

June 29, 2021

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

The Minutes of the

***SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING***

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2021, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

A. REGULAR SESSION – Regular Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Directors Nathan Fletcher, Chair; Nora Vargas, Vice-Chair; Joel Anderson; Terra Lawson-Remer; Jim Desmond; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

B. Non-Agenda Public Communication: No Speakers

C. **Time Certain: 2 p.m.**

Item 4: ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 22 BUDGET FOR THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

Supporting documentation and attachments for items listed on the agenda can be viewed online at www.sandiegocob.com or in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402, San Diego, CA 92101.

ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

Agendas and records are available in alternative formats upon request. Contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office at 619-531-5434 with questions or to request a disability-related accommodation. Individuals requiring sign language interpreters should contact the Countywide ADA Title II Coordinator at (619) 531-4908. To the extent reasonably possible, requests for accommodation or assistance should be submitted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting so that arrangements may be made. An area in the front of the room is designated for individuals requiring the use of wheelchair or other accessible devices.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION ASSISTANCE:

Language translation services for public speakers are available upon request to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at least 72 hours prior to the meeting (refer to Board Policy A-139 for additional information). Please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (619) 531-5434 or via e-mail at publiccomment@sdcountry.ca.gov.

Agenda Items

- | Agenda # | Subject |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. | NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO DEFENSIBLE SPACE FOR FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCE |
| 2. | SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - JOINT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

(RELATES TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA NO. 01) |
| 3. | SELECTION OF PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OR CLERK OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT |
| 4. | ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 BUDGET FOR THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
(4 VOTES) |

**1. SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE COUNTY OF
SAN DIEGO DEFENSIBLE SPACE FOR FIRE PROTECTION
ORDINANCE (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (Board of Supervisors) adopted the Defensible Space for Fire Protection Ordinance (Defensible Space Ordinance) in its current form on May 10, 2011 (9). The Defensible Space Ordinance sets forth various requirements for property owners to increase the resilience of their homes. The ordinance applies within: (1) all unincorporated areas of the County of San Diego (County) outside of fire protection or municipal water districts providing fire protection services, and (2) any fire protection or municipal water district providing fire protection services if the district adopts the Defensible Space Ordinance by reference through enactment of its own district ordinance.

The Defensible Space Ordinance applied to the unincorporated areas of the County through the former County Service Area No. 135 (CSA 135). With the recent formation of the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD), the SDCFPD Board of Directors (Board of Directors) is requested to enact a district ordinance adopting the County's Defensible Space Ordinance by reference. The jurisdictional footprint of CSA 135 and SDCFPD are identical, and therefore there will be no change in the defensible space requirements for residents and property owners within SDCFPD. Administrative and enforcement authority of the Defensible Space Ordinance may be delegated to the County through a memorandum of understanding between the County and SDCFPD, and is being presented to the Board of Directors as a separate action today.

Today's requested action is for the Board of Directors to enact a district ordinance adopting by reference the County of San Diego's Defensible Space Ordinance.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

On June 29, 2021:

1. Find that the proposed action is not subject to or exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15061(b)(3) and 15060(c)(3). The proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that these actions will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading), read title, and waive further reading of the Ordinance:
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE COUNTY OF SAN
DIEGO DEFENSIBLE SPACE FOR FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCE.**

If, on June 29, 2021, the San Diego County Fire Protection District Board of Directors takes action as recommended, then on July 13, 2021, consider and adopt (second reading):
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO DEFENSIBLE SPACE FOR FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCE.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Taking the proposed action will result in increased community resilience and decreased likelihood of the need to rebuild whole communities after devastating wildfires. There are 33,544 parcels with 24,759 structures within the SDCFPD that will be affected. Of the affected parcels, 93% are within areas considered High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. In addition, data presented by the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in May 2020 found that more than four-fifths of the SDCFPD jurisdictional area qualifies as a disadvantaged unincorporated community. This designation is based on annual median income. It is influenced in part by a higher level of unemployment and increased number of individuals collecting retirement compared to county-wide LAFCO data. This shows that there are communities that could be devastated by both the physical and financial risks of wildfire.

This recommendation will require individuals to continue performing defensible space work on their properties or pay for the work to be completed. Based on the jurisdictional area's demographics, SDCFPD works with local fire safe councils and other community organizations to assist individuals who are differently abled, elderly, or do not have the financial resources to perform defensible space work themselves. SDCFPD and CAL FIRE San Diego Unit staff refer individuals to grant-funded programs that assist in performing this work. By referring individuals to community organizations, SDCFPD aims to reduce unintended consequences of ability, age, and financial resources that can be a prohibitive factor to community resiliency, though these organizations cannot guarantee financial resources to assist every eligible individual.

Finally, to ensure community members know the requirements of the Defensible Space Ordinance and community resources available to assist achieving them, SDCFPD, in conjunction with the CAL FIRE San Diego Unit, will visit every parcel in its jurisdiction on a triennial basis. These visits ensure parcels are compliant with the Defensible Space Ordinance and provide an opportunity to engage with community members on further steps they can take to increase wildfire readiness.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the enactment of a district ordinance adopting by reference the County of San Diego Defensible Space for Fire Protection Ordinance. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Desmond, seconded by Director Vargas, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, closed the hearing and took action as recommended, on Consent, to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on July 13, 2021.

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

2. **SUBJECT: SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - JOINT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On April 6, 2021 (1), the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego (County) and Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) authorized the County's Chief Administrative Officer and SDCFPD's Executive Director or designee to enter into an agreement outlining the organizational and financial structure between the two entities to ensure the continuance of services within the SDCFPD jurisdictional area.

Today's proposed action is to memorialize the agreement and designate the terms of the relationship between the County and SDCFPD, including the services to be provided by the County for the benefit of the SDCFPD, SDCFPD responsibilities, and use of County staff by SDCFPD.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Acting as the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District:

1. Find that the proposed actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because they involve organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.
2. Authorize the Deputy Executive Director or designee to take all actions necessary to enter into and implement an agreement formalizing the organizational and financial structure with the County, and amend as needed (Attachment A, on file with the Clerk of the Board).

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Based on data presented by the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in the May 2020 Municipal Service Review (MSR) report on the funding, administration, and performance of the former County Service Area No. 135 (CSA 135), now San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD), more than four-fifths of the jurisdictional area qualifies as a disadvantaged unincorporated community. The MSR report is used to proactively inform San Diego LAFCO and the public regarding the availability and sufficiency of governmental services relative to current and future community needs. Today's proposed action to enter into an agreement outlining the organizational and financial structure between the County and SDCFPD will ensure the continuance and coordinated delivery of fire protection and emergency medical services throughout the region.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

(RELATES TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA NO. 01)

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Fletcher, seconded by Director Anderson, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District took action as recommended.

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

- 3. **SUBJECT: SELECTION OF PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OR CLERK OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

The Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District will select a president, vice president, and a secretary or clerk.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

- 1. Consistent with the current selection of officers for the Board of Supervisors, establish that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors shall serve as the President of the Board of Directors and the Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors shall serve as the Vice President of the Board of Directors.
- 2. Appoint the Clerk of the Board as clerk of the Board of Directors.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Based on data presented by the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in the May 2020 Municipal Service Review (MSR) report on the funding, administration, and performance of the former County Service Area No. 135 (CSA 135), now San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD), more than four-fifths of the jurisdictional area qualify as a disadvantaged unincorporated community. The MSR report is used to proactively inform San Diego LAFCO and the public regarding the availability and sufficiency of governmental services relative to current and future community needs. Today’s proposed action for the selection of the officers of the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) Board of Directors will ensure the continuance and coordinated delivery of fire protection and emergency medical services throughout the region.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years will be required.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Desmond, seconded by Director Vargas, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District took action as recommended, on Consent.

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

4. SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 BUDGET FOR THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 29088, this request recommends the approval of a Resolution to adopt the budget for the San Diego County Fire Protection District for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

RECOMMENDATION(S) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Approve the CAO Change Letter.
2. Consider Board member Change Letters submitted before the close of the budget hearing, if applicable.
3. Consider change requests submitted after the close of the budget hearing, if applicable.
(4 VOTES)
4. If written requests to revise the Recommended Budget received prior to the close of hearings do not identify a funding source, continue recommendation 6 to June 30, 2021, if necessary.
5. If requests to revise the Recommended Budget are made after the close of the budget hearing and approved by the Board, continue recommendation 6 to June 30, 2021, if necessary.
6. Adopt a Resolution entitled:
ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Operational Plan is a detailed document containing program accomplishments, objectives, and performance measures across four business groups, while seeking appropriation authority for more than \$7 billion in the first fiscal year. This Operational Plan is intended to provide resources to address inequities in County services by engaging community voices, enhancing data analysis to identify disparities, developing meaningful outcome indicators, and creating a County government culture of equity, belonging, and racial justice.

FISCAL IMPACT

The recommended action provides spending authority of \$3,201,939 for the San Diego Fire Protection District for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Director Fletcher, seconded by Director Vargas, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District took action as recommended, adopting Resolution No. 21-090, entitled: ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021.

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

There being no further business, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

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

Consent/Discussion: Caro

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

Approved by the Board of Directors, on Tuesday, July 13, 2021.



NATHAN FLETCHER
Chair

Attest:



ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board