

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024, 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 9:05 a.m.

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

B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Director, if applicable.

C. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board’s jurisdiction but not an item on today’s agenda.

D. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 24, 2024.

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Director Anderson, seconded by Director Desmond, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of September 24, 2024.

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

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.

**Agenda Items**

<b>Agenda #</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1.	ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM: SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO THE RAMONA FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE/PARAMEDIC FEES AND CHARGES (9/24/24 - FIRST READING; 10/08/24 - SECOND READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING)

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**1. SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:  
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XX OF THE SAN DIEGO  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE CODE, RELATING TO  
THE RAMONA FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE/PARAMEDIC  
FEES AND CHARGES (9/24/24 - FIRST READING; 10/08/24 - SECOND  
READING UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND  
READING) (DISTRICT: 2)**

**OVERVIEW**

On September 24, 2024 (FP02), the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on October 8, 2024.

On December 14, 2021, the Ramona Municipal Water District (RMWD) Board of Directors voted to divest and transfer fire protection and emergency medical services within their district to the San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD). On February 8, 2022 (1), the SDCFPD Board of Directors adopted a resolution in support of the RMWD resolution and directed County staff to take all necessary actions to transfer responsibility for fire protection and emergency medical services from the RMWD to the SDCFPD. On August 1, 2022, SDCFPD officially assumed fire protection and emergency medical responsibilities for the community of Ramona.

As part of the reorganization, SDCFPD assumed responsibility for the RMWD special tax on Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDU) which funds fire protection and ambulance transportation services in the community of Ramona. In 1983, the RMWD first started to charge property owners through an ordinance. In 1997, the EDU ordinance was reclassified as a special tax through a voter approved ballot measure, which set a rate of \$188.52 per EDU to maintain the service levels and continues to be collected. The EDU special tax and ordinance is currently within the RMWD code and will require transfer and adoption into the San Diego County Administrative Code. Ramona residents will not experience any property tax changes associated with today's actions. All special tax revenue collected from the Ramona EDU will continue to be used to support fire protection and emergency medical services in Ramona.

Today's request is for the Board of Supervisors to adopt the EDU ordinance and special tax into the San Diego County Administrative Code.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Consider and adopt (unless ordinance is modified on second reading):  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  
ARTICLE XX SECTION 372, RELATING TO RAMONA FIRE PROTECTION AND  
AMBULANCE/PARAMEDIC FEES AND CHARGES

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's proposed ordinance supports the reorganization of fire protection and emergency medical services, which is intended to support the existing level of services for the residents of Ramona. The adoption of the EDU ordinance into the San Diego County Administrative Code will maintain necessary funding to ensure equitable fire and emergency response across the SDCFPD. The EDU ordinance allocates resources exclusively to the community of Ramona that would otherwise need to be provided by general purpose revenue or through reduced fire and emergency services in other communities in the SDCFPD. Codifying the EDU Ordinance into the San Diego County Administrative Code is critical for providing equitable fire protection and emergency medical response needs in the heavily impacted and underserved communities in the SDCFPD.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The proposed actions in today's request support the County of San Diego's Sustainability goals to provide just and equitable access to fire protection and emergency medical services by ensuring the SDCFPD can meet and address future needs for fire protection and emergency medical services of the community.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the EDU ordinance and special tax. All special tax revenue collected from the Ramona EDU will continue to be used to support fire protection and emergency medical services in Ramona. 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 Anderson, seconded by Director Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, took action as recommended, and adopted Ordinance No. 10919 (N.S.), entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE ARTICLE XX SECTION 372, RELATING TO RAMONA FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE/PARAMEDIC FEES AND CHARGES.

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

NOT PRESENT: Vargas

The Board recessed at 4:53 p.m. on October 8, 2024 until 9:03 a.m. on October 9, 2024 and, there being no further business, the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Fire Protection District adjourned at 9:53 a.m. on October 9, 2024.

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

Notes By: Vizcarra

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.

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