ 4,451.84	\$ 3,897.94	\$ 3,897.94	\$ 1,613.83	\$ 2,613.83	\$ 63.87	\$ 241.94			
Sycamore	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 865.00	\$ 865.00	\$ 21.50	\$ 100.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 125.00	
Valley Center	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 2,228.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 127.00			
Valparaiso	\$ 3,287.00	\$ 3,287.00	\$ 3,287.00	\$ 3,287.00	\$ 2,452.00	\$ 2,452.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 118.00			
Vernon	\$ 1,697.00	\$ 1,629.00	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 1,709.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,117.00	\$ 27.00	\$ 65.00			
Vernon	\$ 2,287.00	\$ 2,287.00	\$ 2,526.00	\$ 2,526.00	\$ 2,207.00	\$ 2,207.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 118.00			
Winters	\$ 2,858.34	\$ 2,858.34	\$ 2,353.55	\$ 2,353.55	\$ 1,495.97	\$ 1,495.97	\$ 38.22	\$ 122.11	\$ 91.54	\$ 39.35	\$ 49.30
Yuba	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 40.00		
Yuba	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00		







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3668 KATIE LENDRE DRIVE  
FALLBROOK, CALIFORNIA 92028

TELEPHONE  
(760) 723-9018

July 1, 2020

**Board of Directors  
North County Fire Protection District**

Re: General Counsel Board Report for July 1, 2020

**Families First Coronavirus Response Act – Part 2**

**Paid Sick Leave**

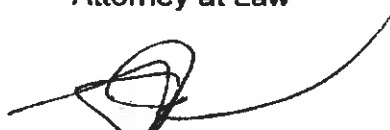
The Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act requires employers to provide eligible full-time employees with up to 80 hours of leave, with full pay, who are not able to work or telework due to a quarantine order, a health care provider's advisement to self-quarantine, or to seek a diagnosis when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Eligible part-time employees are entitled to fully paid time off on a pro rata basis, calculated on the average hours such employees work in a 2-week period.

Eligible full-time employees can also use these 80 hours of paid time off, at 2/3 of their regular pay, to care for an individual who is subject to a quarantine order or a health care provider's advisement to self-quarantine, or to care for a minor child whose school or child care provider is closed or unavailable due to COVID-19. Eligible part-time employees are also entitled to leave for these reasons, again at 2/3 pay, on a pro rata basis. Both categories of leave – for illness and for child care – are subject to monetary caps on the leave (\$511/day and \$5,100 aggregate for personal illness leave reasons, and \$200/day and \$2,000 aggregate for care provider leave).

These new paid sick leave benefits are available to employees regardless of how long they have been employed, and employers may not require an employee to use other paid leaves provided by the employer before providing these new paid leaves. As with the new FMLA benefit, employees who are health care providers or who employ emergency responders may be excluded from eligibility. Employers will be required to post notices of this benefit for employees, and the Secretary of Labor is expected to issue a model notice soon.

Private employers who grant these new paid leaves are eligible for tax credits to offset these new expenses. State and local governments are not eligible for the tax credits.

ROBERT H. JAMES  
Attorney at Law



Robert H. James, General Counsel for the  
North County Fire Protection District

RHJ/km  
cc: Chief Steve Abbott  
Board members

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

● **WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:**

- None

● **BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM:**

● **07-21-20 EMAIL OF RECOGNITION FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE:**

Captain Rick Rees  
Engineer Dustin Glasgow  
FF/PM Kyle Krenz

● **07-19-20 EMAIL OF RECOGNITION FOR WORK ON STATION 1:**

Captain Joel Hammer	FF/PM DJ Soriano
Engineer Collin Baker	PM Chris Stratten
FF/PM Sam Russell	PM Grant DeWoody

● **06-08-20 THANK YOU CARD FOR FALL ASSISTANCE:**

Captain Eric Ayers  
Engineer Collin Baker  
FF/PM Doug DeBrauwere

● **UNDATED THANK YOU FOR MEDICAL ASSSIST:**

Captain John Choi	PM Nahi Gomez
FF/PM Tyler Ruiz	EMT Brock Rutledge
FF/PM Jorge Gonzalez	

● **UNDATED THANK YOU FOR MEDICAL ASSIST:**

Captain Tom Harrington	PM Shane Applegate
Engineer Collin Baker	EMT Ezra Truman
FF/PM Ryan Lewis	

● **UNDATED THANK YOU LETTER FOR MEDICAL ASSIST:**

PM Max Paur  
EMT Richard Quevedo

● **UNDATED THANK YOU LETTER:**

Captain Danny Sahagun	PM Honorino Gomez
Engineer Joseph Harlin	EMT Brock Rutledge
FF/PM Dennis Soriano	

## Loren Stephen-Porter

---

**From:** Kevin Mahr  
**Sent:** July 21, 2020 14:57  
**To:** John Choi; Stephen Abbott; Loren Stephen-Porter  
**Cc:** Richard Rees; Greg Mann; Dustin Glasgow; Kyle Krenz  
**Subject:** RE: Customer Service



Hi John,  
Wow thank you for sharing this.

Rick,

I know you are not looking for any special recognition, but your actions are exceptional and words cannot express my appreciation for your commitment to this level of service and compassion. I have copied Chief Abbott and Loren on this reply.

**Kevin Mahr** | Division Chief - Operations  
North County Fire Protection District | 330 S. Main Ave – Fallbrook, CA 92028  
**T:** (760) 723-2015 - **C:** (760) 802-4181 - **F:** (760) 723-2045  
[kmahr@ncfire.org](mailto:kmahr@ncfire.org) | [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org)

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---

**From:** John Choi <jchoi@ncfire.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:44 PM  
**To:** Kevin Mahr <kmahr@ncfire.org>  
**Cc:** Richard Rees <rrees@ncfire.org>; Greg Mann <gmann@ncfire.org>; Dustin Glasgow <dglasgow@ncfire.org>; Kyle Krenz <kkrenz@ncfire.org>  
**Subject:** Customer Service

Good Afternoon Chief,

We had a visitor at Fire Station 5 today. An extremely grateful citizen who came to say thank you to Fire Station 5 A Crew for their service to her in her time of need.

The story goes:

This crew responded to a 911 call for this patient, who had a massive stroke and was unresponsive in patient's home. The patient had a very expensive dog in the home and no one to care for it. Captain Rees took the dog home and cared for it while the patient was in the hospital and underwent rehab. Throughout the patient's care, Captain Rees maintain contact with the owner and had the dog ready for her return home from rehab, a span of approximately 3 months. The patient became a close friend to the members of Fire Station 5 A Crew. On Father's Day, this patient stopped by Fire

Station 5 to say thank you and during this visit Engineer Glasgow helped solve an iPhone issue. This lady was incredibly grateful, beyond words, during her most recent visit here today.

This crew really took care of this lady in our community and is a great example of customer service to us all. These actions would have gone unnoticed, but I felt it required bringing attention to.



Choi, John | Captain Paramedic  
Public Information Officer

North County Fire Protection District | 330 S. Main Ave – Fallbrook, CA 92028

Work: (442) 888-4042 - C: (608) 609-3727

[icho@ncfire.org](mailto:icho@ncfire.org) | [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org)

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## **Loren Stephen-Porter**

---

**From:** Brian Macmillan  
**Sent:** July 19, 2020 20:48  
**To:** A Crew; B Crew; C Crew; Leadership Team  
**Subject:** NCFPD Shout-Out

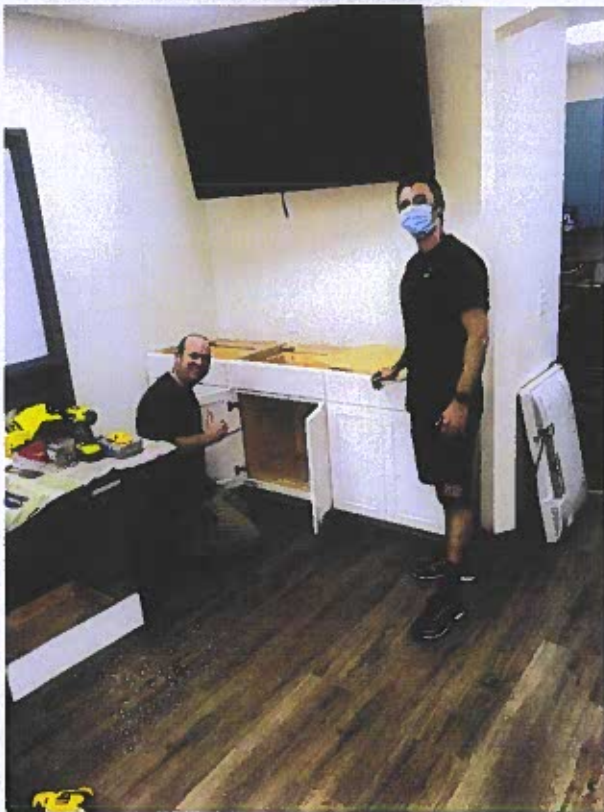
Good evening,

I hope everyone is having a great weekend. I wanted to take a minute to give a big thanks and Shout Out to Capt. Joel Hammer and the St 1 Crew today. They went all Bob Vila (Old people explain to the millennials who Bob Vila is) in the St 1 Training room and built us some great cabinets and Work Stations. Check out the pictures below.

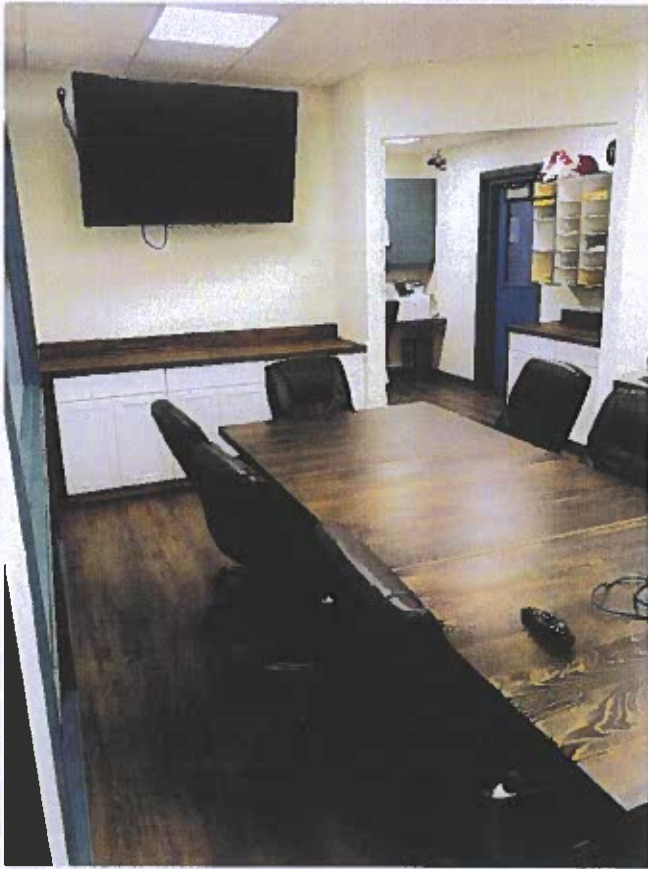
Strong Work guys!

Thank you

Joel Hammer  
Collin Baker  
Sam Russell  
DJ Soriano  
Chris Stratton  
Grant DeWoody







**Brian MacMillan** | Battalion Chief

North County Fire Protection District | 330 S. Main Ave – Fallbrook, CA 92028

T: (760) 723-2005 - C: (760) 310-4481

[bmacmillan@ncfire.org](mailto:bmacmillan@ncfire.org) | [www.ncfire.org](http://www.ncfire.org)

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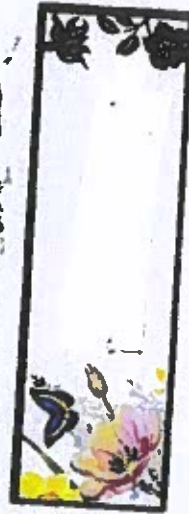
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Crew:  
Doug DeBrauwere  
Colin Baker  
Eric Ayers

Mon. 6-8-20

Hi -

Nice to get your  
note! we really appreciat-  
ed your help when we  
recently fell! You were  
all great. Hope we don't  
have to call again! The



Crew:  
John Choi  
Brock Rutledge  
Jorge Gonzalez  
Tyler Ruiz  
Nahi Gomez



Dear Engine 114 and Rescue  
Ambulance 114 teams,  
Thank you so much  
for helping me!! you kept  
me calm during the ambulance  
ride, and you took very  
good care of me. Also, thank  
you for the card. I liked  
it very much, I am feeling  
much better, and I am  
starting to walk. Thank  
you!

From,



Crew:  
Tom Harrington  
Collin Baker  
Ryan Lewis  
Shane Applegate  
Ezra Truman

Dear Tom, Collin, Ryan, Shane & Ezra.

I cannot express how nice and unexpected your card was to receive. In all my years I have never seen such a thoughtful (and classy/professional) response to being served by real life heroes. To take the time and individually sign a card was very touching. You all should be very proud of your crew. I pray that God bless you all and keep you safe and grant you many years of healthy, abundant life. Thank you for your service. You all

Crew:  
Shane Applegate  
Ezra Truman  
Collin Baker  
Tom Harrington  
Ryan Lewis

**Just can't  
thank you  
enough!**

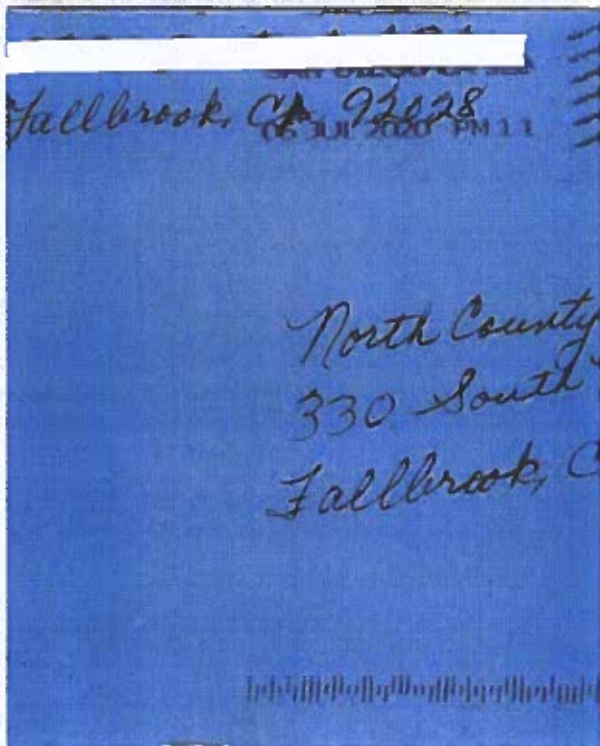
a special thanks  
to the young man who  
stayed with us +  
helped with the  
airbags.

Crew:  
Max Paur  
Richard Quevedo

To - North County  
Fire Department  
and Paramedics -

My name is Jacqueline  
Green from Fallbrook. On  
April 16, 2020, you guys  
responded to my home.  
I had to be taken to  
Jemeala Valley Hospital.  
I just wanted to say  
THANK YOU so much.  
You all were great!  
You arrived quickly,  
(over)

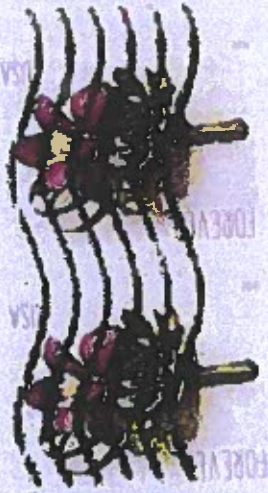
and treated me with the  
utmost respect. Thank you  
so much! A special thank  
to MAX, the paramedic!



  
STATIONERY

JTY2000  
© HALLMARK LICENSING, INC.  
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Hallmark.com

Crew:  
Dennis Soriano  
Joseph Harlin  
Danny Sahagun  
Honorino Gomez  
Brock Rutledge



SAN DIEGO CA 921

02 JUN 2020 PM 2 L

E 111 + M 114 "B-SHIFT"  
DANNY, JOE, DJ, NAHI + BROCK,  
THANK YOU FOR BEING  
OUR HEROES WHEN WE  
NEEDED YOUR VERY  
KIND + PROFESSIONAL  
HELP.

YOU ARE SO APPRECIATED  
AND I AM WELL BECAUSE  
OF YOUR EFFORTS.

WARMEST REGARDS,

**PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK**

**Media Contact:**

Katie Gorscak, (202) 418-2156

katie.gorscak@fcc.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**FCC DESIGNATES '988' AS 3-DIGIT NUMBER  
FOR NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE**

*Action Will Help Combat Rising Suicide Rates by Making It Easier for  
Americans in Crisis to Obtain Assistance from Trained Counselors*

WASHINGTON, July 16, 2020—Today, the Federal Communications Commission adopted rules to establish 988 as the new, nationwide, 3-digit phone number for Americans in crisis to connect with suicide prevention and mental health crisis counselors. The rules require all phone service providers to direct all 988 calls to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by July 16, 2022. During the transition to 988, Americans who need help should continue to contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK) and through [online chats](#). Veterans and Service members may reach the [Veterans Crisis Line](#) by pressing 1 after dialing, chatting online at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net), or texting 838255.

The new rules will apply to all telecommunications carriers as well as all interconnected and one-way Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service providers. They provide for a two-year transition, reflecting the real challenges of this nationwide effort, including the need for widespread network changes and providing time for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to prepare for the expected increase in the volume of calls. Under these rules, calls to 988 will be directed to 1-800-273-TALK, which will remain operational during the 988 transition and after it is completed. To ensure that calls to 988 reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, all covered providers will be required to implement 10-digit dialing in areas that both use seven-digit dialing and use 988 as the first three numbers in seven-digit phone numbers.

Since 2008, suicide has ranked as the tenth leading cause of death in the United States. Suicide claimed the lives of more than 48,000 Americans in 2018, resulting in about one death every 11 minutes. An FCC staff [report](#) to Congress in 2019 proposed establishing 988 as an easy to remember three-digit code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Staff analyzed various options and determined 988 was the best option for increasing access to crisis resources and ensuring the fastest possible transition. Establishing the easy-to-remember 988 as the “911” for suicide prevention and mental health services will make it easier for Americans in crisis to access the help they need and decrease the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health issues.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of approximately 170 crisis centers. The centers are supported by local and state, and public and private sources, as well as by Congressional appropriations through the Department of Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The National

Suicide Prevention Lifeline is the access point for the Veterans Crisis Line, which is managed by the [United States Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

Action by the Commission July 16, 2020 by Report and Order (FCC 20-100). Chairman Pai, Commissioners O’Rielly, Carr, Rosenworcel, and Starks approving and issuing separate statements.

WC Docket No. 18-336

###

**Media Relations: (202) 418-0500 / ASL: (844) 432-2275 / Twitter: @FCC / [www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov)**

*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*



# California

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**SB-474 Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development prohibition.** (2019-2020)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 06/19/2020 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 19, 2020

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 21, 2019

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2019–2020 REGULAR SESSION

**SENATE BILL**

**NO. 474**

**Introduced by Senator Stern**

**February 21, 2019**

~~An act to amend Section 2788 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to wildlife. An act to add Section 51182.5 to the Government Code, relating to land use.~~

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 474, as amended, Stern. ~~The California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990: Habitat Conservation Fund.~~ *Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development prohibition.*

*Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to identify areas of the state as very high fire hazard severity zones based on specified criteria. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, very high hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the director. Existing law authorizes a local agency to include areas within its jurisdiction not identified as very high fire hazard severity zones by the director as very high fire hazard severity zones following a specified finding supported by substantial evidence.*

*Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to determine, based on specified criteria, whether an area of the state is one for which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires is primarily the responsibility of the state. Existing law refers to these areas as "state responsibility areas."*

*This bill would, in furtherance of specified state housing production and wildfire mitigation goals, prohibit the creation or approval of a new development, as defined, in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility area. By imposing new duties on local governments with respect to the approval of new developments in very high fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.*

*The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.*

*The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.*

*This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.*

~~Proposition 117, an initiative measure approved by the electors at the June 5, 1990, direct primary election, certain provisions of which can be amended by a majority vote, enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. The act creates the Habitat Conservation Fund and requires the moneys in the fund to be used for specified purposes generally relating to the acquisition, enhancement, or restoration of wildlife habitat. The act requires the Controller, until June 30, 2020, to annually transfer \$30,000,000 from the General Fund to the Habitat Conservation Fund, less any amount transferred to the Habitat Conservation Fund from specified accounts and funds. The act, until July 1, 2020, continuously appropriates specified amounts from the Habitat Conservation Fund to the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Coastal Conservancy, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the California Tahoe Conservancy, and continuously appropriates the balance of the fund to the Wildlife Conservation Board.~~

~~This bill would establish the Wildlife Protection Subaccount in the Habitat Conservation Fund and would require the Controller, if an appropriation is made for this purpose in any fiscal year, to transfer \$30,000,000 from the General Fund to the subaccount, less any amount transferred from specified accounts and funds, to be expended by the board for the acquisition, enhancement, or restoration of wildlife habitat.~~

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: ~~no~~yes

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** *Section 51182.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:*

**51182.5.** *(a) Notwithstanding any law, in furtherance of state housing production and wildfire mitigation goals under Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 159 of the Statutes of 2019), Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code, and subdivision (g) of Section 65088, a new development shall not be created or approved in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility area.*

*(b) For purposes of this section, "development" means either of the following:*

*(1) A project containing residential dwellings, including, but not limited to, mobilehomes, accessory dwelling units, and junior accessory dwelling units, of one or more units or a subdivision of land for the purpose of constructing one or more residential dwelling units.*

*(2) A project for commercial, retail, or industrial use.*

**SEC. 2.** *The Legislature finds and declares that the prohibition on the creation or approval of a new development within a zone of high fire danger as specified in this act is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 1 of this act adding Section 51182.5 to the Government Code applies to all cities, including charter cities.*

**SEC. 3.** *No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.*

**SECTION 1.** *Section 2788 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:*

~~2788. (a) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, the money in the fund, except the money in the Wildlife Protection Subaccount established pursuant to subdivision (b), is continuously appropriated, without regard to fiscal years, to the board.~~

~~(b) The Wildlife Protection Subaccount is hereby established in the fund. All moneys in the subaccount shall be available for expenditure by the board pursuant to this chapter.~~

~~(c) Contingent on an appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute of the amount described in this subdivision in any fiscal year, the Controller shall transfer in that fiscal year the sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) from the General Fund to the Wildlife Protection Subaccount, less any amount transferred to the Wildlife Protection Subaccount from, but not limited to, the following accounts and funds:~~

~~(1) The Public Resources Account in the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Surtax Fund to the extent authorized by the Tobacco Tax and Health Protection Act of 1988.~~

~~(2) The Unallocated Account in the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Surtax Fund pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2795.~~



~~(3)The California Environmental License Plate Fund.~~

~~(4)The Endangered and Rare Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Species Conservation and Enhancement Account in the Fish and Game Preservation Fund.~~

~~(5)Any other accounts or funds created by the Legislature or the people for purposes that are consistent with the purposes of this chapter.~~

~~(6)Any bond funds that are authorized by the people after July 1, 1990, which may be used for purposes that are identical to the purposes specified in Section 2786.~~

~~(7)The Wildlife Restoration Fund.~~

~~(d)This section shall become operative only if, and on the date that, Section 2787 is repealed.~~

## CalPERS' investment return falls short of goal - Sacramento Business Journal

*Courtesy of CalPERS*

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## North County Fire Marshal explains weed abatement policies

*Village News*

Every year, the North County Fire Protection District inspects thousands of properties in Fallbrook to ensure owners are creating defensible spaces around their homes and taking other steps to reduce the risk of fires in populated areas.

It's a task that is especially important in Fallbrook which, surrounded by wildlands, remains one of the most fire-prone areas in San Diego County.

NCFPD Fire Marshal Dominic Fieri said the fire district inspects 5,914 individual properties in its local responsibility area in central Fallbrook; Cal Fire San Diego handles areas further out, though they remain in the North County fire district.

Fieri said the local responsibility area includes the area east of Camp Pendleton roughly spanning from Winter Haven Road in the south, to Live Oak Park Road in the east, to the edge of De Luz in the north, though property owners should check with NCFPD if they are unsure whether their area is in the local responsibility area.

Property owners had until June 1 to clear dead brush and create defensible spaces around structures, which was an extension from the original May 15 deadline this year.

The original deadline was a full month ahead of 2019's weed abatement deadline, in anticipation of dry weather leading to high levels of fire fuel. However, higher-than-expected rainfall has mitigated some of this risk, allowing the fire district to feel comfortable moving back the weed abatement deadline by two weeks.

Fieri said property owners are required to clear all dead, annual grasses and weeds on properties that are under five acres, which account for the majority of the properties in NCFPD's local responsibility area, though green grasses are not required to be cleared. Dead grass and brush, Fieri said, is extremely vulnerable to embers spreading from whatever nearby wildfires may occur.

Larger properties, he said, are allowed to use fuel breaks in place of eliminating all dry grasses.

"But most of the stuff we have is (under) five acres, so it's easier to say your property needs to be maintained," Fieri said.

Fieri said NCFPD has just one inspector to look at the almost 6,000 properties in the fire district's local responsibility area.

"He pre-identifies, but we can't do anything until June 1, and that's when we started posting (notices) on the properties," Fieri said.

Fieri said, of the properties in NCFPD's local responsibility area, the vast majority were compliant this year, with around 500 being noncompliant.

He said the fire district does its best to work with owners who are noncompliant, though fire officials will send out a contractor themselves if owners won't clear their properties.

“It goes up to three inspections and, if they don’t clean it or get someone to clean it themselves, we send out a contractor, and there’s a \$600 fine on top of getting the contractor,” Fieri said.

He said it’s never NCFPD’s intention to enforce weed abatement requirements in that manner, but the requirements are necessary for community safety.

“We don’t want to be in that enforcement, it’s not our choice,” Fieri said. “It’s more like this is a community issue.”

Fieri said many property owners who are fined do pay as soon as possible, but the fire district can put liens on properties whose owners refuse to pay.

NCFPD’s requirements for residential properties, listed online, are as follows:

- Parcel fronting on a public street or alley shall be abated to the edge of the public street or alley.
- Trees shall be limbed no less than 6 feet from ground level within 30 feet of buildings.
- Brush and combustible vegetation (excluding landscaping) must be cleared 100 feet around all buildings.
- Remove that portion of any tree extending within 10 feet of the chimney outlet.
- Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging any building free of dead wood.
- Maintain by removing all debris, leaves, needles, or other dead vegetative growth from roof structures and rain gutters.
- Remove any/all flammable dead debris from underneath/around all bushes, plants, and/or landscaping structures including stairs, decks, patios, carports, etc.
- Post address in visible area in numbers not less than 3" high, 3/8" wide and in a contrasting color. If your address cannot be seen from the roadway and/or if your driveway serves multiple residences, post your address (same specifications above) on a 4' post at the driveway entrance so that it is visible from both ways of travel.
- Maintain driveway access clear 12 feet wide and 15 feet high.

The fire district’s requirements for large lots and unimproved properties are as follows:

- The parcel shall be cleared to grade of all combustible weeds and debris.  
EXCEPTION: When cutting is used as the method of abatement, the remaining stubble shall not exceed 2 inches in height.
- Dry pastures (fenced land used for the purpose of grazing livestock) and dry croplands (land used to produce grain or hay) shall have a firebreak around the entire perimeter of the parcel.
- Firebreaks shall be no less than 16 feet minimum width and completely cleared of all combustible weeds, debris, hay and grain. NOTE: Combustible weeds and debris shall not be removed by burning. Firebreaks shall be tilled, disked, or scraped.
- Parcels which experience a "second growth" shall be re-cut, if it is determined to be a fire hazard.

Will Fritz can be reached by email at [wfritz@reedermedia.com](mailto:wfritz@reedermedia.com).

## Automatic aid compact between Riverside, San Diego counties approved

*Village News*

RIVERSIDE (CNS) - The [Riverside](#) County Board of Supervisors Tuesday approved an inaugural automatic aid agreement between the [Riverside](#) County Fire Department and the San Diego County Fire Authority, under which each agency will be expected to lend a hand during wildfires and other emergencies within a few miles of the county line.

In a 5-0 vote without comment, the board authorized the compact until June 30, 2025, when it will expire, or the parties decide to continue it.

"Riverside County and the San Diego County Fire Authority will benefit with the automatic aid agreement by securing automatic aid in fire protection, in the protection of life and property from fire, and in firefighting for the residents and visitors of both areas," according to a county fire statement posted to the board's policy agenda. "With the increased fire potential, which is predominately due to the water drought, both parties will be better prepared for the fire season, or any emergency each party may potentially face."

[Riverside](#) County maintains automatic aid agreements with several jurisdictions, but this is the first such compact with San Diego County.

The agreement specifies that either fire agency could be called upon to send resources to wildfires on either side of the county line -- up to five miles inside their respective jurisdictions.

"However, neither party shall be required to reduce its own fire protection resources, personnel, services and facilities to the detriment of its normal fire protection capability," according to the compact.

Aid requests will have to be mutually acknowledged before crews and firefighting equipment are dispatched, officials said. In [Riverside](#) County, the Perris Emergency Command Center will be the controlling authority. In San Diego County, it will be the Monte Vista Inter-Agency Emergency Command Center.

Generally, neither fire agency will be responsible for costs incurred by the other in meeting obligations established by the accord, but there may be exceptions, including when specialized equipment is put to use and some maintenance is required during extended deployments, according to the terms.

## Brush Fires Up In San Diego County As Coronavirus Creates Staffing Challenges

By Camille von Kaenel [From inewsourc](#):

Wildland firefighters are responding to more fires in San Diego County this year than last, all while adjusting to staff shortages due in part to COVID-19.

That's not a comforting place to be as the state enters its peak fire season.

Wildfires are always a danger in San Diego County, from the backcountry to the urban areas. COVID-19 has added a layer of difficulty this year, prompting changes to firefighting and evacuation plans to avoid crowding.

Inmate crews, considered essential in fighting wildland fires, have been diminished as the [coronavirus sweeps](#) through prisons. Social distancing while battling a blaze and during evacuations is another challenge.

So far, firefighters have been able to keep the region's blazes small, which they say is key to limiting the public safety and health risks, but that could change.

"The more fires you get, the more chance we have of a fire becoming large, so that is concerning," said Tony Mecham, the Cal Fire and San Diego County Fire Authority chief.

During the first six months of this year, Cal Fire San Diego responded to 75 fires compared to 47 for the same period last year, according to agency data. The biggest one, the [Skyline Fire](#), burned 100 acres near Jamul in mid-June and forced temporary evacuations.

"We've kind of had this interesting cycle the last few years, in that we were seeing a lot more larger fires but not necessarily the everyday fires that historically we've had," Mecham said. "This summer, we're seeing those everyday fires."

### COVID-19 creates firefighter staffing challenges

For decades, inmate firefighters have helped battle wildfires in the region. Already the crews in the county have been dispatched to 21 fires this year, including the Skyline blaze.

But fewer are available, partly because of COVID-19.

When at full capacity, the [four fire camps](#) Cal Fire and the state prison system run in Fallbrook, Julian, Warner Springs and Boulevard have around 320 firefighters.

Right now, they have about 195.

Fire Capt. Steven Van Heertum, left, works alongside firefighter Jerry Provencher at a COVID-19 testing site in Rancho San Diego, June 6, 2020. (Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire)

"We're seeing those numbers drop," Mecham said. "So we are asking for additional funding to bring on a variety of means whether it be additional firefighters for hand crews, more aircraft, more bulldozers."

The reduction is partly due to [sentencing reform](#) and partly due to the expedited release of incarcerated people to limit overcrowding in prisons during the pandemic.

### **Cal Fire sees increase in fires statewide**

Just as Cal Fire is reporting an increase in brush fires in San Diego County, the number is also up statewide.

Through June, Cal Fire responded to 4,112 fires. Over the past five years, the average for the same time period was 2,580.

The fires tracked by Cal Fire are smaller than in the past: Nearly 29,000 acres burned statewide during the first six months of this year compared to 51,000 on average since 2015.



To see the 2020 fire season outlook and details on specific fires, [click here](#).

New transfers of inmates into the camps also have been postponed until all COVID-19 test results are received, state prisons spokesperson Aaron Francis said in an email.

To help fill the gap, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced last week that the state would hire 858 additional seasonal Cal Fire firefighters. It will also add crews to the California Conservation Corps.

Mecham said he was already able to add firefighters this year because the state increased [Cal Fire's budget](#) by \$85.7 million, giving him a total of 458, about a quarter of them seasonal.

The U.S. Forest Service, meanwhile, has fully staffed the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego, Riverside and Orange counties with 320 firefighters, said Stan Hill, the forest fire management officer for the region. Around a third are seasonal workers.

But COVID-19 outbreaks and forced quarantines have disrupted staffing.

Twelve inmate fire camps in Northern California were on lockdown until this week because some of the people incarcerated there were [exposed to someone infected](#) with the coronavirus at another facility, as the Sacramento Bee first reported.

In the Cleveland National Forest, 12 Forest Service firefighters have tested positive for COVID-19 and five have recovered, agency spokesperson Anabele Cornejo said.

"There has not been a disruption in service as all positions were covered by other firefighters," Cornejo said in an email. She said the agency is still assessing the nature of the exposure.

Inmate firefighting hand crews from Puerta la Cruz Conservation Camp in Warner Springs train on June 2, 2020. The camp is run by Cal Fire San Diego and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. (Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire)

Mecham said he doesn't want to have to take dozens of firefighters out of service as a blanket precaution after a possible exposure, so he has set strict criteria to more precisely determine who should be quarantined.

So far, three Cal Fire San Diego firefighters have had to quarantine after interacting with a counterpart at a Riverside County fire station who was later found to have the coronavirus. Mecham said Cal Fire initially thought 15 people would have to stay home — an entire crew — but whittled down the number after further research. None tested positive for the virus.

Firefighters have been able to get quick access to COVID-19 tests because Cal Fire is partnering with the county to [bring testing to rural communities](#). That partnership could be leveraged to include a quick testing station in a fire camp on the front lines of a big blaze, if such an event were to occur, Mecham said.

## **Planning for evacuations during a pandemic**

A large blaze thrusts hundreds together on the fire lines and in evacuation shelters, so emergency responders have changed their plans to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Firefighters will remain with their crew and be kept as separate from other teams as possible. In-person briefings will be limited by using mobile devices. Meals won't be served in large group settings.

Hill said some Forest Service firefighters have already experienced the changed procedures when deployed to fires in Arizona and Colorado. Accustomed to dangerous conditions, the firefighters adapted.

"There are mitigations in place. But as much as practical and safe, we will respond to wildfire as normal," he said.

Recognizing the risk of possible COVID-19 outbreaks, county officials and the [American Red Cross](#) have also developed a new [evacuation procedure](#) to avoid crowding hundreds or thousands of evacuees in group shelters should they need to leave their homes during a wildfire.

### **Preparing for wildfire**

Cal Fire recommends preparing for a wildfire by maintaining 100 feet of defensible space around your home. You also should have an evacuation plan and emergency supply kit.

To keep COVID-19 in mind, make sure to add face masks to your bag.

See more at [readyforwildfire.org](#) and [readysandiego.org](#).

People would be directed to temporary evacuation areas where physical distancing and health screenings would be possible, like a parking lot where people can stay in their cars. Then they could be directed to stay in a hotel or motel.

Officials are working with nearly 100 hotels and motels in the county to secure space in case of a disaster. They have also identified over 200 shelter locations for alternatives safer than a crowded school gym or church.

The plan recently kicked into action in Imperial County, where [a brush fire destroyed 37 homes](#) on June 28 in the small town of Niland. No other fire in California this year has [damaged more than a couple homes](#), according to Cal Fire's database of incidents.

The Red Cross was able to immediately house evacuees in 41 rooms at two hotels the night of the fire, said Debbie Leahy, regional disaster officer for the American Red Cross in Southern California. Staff checked in and provided resources virtually and delivered meals.

Leahy said the experience is "an affirmation of the planning that takes place before an event happens."

"I almost equate it to family preparedness," she said. "If you sit down with your family beforehand and you talk about: What is our plan? What is our reunification plan? What supplies do we have on hand? What would happen if we had to leave our home?"

Lakeside Fire Chief Donald Butz said he's concerned about the cost and durability of potentially sheltering thousands of residents in his area during a fire.

Firefighters keep a brush fire near Jamul to 1 acre on May 6, 2020. It was started in a burn pile that wasn't properly extinguished. (Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire)

"How about when we evacuate the entire east side of Lakeside or the entire town of Ramona?" Butz said. "San Diego may have enough hotel rooms for those people, but it'll be tricky."

He said he has been focusing more on fire prevention so there don't have to be prolonged evacuations. He recommends people retrofit their homes with features such as fire-safe eaves and clear the vegetation around their dwellings.

"The more homes they can protect, the easier it is for us to protect those structures so we don't have to relocate anybody," Butz said.

The Lakeside Fire Protection District also did its usual landscaping inspections this year, he said. The district provided more [educational materials](#) for residents and is accepting reports of fire hazards through an online [form](#).

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Sections

# The San Diego Union-Tribune

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NORTH COUNTY COMMUNITY NEWS

## Fire Foundation gives \$410,000 in grants



Elfin Forest volunteer firefighters show the Jaws of Life equipment purchased through a grant from the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation.

A dozen fire departments throughout San Diego County received grants totaling \$410,000 from the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation,

Sections

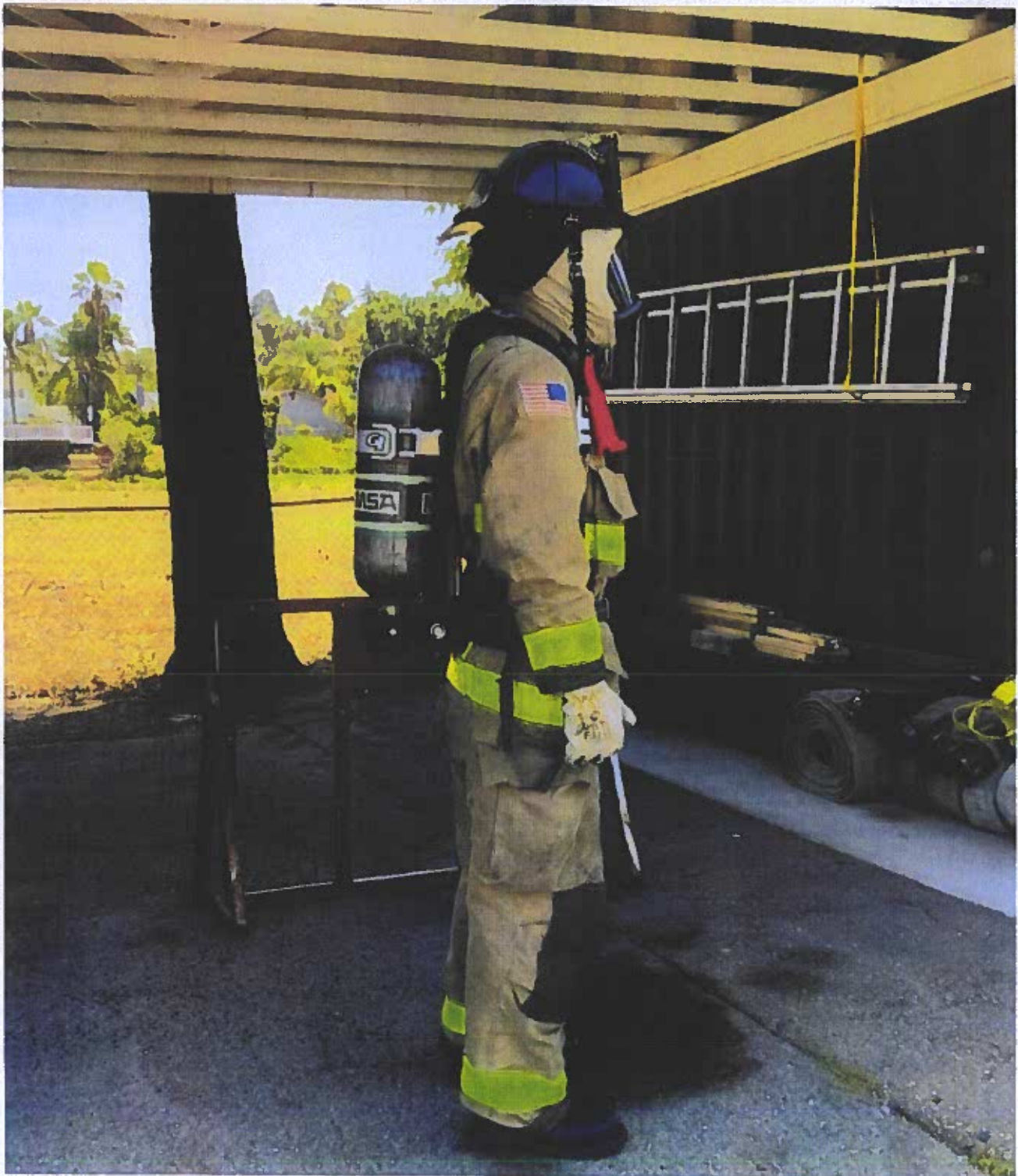
# The San Diego Union-Tribune

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JULY 14, 2020 | 2:01 PM



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A dozen fire departments throughout San Diego County received grants totaling \$410,000 from the San Diego Regional Fire Foundation, largely for equipment to safeguard firefighters and area residents they serve during the pandemic.

One of the departments includes 48 rural fire stations that received firefighter breathing apparatuses and electronic wall maps and map books. The smallest grants ranged from \$2,000 to \$5,000 and the largest was over \$100,000.

Much of the grant money is earmarked for equipment to protect firefighters from the coronavirus, especially since social distancing is typically not an option for firefighters on the front lines.

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“Whether entering a burning building to rescue a person or treating a patient with COVID-19 or any other contagious disease, where six-feet of separation is impossible, having a protective breathing apparatus is the best way to keep our firefighters safe and enable them to do their job effectively,” said Mike Sims, Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District Chief.

The nonprofit Foundation, for example, funded the purchase of 50 COVID-19 respirators, with adaptors and filters, for firefighters in rural parts of the county along with mapping systems to reduce response times to 48 rural fire stations run by the San Diego County Fire Authority, Cal Fire, and smaller tribal fire departments, which protect over half of the county from De Luz to to Jamul.

“If firefighters are not protected from the coronavirus, then community members they are trying to help will be at risk for exposure to the coronavirus,” said Joan Jones, executive director of the Fire Foundation. In addition to equipment, the grants

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The grants went toward equipment such as firefighter breathing apparatuses for the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Protection District; breathing apparatuses and anti-virus firefighter personal protective equipment, aka PPE, for the Deer Springs Fire Protection District.

The fire departments in Escondido, San Marcos, Imperial Beach, National City and Pauma Reservation received grants largely for sanitization equipment and supplies.

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The North County Fire Protection District received funding for firefighter PPE cleaning equipment and air purifying filters and the Ramona Fire Department received a grant for firefighter personal communication equipment.

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (Elfin Forest Volunteer Station) purchased “Jaws of Life” to help the station’s volunteer firefighters to rescue people in serious car accidents. Funding was provided by San Diego County Supervisors, non-Covid-19 related funds at the San Diego Foundation, and SDG&E.

Valley Center Fire Protection District received grant money for an extractor that cleans firefighters’ protective clothing, sanitization equipment and cleaning supplies.

The grants were provided largely with contributions from the San Diego COVID-19 Community Response Fund and SDG&E. Additional funding from the County Supervisors went to the “Jaws of Life” equipment.

**ADVERTISEMENT**

The Foundation has donated more than \$6 million for equipment and training to San Diego County fire departments since it was established in 1989.



# CalPERS Reports Preliminary 4.7% Investment Return for Fiscal Year 2019-20

July 15, 2020

## Communications & Stakeholder Relations

Contact: Megan White, Information Officer

(916) 795-3991 - [newsroom@calpers.ca.gov](mailto:newsroom@calpers.ca.gov)

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – CalPERS today reported a preliminary 4.7% net return on investments for the 12-month period that ended June 30, 2020. CalPERS assets at the end of the fiscal year stood at more than \$389 billion.

Individual asset class returns included Fixed Income, which generated a 12.5% net return, followed by Real Assets and Public Equity net returns of 4.6% and 0.6%, respectively. Despite significant market volatility which included assets under management declining by an estimated \$70 billion in late February and March, the CalPERS Public Employee Retirement Fund (PERF) was able to recover nearly all of that value by the end of June.

Based on these preliminary fiscal year returns, the funded status of the overall PERF is an estimated 70.8%.\* This estimate is based on a 7% discount rate.

“What started out as a health crisis turned into an economic crisis and severely affected investors everywhere, including CalPERS,” said Yu (Ben) Meng, CalPERS chief investment officer.

“However, we’ve been doing the hard work of preparing for a downturn for some time. When it came, we were in a strong position to reduce its impact on our portfolio and take advantage of new opportunities created by the changing economic climate. I’m proud that our strategy enabled us to navigate volatile markets and end the fiscal year on a strong note.

“We’ll continue to focus on the long term and execute on our strategy to achieve our 7% targeted return.”

The CalPERS go-forward strategy utilizes its structural advantages and includes increasing investments in private assets over several years, and prudently using leverage to take advantage of market opportunities at the appropriate time.

The 2019-20 fiscal year return brings total fund performance to 6.3% for the five-year time period, 8.5% for the 10-year time period, and 5.5% for the 20-year time period. Over the past 30 years, the PERF has returned an average of 8.0% annually.

Today's announcement includes 12-month asset class performance as follows:

Asset Class	Net Rate of Return
Total Fund	4.7%
Public Equity	0.6%
Private Equity	-5.1%
Fixed Income	12.5%

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Net Rate of Return</b>
Real Assets	4.6%
Liquidity	1.6%

Returns for real assets and private equity reflect market values through March 31, 2020.

“The preliminary returns for private equity reflect the steep drop in economic activity during a period of unprecedented change,” Meng said. “No doubt significant uncertainty still remains, but with our focus on investing over many years we firmly believe that private equity will help us generate the returns we need to pay retirement benefits.”

Private equity has been CalPERS’ highest returning asset class, with 10-year annual returns of 10.4% and 20-year annual returns averaging 7.5%.

CalPERS’ 2019-20 final fiscal year investment performance will be calculated based on audited figures and will be reflected in contribution levels for the State of California and school districts in fiscal year 2021-22, and for contracting cities, counties, and special districts in fiscal year 2022-23.

The ending value of the PERF is based on several factors and not investment performance alone. Contributions made to CalPERS from employers and employees, monthly payments made to retirees, and the performance of its investments, among other factors, all influence the ending total value of the PERF.

## About CalPERS

For more than eight decades, CalPERS has built retirement and health security for state, school, and public agency members who invest their lifework in public service. Our pension fund serves more than 2 million members in the CalPERS retirement system and administers benefits for more than 1.5 million members and their families in our health program, making us the largest defined-benefit public pension in the U.S. CalPERS’ total fund market value currently stands at approximately \$397 billion. For more information, visit [www.calpers.ca.gov](http://www.calpers.ca.gov).

\* - Revised percentage.

## California regulators require cellphone towers to add backup power

ASSOCIATED PRESS

July 17, 2020, 7:45AM

Updated 1 hour ago

SAN FRANCISCO — California regulators will require 72 hours of backup power at cell towers in emergency situations, including electricity shutoffs during fire seasons.

The California Public Utilities Commission voted unanimously Thursday to adopt the measure, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

Last fire season, more than a million people lost service during planned blackouts by Pacific Gas & Electric designed to prevent its equipment from sparking blazes during strong winds. The resulting public outcry prompted legislators and advocates to push for measures that would require backup power in vulnerable areas, the newspaper said.

“These customers are dependent on reliable cellphone service in times of emergencies, and need to get through to 911 as well,” Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma said. She added that 88% of 911 calls come from wireless devices, according to the state Office of Emergency Services.

Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves said that cell service is also needed for receiving emergency alerts during disasters, calling internet data service “a basic necessity.”

The decision means that wireless service providers are required to develop comprehensive communications resiliency plans to maintain service during emergencies or disasters, the Chronicle said. Providers must also “improve their coordination with emergency response agencies” in addition to the 72-hour backup power requirement.

AT&T said after the vote that it is focused on ensuring that backup power is available routinely during public safety power shut-offs.

“We agree with the California PUC on the importance of keeping customers and first responders connected during emergencies, including power shutoffs,” AT&T’s assistant vice president for corporate communications Jim Greer said in a statement. “That is why we have invested more than \$8.7 billion in our California networks from 2017 to 2019 and announced a three-year, \$340 million plan to add back up power to more cell sites.”



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# San Diego County Sees Uptick In Brush Fires Amid COVID-19 Challenges

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

By [Camille von Kaenel](#) / inewsourc



Credit: Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire

Above: Cal Fire firefighters train at Camp Pendleton Fire School, an annual exercise involving firefighting agencies from throughout San Diego County, June 1, 2020.

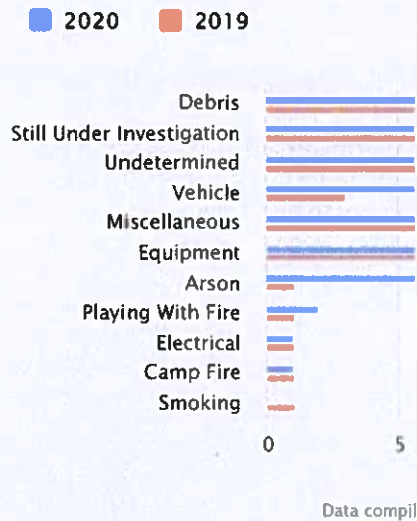
Wildland firefighters are responding to more fires in San Diego County this year than last, all while adjusting to staff shortages due in part to COVID-19.

So far, firefighters have been able to keep the region's blazes small, which they say is key to limiting the public safety and health risks, but that could change.

"The more fires you get, the more chance we have of a fire becoming large, so that is concerning," said Tony Mecham, the Cal Fire and San Diego County Fire Authority chief.

### Brush fires in San Diego

Cal Fire San Diego responded this year to 75 fires that burned 100 acres. That's compared to 47 fires that burned 100 acres last year. The cause of nearly all the fires was I



During the first six months of this year, Cal Fire San Diego responded to 75 fires compared to 47 for the same period last year, according to agency data. The biggest one, the Skyline Fire, burned 100 acres near Jamul in mid-June and forced temporary evacuations.

"We've kind of had this interesting cycle the last few years, in that we were seeing a lot more larger fires but not necessarily the everyday fires that historically we've had," Mecham said. "This summer, we're seeing those everyday fires."

### COVID-19 creates firefighter staffing challenges

For decades, inmate firefighters have helped battle wildfires in the region. Already the crews in the county have been dispatched to 21 fires this year, including the Skyline blaze.

But fewer are available, partly because of COVID-19.

When at full capacity, the [four fire camps](#) Cal Fire and the state prison system run in Fallbrook, Julian, Warner Springs and Boulevard have around 320 firefighters.

Right now, they have about 195.

Data compiled by Thomas Shoots | Cal Fire San Diego, Graphic by Jill Castellano | inewssource

That's not a comforting place to be as the state enters its peak fire season.

Inmate crews, considered essential in fighting wildland fires, have been diminished as the [coronavirus sweeps](#) through prisons. Social distancing while battling a blaze and during evacuations is another challenge.



Photo credit: Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire

Inmate firefighting hand crews from Puerta la Cruz Conservation Camp in Warner Springs train on June 2, 2020. The camp is run by Cal Fire San Diego and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

“We’re seeing those numbers drop,” Mecham said. “So we are asking for additional funding to bring on a variety of means whether it be additional firefighters for hand crews, more aircraft, more bulldozers.”

The reduction is partly due to [sentencing reform](#) and partly due to the expedited release of incarcerated people to limit overcrowding in prisons during the pandemic.

New transfers of inmates into the camps also have been postponed until all COVID-19 test results are received, state prisons spokesperson Aaron Francis said in an email.

To help fill the gap, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced last week that the state would hire 858 additional seasonal Cal Fire firefighters. It will also add crews to the California Conservation Corps.

**Cal Fire sees increase in fires statewide**

Just as Cal Fire is reporting an increase in brush fires in San Diego County, the number is also up statewide.

Through June, Cal Fire responded to 4,112 fires. Over the past five years, the average for the same time period was 2,580.

Mecham said he was already able to add firefighters this year because the state increased [Cal Fire’s budget](#) by \$85.7 million, giving him a total of 458, about a quarter of them seasonal.

The U.S. Forest Service, meanwhile, has fully staffed the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego, Riverside and Orange counties with 320 firefighters, said Stan Hill, the forest fire management officer for the region. Around a third are



The fires tracked by Cal Fire are smaller than in the past: Nearly 29,000 acres burned statewide during the first six months of this year compared to 51,000 on average since 2015.

To see the 2020 fire season outlook and details on specific fires, [click here](#).

first reported.

In the Cleveland National Forest, 12 Forest Service firefighters have tested positive for COVID-19 and five have recovered, agency spokesperson Anabele Cornejo said.

“There has not been a disruption in service as all positions were covered by other firefighters,” Cornejo said in an email. She said the agency is still assessing the nature of the exposure.

seasonal workers.

But COVID-19 outbreaks and forced quarantines have disrupted staffing.

Twelve inmate fire camps in Northern California were on lockdown until this week because some of the people incarcerated there were [exposed to someone infected](#) with the coronavirus at another facility, as the Sacramento Bee



Photo credit: Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire

Fire Capt. Steven Van Heertum, left, works alongside firefighter Jerry Provencher at a COVID-19 testing site in Rancho San Diego, June 6, 2020.

Mecham said he doesn't want to have to take dozens of firefighters out of service as a blanket precaution after a possible exposure, so he has set strict criteria to more precisely determine who should be quarantined.

So far, three Cal Fire San Diego firefighters have had to quarantine after interacting with a counterpart at a Riverside County fire station who was later found to have the coronavirus. Mecham said Cal Fire initially thought 15 people would have to stay home — an entire crew — but whittled down the number after further research. None tested positive for the virus.

Firefighters have been able to get quick access to COVID-19 tests because Cal Fire is partnering with the county to [bring testing to rural communities](#). That partnership could be leveraged to include a quick testing station in a fire camp on the front lines of a big blaze, if such an event were to occur, Mecham said.

### Planning for evacuations during a pandemic

A large blaze thrusts hundreds together on the fire lines and in evacuation shelters, so emergency responders have changed their plans to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Firefighters will remain with their crew and be kept as separate from other teams as possible. In-person briefings will be limited by using mobile devices. Meals won't be served in large group settings.

Hill said some Forest Service firefighters have already experienced the changed procedures when deployed to fires in Arizona and Colorado. Accustomed to dangerous conditions, the firefighters adapted.

"There are mitigations in place. But as much as practical and safe, we will respond to wildfire as normal," he said.

Recognizing the risk of possible COVID-19 outbreaks, county officials and the American Red Cross [have](#) also developed a [new evacuation procedure](#) to avoid crowding hundreds or thousands of evacuees in group shelters should they need to leave their homes during a wildfire.

### Preparing for wildfire

Cal Fire recommends preparing for a wildfire by maintaining 100 feet of defensible space around your home. You also should have an evacuation plan and emergency supply kit.

To keep COVID-19 in mind, make sure to add face masks to your bag.

See more at [www.readyforwildfire.org](http://www.readyforwildfire.org) and [www.readysandiego.org](http://www.readysandiego.org)

of Niland. No other fire in California this year has [damaged more than a couple homes](#), according to Cal Fire's database of incidents.

The Red Cross was able to immediately house evacuees in 41 rooms at two hotels the night of the fire, said Debbie Leahy, regional disaster officer for the American Red Cross in Southern California. Staff checked in and provided resources virtually and delivered meals.

Leahy said the experience is "an affirmation of the planning that takes place before an event happens."

"I almost equate it to family preparedness," she said. "If you sit down with your family beforehand and you talk about: What is our plan? What is our reunification plan? What supplies do we have on hand? What would happen if we had to leave our home?"

People would be directed to temporary evacuation areas where physical distancing and health screenings would be possible, like a parking lot where people can stay in their cars. Then they could be directed to stay in a hotel or motel.

Officials are working with nearly 100 hotels and motels in the county to secure space in case of a disaster. They have also identified over 200 shelter locations for alternatives safer than a crowded school gym or church.

The plan recently kicked into action in Imperial County, where [a brush fire destroyed 37 homes](#) on June 28 in the small town

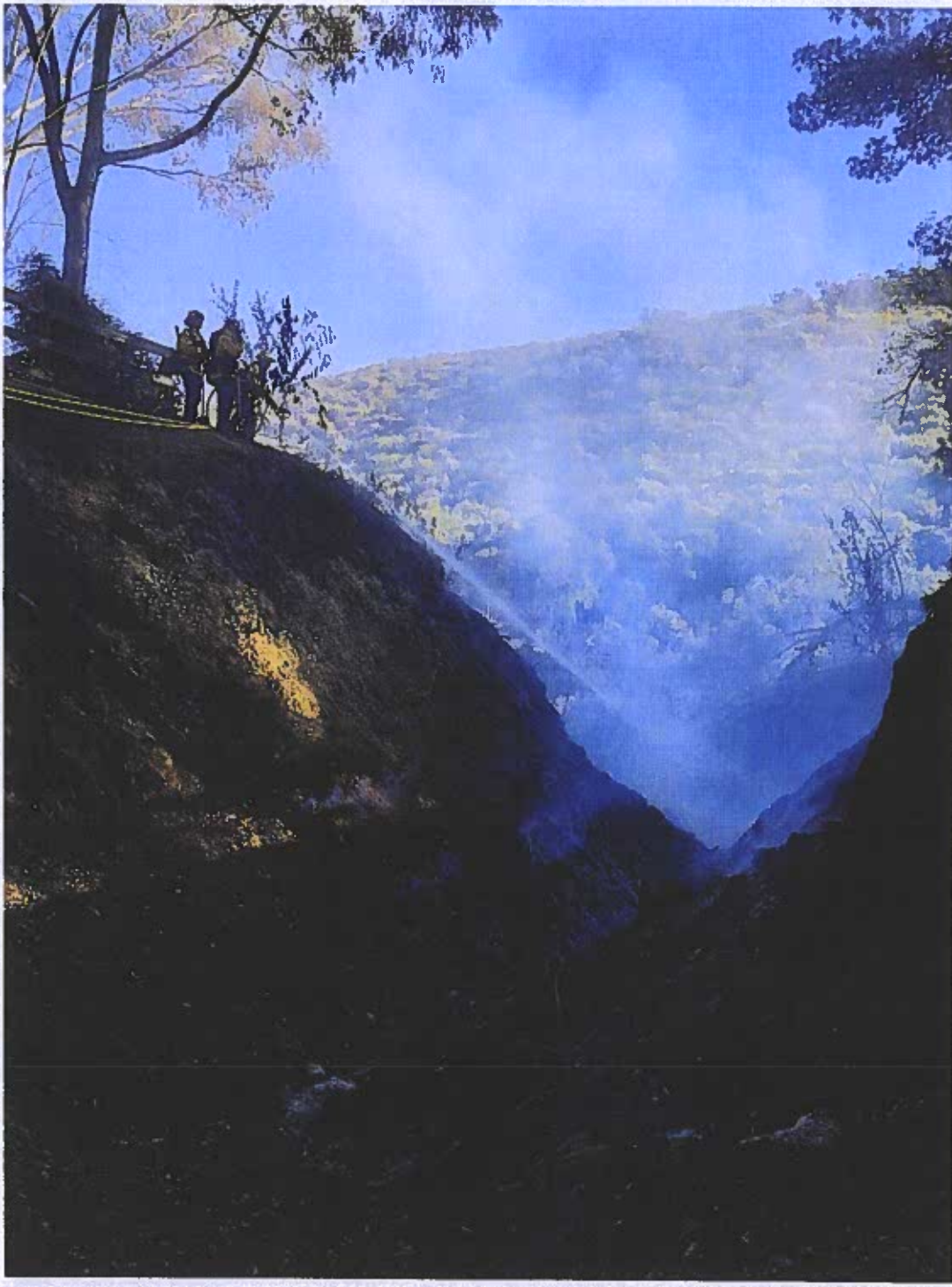


Photo credit: Cal Fire/San Diego County Fire

Firefighters keep a brush fire in Jamul to 1 acre on May 6, 2020. It was started in a burn pile that wasn't properly extinguished.

Lakeside Fire Chief Donald Butz said he's concerned about the cost and durability of potentially sheltering thousands of residents in his area during a fire.

“How about when we evacuate the entire east side of Lakeside or the entire town of Ramona?” Butz said. “San Diego may have enough hotel rooms for those people, but it’ll be tricky.”

He said he has been focusing more on fire prevention so there don’t have to be prolonged evacuations. He recommends people retrofit their homes with features such as fire-safe eaves and clear the vegetation around their dwellings.

“The more homes they can protect, the easier it is for us to protect those structures so we don’t have to relocate anybody,” Butz said.

The Lakeside Fire Protection District also did its usual landscaping inspections this year, he said. The district provided more [educational materials](#) for residents and is accepting reports of fire hazards through an online [form](#).



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## North County Fire responds to 5 separate fires on July 4

*Village News*

At least five separate small fires were reported in the Fallbrook area on the July 4 holiday.

None of the fires impacted structures. While North County Fire Protection District Capt. John Choi could not confirm whether any of the fires were caused by fireworks, he did say that possibility was under investigation for at least two of the blazes, both of which were reported after dark.

The first fire to be reported on Saturday was a small vegetation fire located just east of Interstate 15 in Rainbow. According to North County Fire on Twitter, the fire district forward spread of that blaze was stopped at 2 p.m.

Around 6:30 p.m., North County Fire and Cal Fire San Diego units responded to another vegetation fire, this one in the 6800 block of Lilac Road in Bonsall. The spread of that fire was also quickly stopped.

Reports of three of the fires all came in quick succession after about 9:40 p.m.

North County Fire responded to a hay fire in the 600 block of South Mission Road at that time, then a tree fire in the 1200 block of Old Stage Road about 10 minutes later, North County Fire tweeted. Then, just after 10 p.m., the fire district reported its units were at the scene of another small vegetation fire near the 40000 block of Little Rock Road in De Luz. The forward spread of the last fire was halted a little less than an hour after it was reported.

According to Choi, the fire on Old Stage Road and the fire in De Luz could potentially have been caused by fireworks, but both remain under investigation. Choi said a witness reported seeing a firework go down in the field where the De Luz fire occurred, but firefighters have not recovered anything in the area.

*Will Fritz can be reached by email at [wfritz@reedermedia.com](mailto:wfritz@reedermedia.com).*

## **FPPC Regulation Clarifies Officials' Duty to Publicly Identify Financial Conflicts at Meetings**

The Fair Political Practices Commission adopted amendments to its Regulation 18707 clarifying the duty and procedure for officials to follow to publicly identify financial conflicts. The amendments, adopted June 19, are regarding an agenda item when the official is attending any part of a meeting where he or she is required to declare a conflict and recuse because of a conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act.

The California Political Reform Act prohibits public officials from making, participating in the making of, or in any way using their official position to influence a government decision in which they know, or should have reason to know, they have a financial interest. In order to avoid violating this prohibition, officials must announce the reason for having a conflict and recuse themselves from the matter's consideration by leaving the dais and the meeting room (except for consent agenda items), which is the procedure prescribed by Government Code section 87105. This procedure applies to a number of officials listed under Government Code section 87200, including city council members, planning commissioners and members of the board of supervisors and special district board members, as well as school boards.

According to section 87105, public officials have a duty to publicly identify the financial interest that gives rise to the conflict and must describe the financial interest in detail sufficient for the public to understand. Specific disclosure provisions for the various financial interests are set out in sections 87200-87210.

Regulation 18707 requires officials to publicly identify financial interests "immediately prior" to the conflicting item being considered. However, the FPPC received a report of a county public official leaving a public meeting before an agenda item was announced and returning after its consideration without publicly identifying his conflicting financial interest in that matter. Due to this "partial absence," the official circumvented the public identification duty by not being present immediately prior to the agenda item's announcement and consideration. The FPPC concluded that the "absence exception" previously contained in 18707(a)(3)(B) was not intended to apply to officials actually present at any part of a meeting.

The revisions adopted in the amended Regulation 18707 address the "partial absence" issue in three ways. First, the "absence exception" is, itself, eliminated. Second, the language clarifies the FPPC's intent by explicitly saying that a partial absence does not excuse an official from the public identification duty. Third, the language provides additional procedures for when and how an official must disclose a conflicting financial interest if he or she leaves early or arrives late to a meeting.

As previously required, an official must still publicly identify a conflicting financial interest immediately prior to an agenda item being considered. In addition, if an official with a financial conflict leaves in advance of the agenda item's consideration, he or she must publicly identify the agenda item and financial interest prior to leaving the meeting. If an official joins a meeting after the consideration of an agenda item for which he or she is disqualified, the official must publicly identify the agenda item and financial interest immediately upon joining the meeting.

However, if an official is absent from an entire meeting, there is no announcement requirement under the regulation as amended.

If you have any questions about this amended regulation and how it may impact your agency, please contact the authors of this Legal Alert listed to the right in the firm's [Municipal Law](#) practice group, or your [BB&K attorney](#).

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# Village News - Also serving the communities of De Luz, Rainbow, Camp Pendleton, Pala and Pauma

## North County Fire responds to 2 separate crashes Thursday afternoon

By [Will Fritz](#)  
Associate Editor



Village News/Michael Reardon courtesy photo

Fire vehicles line up at the scene of a crash at Laketree Drive and Gird Road in Fallbrook Thursday afternoon, one of two collisions requiring assistance from emergency crews in an hour span.

Two separate crashes closed roads in Fallbrook this afternoon and at least two people were injured in one of them.

The North County Fire Protection District announced on Twitter a little after 12:30 p.m. that crews were working to rescue the occupants of a vehicle that crashed near Laketree Drive and Gird Road. Two people were hurt, and nearby roadways were impacted for about 30 minutes.

About an hour later, the fire district tweeted that firefighters were at the scene of a crash near South Main Avenue and West Aviation Road.





# Preparing for peak wildfire season in San Diego amid the pandemic

By Rob Nikolewski

Fighting wildfires has always been difficult but as the weather heats up and the 2020 fire season moves into high gear, the COVID-19 pandemic adds another set of complicated — and unpredictable — factors into the mix.

The outbreak has forced local officials to change their fire-fighting strategy and consider other alterations. The wildfire mitigation team at San Diego Gas & Electric has made its own adjustments as part of a larger effort to reduce the effects of dreaded power shutoffs to backcountry residents who are often vulnerable when fire conditions escalate.

The pandemic has “definitely had a big effect,” said [Cal Fire](#) and [San Diego County Fire Authority](#) Chief [Tony Mecham](#).

First of all, how can crews battle fast-moving wildfires while practicing social distancing protocols to avoid contracting the virus?

“It’s impossible,” Mecham said.

[Cal Fire deploys](#) “hand crews” of about 20 that construct fire lines in steep terrain and “strike teams” of highly trained wildland fire fighters.

“Strike teams are anywhere from 15 to 20 people and there’s just no way that you’re going to keep those 20 people social distancing,” Mecham said. “Same thing with a 20-person hand crew. When you’re running a chainsaw with your partner, you’re just going to be close.”

Instead of socially distancing individual fire fighters, officials have decided, at least for this fire season, to isolate teams from one another.

That way if members of one team get sick, Mecham said, “we can go quarantine them, but they haven’t been interacting with everybody else ... If, say, one hand crew gets it (the virus), then I only lose 20 people.”

It’s similar to [a strategy SDG&E employed](#) when it sequestered some essential grid control operators in the first couple of months of the outbreak. Teams of six employees each worked 12-hour shifts for 14 straight days to keep electricity flowing to homes and vital commercial operations, such as hospitals. The crews were kept separated, with each employee assigned an RV to sleep in to reduce the chances of contracting COVID-19.

## Other changes

Cal Fire crews working on active fires will also start off their days differently.

Rather than assembling fire camp personnel at one spot (such as a baseball field) for morning briefings, “we’re looking at much more aggressive use of technology to put a wireless bubble over our fire camp so people could potentially log in on their mobile devices,” Mecham said. “Rather than having to walk over to the briefing, they can watch it on their mobile devices.”

Prior to the pandemic, crew members were already medically monitored but Mecham said officials are considering mandatory temperature checks before anyone comes into a fire camp.

Another issue: What to do amid concerns about the virus with residents who have been told to evacuate their homes in case of a threatening wildfire?

Mecham said about 80 percent of evacuees usually get their own hotel rooms or stay with family or friends “but the people that use shelters are our most vulnerable populations. A lot of them have medical conditions.”

Putting them in, say, a high school gymnasium may not be a wise option. [San Diego County’s Office of Emergency Services](#) and the Red Cross have been looking into the issue and Mecham said a decision may come in the next month or so.

“If we have a red flag (warning) coming up, maybe the county goes ahead and rents 400 hotel rooms ahead of time, just so we have a place to move those people,” Mecham said.

### **De-energizing lines**

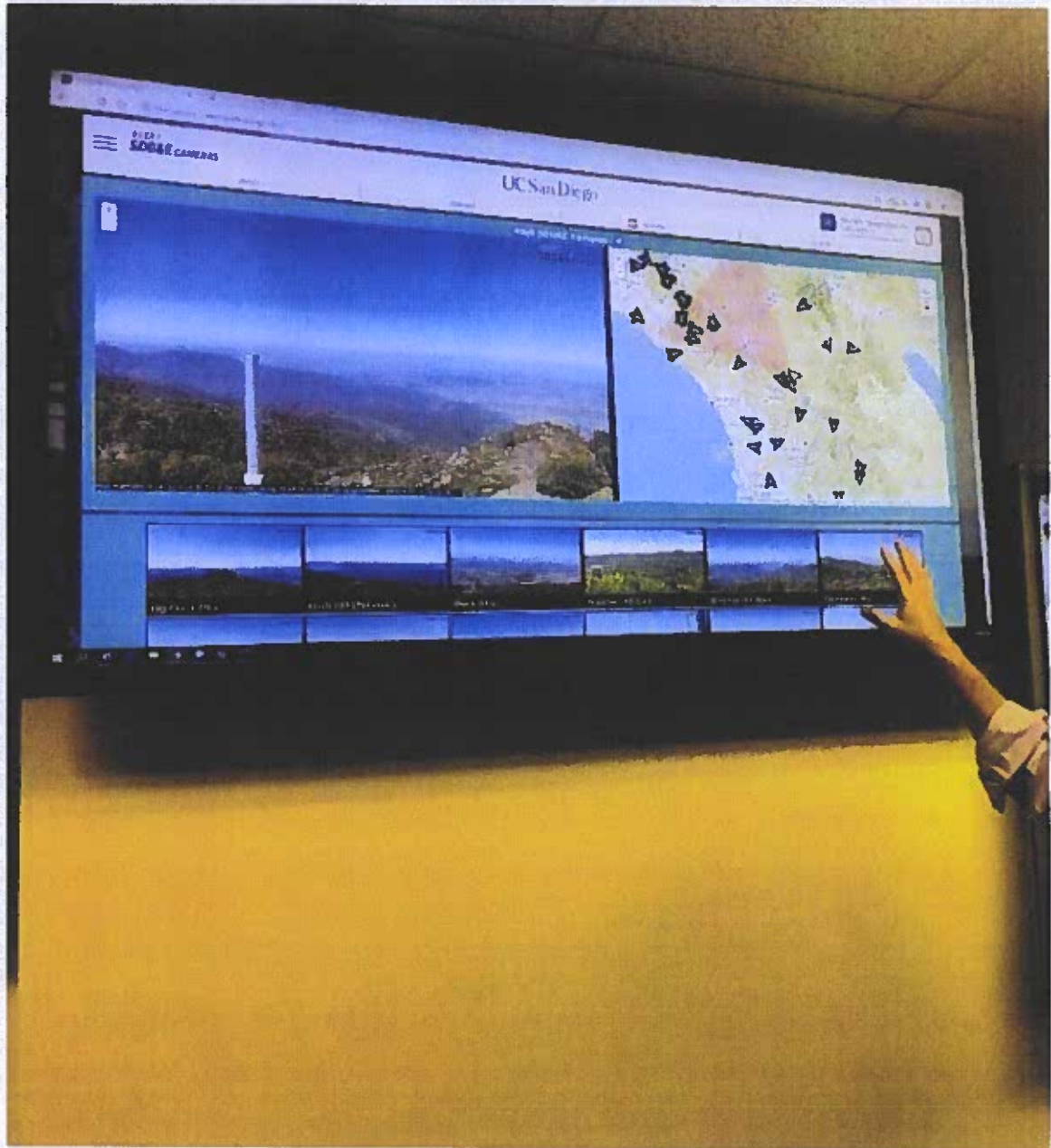
Shutting off power has been a fact of life for many in San Diego County’s backcountry during wildfire season. Known as [Public Safety Power Shutoffs](#), or PSPS, they are used by utilities to de-energize lines when it’s extremely windy and dry to avoid a power line falling and igniting a wildfire.

Shutoffs are especially hard on customers dependent on medical devices powered by electricity and rural residents who need electricity to pump well water on their property.

In 2019, SDG&E shut off power four times, affecting about 27,000 customers at peak deployment.

The utility expects to reduce the number of shutoffs in 2020 by 30 percent — provided this year’s weather conditions are roughly the same as last year’s.

“We’ve learned so much in 2017, 2018 and 2019 from Public Safety Power Shutoffs that we understand it so much better,” said Brian D’Agostino, SDG&E’s director of fire science and climate adaptation. “Now we can really target ways to decrease the number of customers impacted.”



Brian D'Agostino, the director of fire science and climate adaptation at San Diego Gas & Electric, gestures at one of monitors at SDG&E's Weather Center in Kearny Mesa.

(Photo by Rob Nikolewski)

Since 2007 when downed power lines in high winds ignited the devastating Witch, Guejito and Rice wildfires that killed 10 people and destroyed more than 1,700 homes, SDG&E has made a significant investment in reducing fire risk in its service territory.

The utility has spent nearly \$2 billion in ratepayer funds on wildfire mitigation programs since 2007. This year, SDG&E will spend between \$150 million and \$200 million more than it did last year.

Spending will include:

- adding 30 more weather stations this year
- laying down 135 miles of underground lines over the next three years
- installing 30 more “switches” that can divide power into sections, allowing SDG&E grid managers to turn power on and off like a circuit breaker in your home, and
- operating four microgrids this year and seven within three years so that areas affected by PSPS can function independently

SDG&E has also bolstered its fleet of helitankers and helicopters to douse wildfires and patrol lines in rugged areas that cannot be hiked. The utility now has an additional Black Hawk helicopter at the ready when the other chopper is undergoing maintenance.

The effects of the pandemic have forced SDG&E to make some changes in the run-up to the heart of wildfire season.

The utility had scheduled six in-person town halls in backcountry locations but in order to adhere to social distancing, will now host four webinars instead, the first of which will be held next Tuesday and Thursday. SDG&E will email customers with the details on how to take part.

SDG&E activates 10 [Community Resource Centers](#) during power shutoffs in places such as Julian and Ramona for people to get water and snacks, receive up-to-date information on outages and charge their phones. With pandemic guidelines in mind, the utility is developing contingency plans that include floor markings spaced six feet apart and using the centers as drive-throughs to hand people what they need.

The utility also plans on giving out solar-powered phone chargers that enable customers to use their car batteries to charge their computers.

All of these programs come at a financial cost.

At a [California state Senate hearing earlier this month](#), the president of the California Public Utilities Commission said SDG&E’s rates have tracked higher than its investor-owned utility rivals Pacific Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison largely due to SDG&E’s “robust investment in wildfire mitigation after the 2007 wildfires in its service territory.”

However, the commission said PG&E and Edison are expected to step up their wildfire prevention spending. All three investor-owned utilities are budgeted to spend \$15 billion through 2023.

SDG&E has not experienced a repeat of the 2007 disaster.

“When I started here in 2007, and you looked at the largest fires in California history, San Diego was all over that list,” said D’Agostino, who heads a weather team that counts 14 full-time employees. “Now here we are through all of this investment and San Diego is no longer in that top five. How do we put a price on that?”

**How 2020 is shaping up**

As for the wildfire outlook this year, weather conditions have so far offered a mixed bag.

Healthy amounts of rain in April helped but D'Agostino said the [red tide last month](#) that led to the colorful luminescence at local beaches warmed water temperatures. That decreased the marine layer and dried out grass across the area.

"Overall, we're looking at normal fire activity through the summer," D'Agostino said. "By the time we get to fall, we do expect our fuels to be critically dry, like they are every year."

A string of brush fires have broken out in recent weeks, including [a pair around Camp Pendleton](#). A [fire ignited June 11 off of Skyline Drive](#) between Jamul and Lyons Valley that burned 100 acres and threatened some homes before crews, helicopters and air tankers beat the blaze back.

Cal Fire's Mecham said he's worried going into every wildfire season, adding that the relative calm San Diego experienced in 2019 — in sharp contrast to the fires and shutoffs seen in Northern California — was "an anomaly."

"I don't expect that we are going to get into really peak burning conditions until about mid-July, towards the end of August," he said. "When you look at the hillsides in San Diego, 60 to 70 percent of that brush is dead. It's beyond life cycle ... so we could have a significant fire today if we had the wind behind it."

In the meantime, Mecham encourages homeowners who may be hanging around their houses during the pandemic to use that extra time to clear brush and establish defensible space of about 100 feet from their homes and structures.

"Don't wait until September when the winds are blowing 70 mph to decide, 'Hey, maybe I should go out and do my clearance,'" Mecham said. "Have a plan and know what you're going to do."



# CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## CalChiefs Superior Court Action Decision

CalChiefs received notice of the court order in the Sacramento Superior Court case yesterday, June 29, 2020, via mail to our legal counsel's office. The Court granted CalChiefs' requested mandate and declaratory relief, in part. (see linked decision below)

Specifically, the Court: (1) declared that Guidelines 141 (Competitive Process for Creating Exclusive Operating Areas), 141-B (Transportation and Exclusive Operating Area Components of the EMS Plan), and 310-01 (Section 201 Eligibility Criteria) are "underground regulations"; (2) ordered EMSA not to use or enforce Guidelines 141, 141-B, and 310-01 until EMSA adopts them as regulations under the APA process; and (3) will permit CalChiefs to file a motion for its attorneys' fees.

The Court denied the remainder of CalChiefs' requested relief (e.g., invalidate EMSA's prior exclusivity determinations, order EMSA to remove the Ambulance Zone list, order EMSA to adopt regulations). The Court's denial of these items of relief doesn't preclude our member agencies from taking appropriate legal action—individually, jointly, or in a class action—for any decisions made under these unlawful regulations once the Court's order is reduced to a judgment within a couple of weeks.

CalChiefs and its legal counsel are working with EMSA on the remaining steps in this litigation. We will keep you informed as we hit the various milestones.

The full Board of Directors of the California Fire Chiefs Association wishes to express its sincere appreciation to our attorneys at Wright, L'Estrange & Ergastolo, the lead attorney on our case, Andrew Schouten, and the consultants of AP Triton (Kurt Henke, Scott Clough, Ray Ramirez) for their professionalism, expertise, persistence and tenacity. Without their unwavering support, this would not have been possible.

[CFCA v EMSA -- Order granting relief, in part](#)

Sincerely,

California Fire Chiefs Association

# Placentia Fire Department to Take Reins From OC Fire Authority After Year-Long Battle

*Orange County Fire Authority*



By [Spencer Custodio](#) | June 29, 2020

Placentia will be the first city in Orange County to break away from the OC Fire Authority and use its own fire department, ending a year-long battle against the Authority's chief and various firefighter unions.

The move is expected to save Placentia millions of dollars as OCFA's cost has increased over the years, while the city has had to cut police and other department spending, [city documents show](#).

One of the core issues OCFA Chief Brian Fennessy, firefighter unions and fire associations have with Placentia's fire department is its use of private paramedics to transport patients to hospitals, instead of the firefighter-paramedic set-up that all OC fire departments use. They also raised concerns that the Placentia fire department will lack the decades of institutional experience OCFA has.

Under OCFA's procedures, the firefighter arrives on the firetruck, but then rides on the contracted private ambulance with the patient to the hospital, essentially taking the engine offline during that time.

But OCFA has the resources to continue providing emergency services, fire union officials contend.

"The single role paramedic as opposed to the firefighter paramedic model is also far inferior because they cannot go into burning buildings, into incidents that are dangerous for life and health," said retired OCFA Fire Captain Joe Kerr, who's now a consultant for the union.

Placentia will instead use private ambulances and the company's paramedics to handle emergency medical calls, leaving its engines free. The new fire department is slated to take over emergency services July 1, [a year after City Councilmembers voted to breakaway from OCFA](#).

Kerr, Fennessy and the OCFA firefighters contend that Placentia will lack enough firefighters to adequately address a typical house fire and will have to rely on nearby Anaheim, Brea and Fullerton fire departments.

"Beginning July 1, Placentia [Fire and Life Safety Department] will be the only

fire agency in Orange County that cannot reciprocate type and number of resources necessary to be considered reciprocal as understood by fire agencies statewide,” Fennessy wrote in a letter laying out OCFA’s concerns.

**[Read Fennessy’s letter here.](#)**

Kerr also echoed what Fennessy said.

“The city of Placentia’s fire department, the new agency, represents the first time any Orange County agency has such an inferior-staffed department. They are not able to offer like for like reciprocity,” said Kerr, adding the surrounding fire departments will “subsidize their new fire department.”

Placentia City Manager Damien Arrula, in a letter to a statewide organization, addressed the concerns.

“They would be right to a certain degree – OCFA has extensive resources. Yet, despite its vast resources, OCFA annually receives far more aid from other agencies than it provides to them, and medical aid calls are far and away the norm for fire departments, with structure fires representing a much smaller number of their calls, in Placentia’s case, less than 1%,” Arrula wrote.

He also noted that Fennessy stonewalled aid negotiations with the city and OCFA takes from other jurisdictions more than it receives.

“Such correspondence indicates that Anaheim, Fullerton, and Brea all respond into Yorba Linda (OCFA) and Placentia (currently OCFA) at a much higher rate than OCFA does within their communities. Moreover, while OCFA has thus far been unwilling to provide the data, a separate source demonstrates that Placentia Engines 34 and 35 also respond into Yorba Linda at a much higher rate than it receives assistance from resources located within Yorba Linda. This data can be provided upon request,” Arrula stated in the letter.

The California Fire Chiefs Association also sent a January letter to the city claiming there would be no oversight of the paramedics, the city’s deployment plans are inconsistent with industry standards and the city would have to rely on surrounding agencies.

“These decisions and plans put firefighters and the citizens they serve in greater danger, a risk burden that will be borne by neighboring departments who are being asked to deliver mutual aid support to Placentia to meet industry-standard response levels. This model is contrary to the California Disaster Act and our statewide mutual aid compacts and is not financially sustainable,” wrote association president Edmond Rodriguez.

**[Read the Fire Chiefs Association Letter here.](#)**

Arrula, who spearheaded the city’s fire department effort, fired back with a February letter, refuting each claim raised by the chiefs association.

“Let me state at the outset that the Placentia City Council and staff are extremely bothered by the manner and content of your letters because of the



significant number of false and defamatory statements contained therein. Not only are these statements highly troubling to the City, but they likely have crossed the line into legally actionable false statements that should be retracted,” Arrula wrote.

[Read Arrula’s response here.](#)

“It is unclear to our City why the CFCA executive board has chosen to rush forward to make so many false statements, without even having attempted once to contact us to seek a clarification of what the City’s actual plans are for establishing its own local fire Department,” Arrula stated in the letter.

When Placentia City Councilmembers voted to end the city’s contract with OCFA and form its own fire department last June, [Arrula laid out the details in a presentation consisting of over 100 PowerPoint slides.](#)

Placentia officials have also faced some trouble hiring firefighters also.

The California Professional Firefighters Association, the statewide umbrella union, sent a December memo to their members, urging them not to apply to Placentia’s fire department.

“In solidarity with Orange County Professional Firefighters Association, Local 3631, CPF asks that you DO NOT APPLY to Placentia Fire Department for any position,” reads an association memo.

The firefighter association criticized Placentia for not having a firefighter union and railed against the lack of pensions and said the department proposes a health risk.

“We strongly believe their action is the first step down the road of ending secure pensions for all firefighters and all public workers,” reads the memo. “And we believe the staffing proposal as outlined poses a clear and present health and safety risk to any individual who might be hired to work for the proposed Placentia fire department.”

A December memo from the California Fire Chiefs Association echoing the same concerns was sent to its members.

The latest fight between the city and OCFA happened this past Tuesday.

Placentia’s incoming fire department next month will take over fire and emergency medical services for an unincorporated island within the city, despite objections from the Orange County Fire Authority.

Last Tuesday saw a two-part approval process: a vote from Placentia City Councilmembers at a special morning meeting and a vote by OC Supervisors in the afternoon for Placentia’s incoming fire department to take over the unincorporated island, known as Hamer Island.

Arrula said OCFA fought the efforts by submitting proposals to the county that would have charged the city for responding to 911 calls from Hamer Island.

And OCFA wanted Placentia to pay workers compensation for a fire authority employee if they were injured while responding to a Hamer Island call — an unprecedented move, Arrula said.

“Charging the city a fee for every aid request — out of 37 agencies serving out of 5 counties, the city could not find a single example,” Arrula said during last Tuesday’s meeting. “They are not negotiating in good faith ... they are only interested in fire unions and trying to diminish our ability to be successful.”

Throughout Placentia’s efforts to create its own fire department, OCFA and the unions claimed city firefighters would use more resources of surrounding jurisdictions than it provides.

Arrula disputed the claim and said a majority of calls are medical emergencies and not large fires.

“Ironically, all the data that we have ... demonstrates that OCFA’s deployment model utilizes automatic aide much more than it deployed automatic aide to cities,” Arrula said.

For example, Arrula said, Fullerton firefighters helped OCFA in 69 percent of calls, while the fire authority helped Fullerton Fire Department in 31 percent of calls last year.

Arrula also said Fennessy declined to meet with him and County officials about the Hamer Island issue.

“Myself and the County CEO Frank Kim have attempted to meet with Chief (Brian) Fennessy to discuss mutual aid concerns ... the discussions are not going well with respect to how OCFA is proposing the city provide services.”

City Councilman Craig Green said the fire authority has refused agreements with the city for Hamer Island emergency services, potentially extending response time.

“Which I think is incredible on his part, it appears that Chief Fennessy is okay with a two to eight minute delay. Well, I cannot in good conscience accept that delay,” Green said at Tuesday’s Council meeting.

The delay was caused by OCFA’s proposal that Placentia firefighters and paramedics wait until a fire authority truck was on-scene until they transported a patient to the hospital.

One of Placentia’s firehouses is only a quarter mile from Hamer Island, considerably closer than OCFA.

“And I just think this is egregious and abusive what he’s doing,” Green said.

Fennessy’s proposed deployment model drew concern from Supervisor Doug Chaffee. Placentia is part of his supervisorial district.

“We understand that OCFA proposed that Placentia emergency personnel only provide an initial response to service requests in Hamer Island followed by a

secondary response from OCFA,” Chaffee wrote in a June 17 letter.

He sent the letter to his Supervisor colleagues and the OCFA Board of Directors.

“I am deeply concerned about the risks of delay in patient care and transport posed by OCFA’s proposal,” Chaffee wrote.

Arrula told Placentia Councilmembers that Fennessy backed off that proposal.

“OCFA has now since indicated if it’s an [emergency medical] call and people need to be transported, OK, Placentia can go ahead and transport that,” Arrula said.

At Placentia’s June 2019 meeting, when City Councilmembers voted to break away from OCFA, numerous fire authority employees and firefighters showed up and claimed residents would be less safe. They also accused Placentia of using volunteer firefighters.

[The city is using paid, professional firefighters](#), headed up by a Chief John Van Gieson, who has over 33 years of experience in the field.

The city will use the private ambulance company Lynch Ambulance for paramedics to transport injured patients, instead of a firefighter paramedic who rides with the patient on the ambulance, like OCFA and other OC fire departments.

Medical emergencies account for the majority of 911 calls in the city and each of the two new fire engines coming to Placentia will be staffed by three full-time firefighters and a reserve firefighter. All of the full-time firefighters will also be licensed emergency medical technicians.

*Spencer Custodio is a Voice of OC staff reporter. You can reach him at [scustodio@voiceofoc.org](mailto:scustodio@voiceofoc.org). Follow him on Twitter [@SpencerCustodio](https://twitter.com/SpencerCustodio).*

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# Village News - Also serving the communities of De Luz, Rainbow, Camp Pendleton, Pala and Pauma

## NCFPD firefighters train for rope rescues

By [Kim Harris](#)  
Managing Editor



Village News/Mario Morales photo

Firefighting crews simulate hauling a rescuer and victim up a cliff utilizing a mechanical advantage and twin tension haul system, the Arizona Vortex, during a Thursday, June 11, Technical Rope Rescue training.

North County Fire Protection District firefighters made their way to a hilltop, Thursday, June 11, quickly assembling the department's new Arizona Vortex and preparing to lower firefighter Matt Anderson to perform a technical rope rescue of a victim located down the steep hillside.

To those observing, the scenario on private property on Monserate Place appeared to be very real that day, but in reality, it was actually a quarterly training on High Angle Rope Rescue, a high risk, low frequency skill that is perishable according to NCPD Capt. Joey Bradshaw.

"Training is essential not only to master new skills and equipment but to maintain our current level of proficiency," Bradshaw said.

The purpose of the training is to keep firefighters' skills sharp for mountainous and even urban

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"In rope rescue there are three fundamental disciplines," he said. "There is low angle rope rescue, high angle rope rescue and vertical rope rescue. All three disciplines utilize the same set of components and skills but they just build on each other."

NCFPD uses a component approach when it comes to training firefighters for technical rescue.



Village News/Mario Morales photo

Capt. Joey Bradshaw of the North County Fire Protection District instructs crews on the Arizona Vortex, a new piece of equipment used for cliff rescues during a High Angle Rope Rescue training.

"I teach the guys and gals how to use each component and we do that on a much smaller scale, at crew level, at company level training that builds into those components a bigger drill

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technical rescues, including those that may require firefighters to utilize equipment such as the Arizona Vortex.

"It seems like we get these types of calls, more so than any other fire departments throughout the county," he said. "The I-5 corridor, the De Luz area, we get a lot of these calls that utilize high angle and low angle rescues where we have had to deploy these types of skills."

Kim Harris can be reached by email at [villageeditor@reedermedia.com](mailto:villageeditor@reedermedia.com).

You might be interested in:

- [San Diego County noted as major driver in gun violence restraining order use](#)
- [Driver arrested after fiery SUV crash north of Pala](#)
- [Crash kills one on Pala Temecula Road](#)
- [San Diego restaurants ordered to close by 10 p.m. every night](#)
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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** COMMENTS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

● **STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS/UPDATES:**

● **STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO:**

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● **CHIEF OFFICERS & STAFF:**

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● **BOARD:**

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● **BARGAINING GROUPS:**

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● **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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**NORTH COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CHIEF/CEO**

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** STEPHEN ABBOTT, FIRE CHIEF/CEO  
**DATE:** JULY 28, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** CLOSED SESSION

**CS-1. ANNOUNCEMENT — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN:**

- *An announcement regarding the items to be discussed in Closed Session will be made prior to the commencement of Closed Session.*

**CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — MANAGEMENT GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

NCFPD MANAGEMENT GROUP                      DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

**CS-3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — NON-SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

➤ FFA NON-SAFETY GROUP                      DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
NEGOTIATORS                                      CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

**CS-4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR – GOVERNMENT CODE § 54957.6 — SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATIONS – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

➤ FFA SAFETY GROUP NEGOTIATORS                      DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:  
CHIEF ABBOTT, DISTRICT COUNSEL JAMES

**CS-5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.8 — DFC MAROVICH AND CHIEF ABBOTT:**

➤ PROPERTY LOCATION:                                      4157 Olive Hill Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028;  
PARTIES:    North County Fire Protection District (Seller);  
UNDER NEGOTIATION:    Terms of Purchase;  
DISTRICT NEGOTIATORS:    Chief Abbott, District Counsel James

**CS-6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION — GOVERNMENT CODE § 54956.9 – CHIEF ABBOTT:**

- Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code § 54956.9 – one case.

**CS-7. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION — VICE PRESIDENT VAN DOORN**

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