

## MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Montecito Fire Protection District Headquarters  
595 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, California

February 28, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

The Regular Board meeting will be held via teleconference connection in accordance with the requirements set out in Government Code section 54953 (e) and pursuant to the findings and authority set out in Montecito Fire Protection District Resolution No. 2022-04.

Members of the public will be able to observe the Regular Board meeting and provide public comments via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81448315025>, or by calling 1-669-900-6833, meeting ID: 814 4831 5025. Any member of the public who would like to provide public input on an item listed on the agenda may utilize the "Raise Hand" feature through the Zoom App or enter "\*9" if participating by telephone only. The host will be notified, and you will be recognized to speak on the agenda item in the order such requests are received by the District.

Agenda items may be taken out of the order shown.

1. Public comment: Any person may address the Board at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (30 minutes total time allotted for this discussion.)
2. Receive 2021 Operations Report from Division Chief Neels. (Strategic Plan Goal 2)
3. Receive 2021 Fire Prevention Bureau Report from Fire Marshal Briner. (Strategic Plan Goal 2)
4. That the Board of Directors authorize the Fire Chief to enter a contract with Dudek to complete the Cal VTP Programmatic Environmental Support for Montecito Fire Protection District Vegetation Treatment Program for \$93,938.25. (Strategic Plan Goals 1, 2 and 3)
  - a. Staff report presented by Fire Marshal Briner.
5. Election of Special District LAFCO representative, and vote regarding future Independent Special District Election procedures.
  - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.
6. Presentation regarding Long Term Financial Outlook by Accountant Nahas. (Strategic Plan Goal 9.1)

7. Approval of Minutes of the January 24, 2022 Regular Meeting.
8. Approval of Minutes of the February 14, 2022 Special Meeting.
9. Fire Chief's report.
10. Board of Director's report.
11. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the March 28, 2022 Regular Board meeting.
12. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
(Government Code Section 54956.8)  
Property: 100 Innovation Place, Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
Agency negotiators: Directors Powell and Ishkanian  
Negotiating party: QAD  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

### Adjournment

This agenda posted pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code commencing at Section 54950. The date of the posting is February 24, 2022.



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Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Note: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District office at 969-7762. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Montecito Fire Protection District's office located at 595 San Ysidro Road during normal business hours.

# Agenda

## Item #2



# 2021 OPERATIONS REVIEW

Board of Directors  
Meeting  
February 28, 2022



**MONTECITO  
FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

# TOTAL RESPONSES FOR SERVICE IN 2021

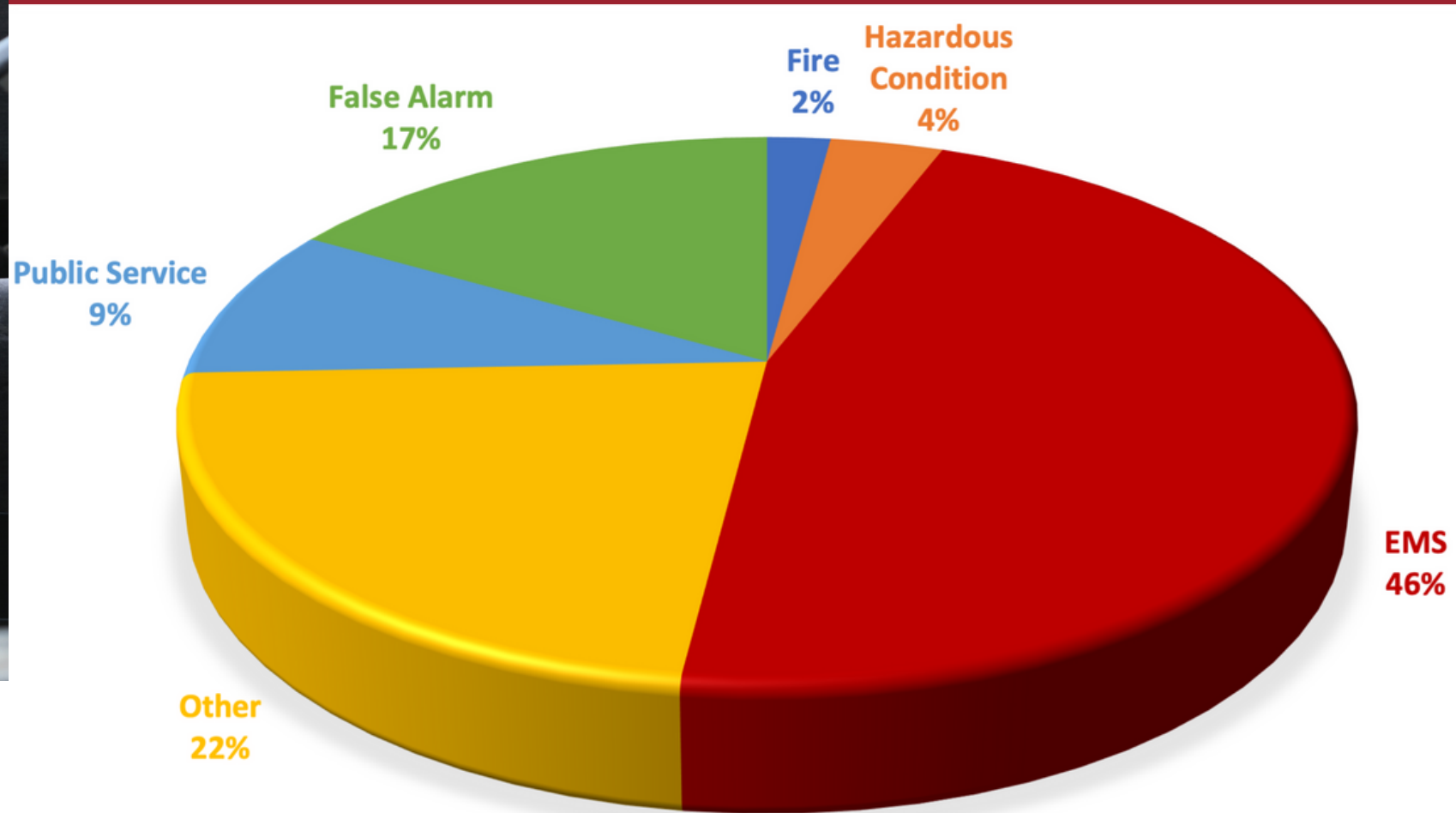
# 1,539

## TOTAL INCIDENTS PREVIOUS YEARS

2020	•—————•	1,426
2019	•—————•	1,340
2018	•—————•	1,291
2017	•—————•	1,545



# RESPONSE BY PERCENTAGE



## RESPONSES BY CATEGORY

Fire	●—————●	32
Hazardous Condition	●—————●	57
EMS	●—————●	711
Other	●—————●	344
Public Service	●—————●	140
False Alarm	●—————●	255



# TOTAL 1,539 INCIDENTS

# MUTUAL AID RESPONSES

Montecito Fire Department personnel spent **20,849** hours assigned to vegetation fires during the year.

Strike Team XSB1521C with a Type 3 from Montecito Fire Department was assigned to the Dixie Fire on July 18 and released on September 7, spending a total of 52 days assigned to the incident.

- OES Pre-position
- Sky Fire
- Tennant Fire
- Beckwourth Fire
- Alta Fire
- Caldor Fire
- French Fire
- Granite Pass Fire - Montana
- Green Ridge Fire - Oregon
- Salt Fire
- Tumbleweed Fire
- Towsley Fire
- Willow Fire
- Region 3 Support - New Mexico
- Alisal Fire
- Dixie Fire
- River Complex
- Alisal Fire







# PERSONNEL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# 15,742

## Training Hours in 2021

### TRAINING

Our Department logged 15,742 training hours.

Our average is 450 hours per person in the ranks of Firefighter, Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer, Captain, and Battalion Chief.

### ADVANCEMENTS IN QUALIFICATIONS

- Medical Unit Leader
- Strike Team Leader Engine
- Heavy Equipment Boss
- Division Supervisor

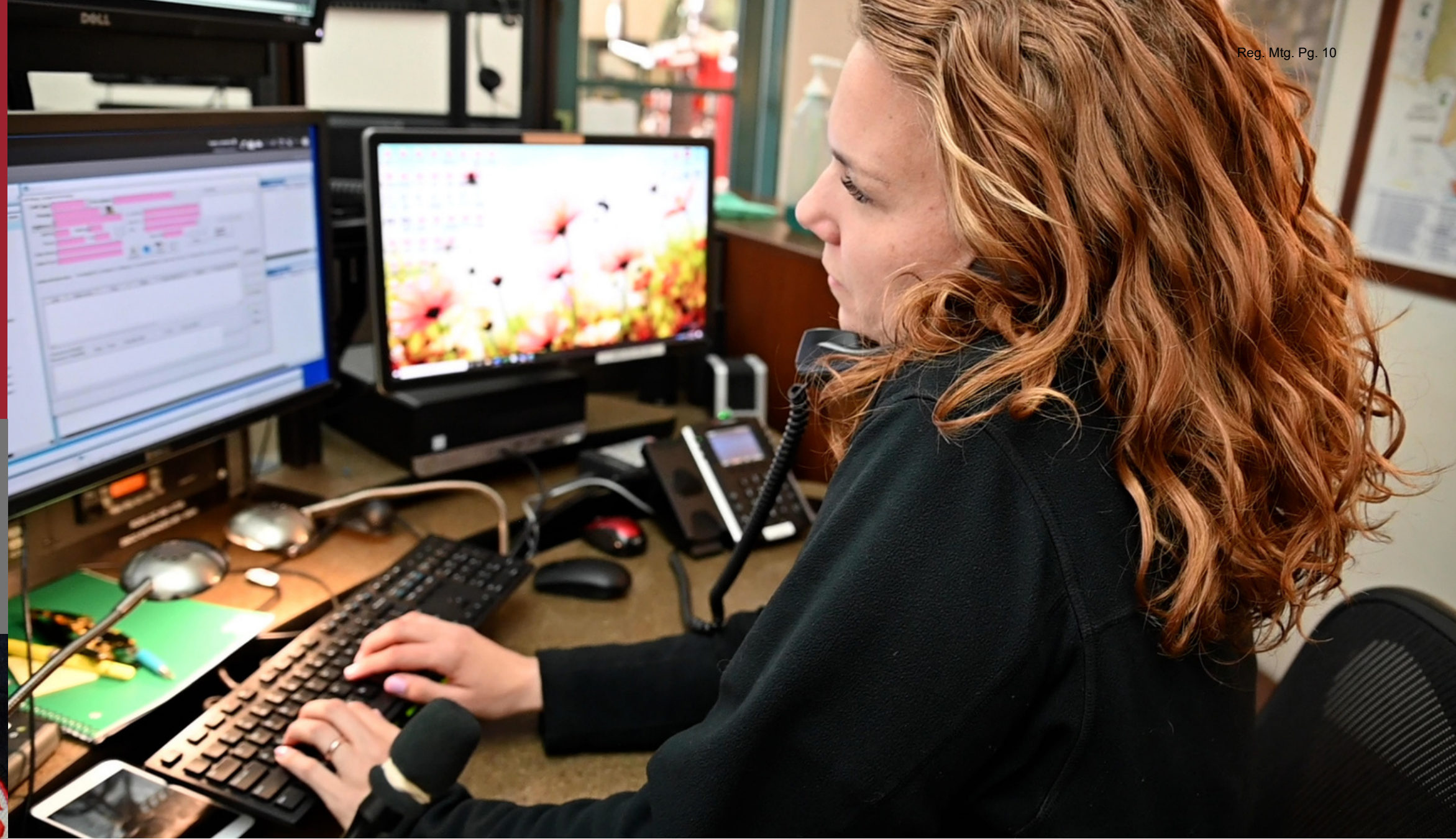


# SOUTH COAST DISPATCH



# 3,810

calls answered in 2021



In 2021, our Dispatchers and Dispatch Cadre answered both emergency and business calls for service from South Coast Dispatch.

Our personnel effectively dispatched and tracked resources for a total of 3,810 incidents for both the Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts.

# EMERGENCY CALLS FOR SERVICE

**Board Policy: Total Response Time of 7:00 minutes, 90% of the time**

Total Response Time = Call Processing + Turnout Time + Drive Time

**TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS = 489**

Total Response Time  $\geq$  7:00 = 74 Calls

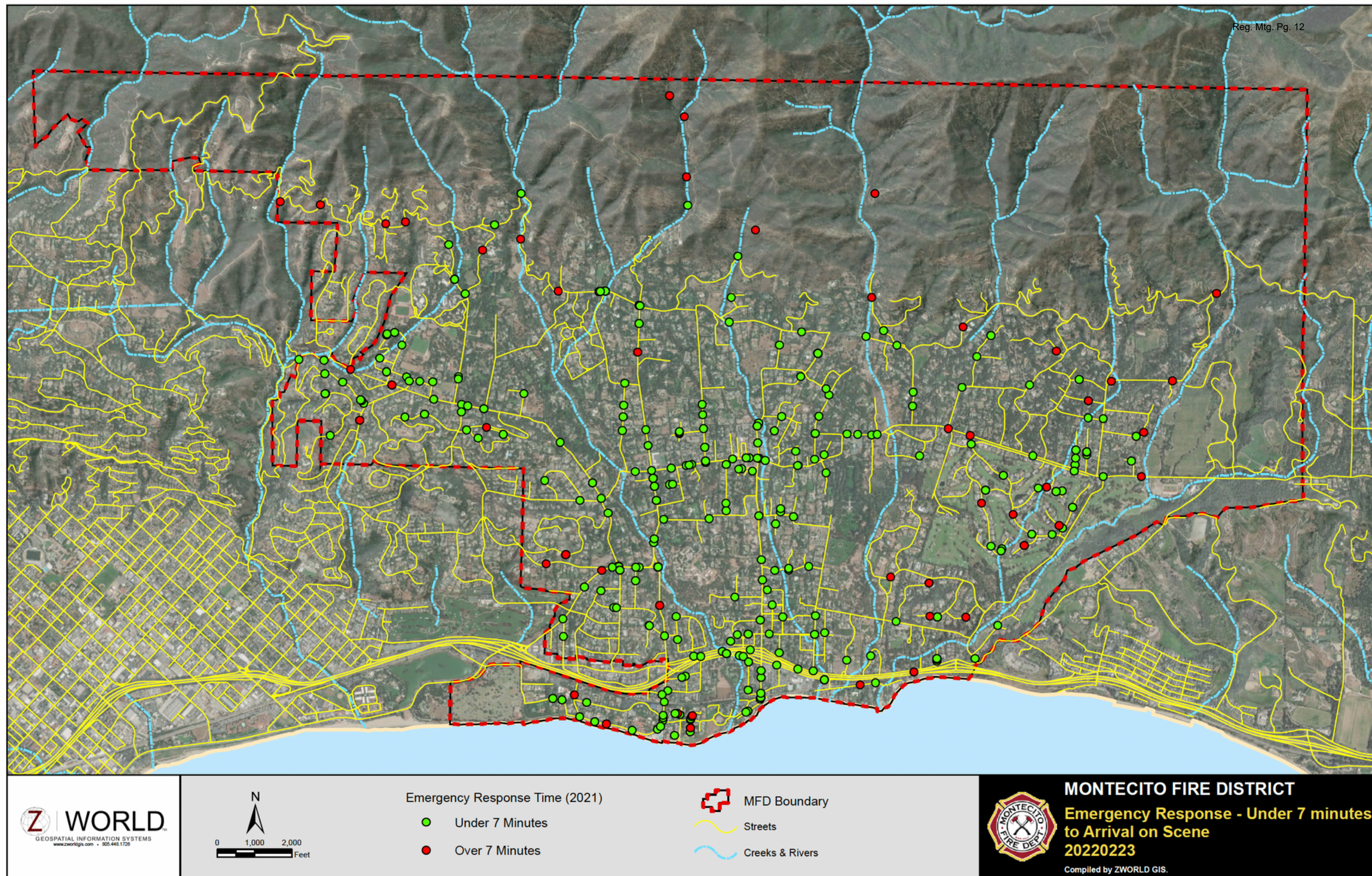
Total Response Time  $\leq$  7:00 = 415 Calls

**7:00 minutes or less 85% of the time for Emergency Response**



# 2021 EMERGENCY RESPONSE MAP

This newly designed map pinpoints locations in the district that our firefighters can consistently respond to in less than 7 minutes.



# Agenda

## Item #3



# Fire Prevention Bureau Overview & Update

February 28, 2022



MONTECITO FIRE DEPARTMENT

An Independent Fire District

February 28, 2022

# Prevention Bureau Team

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Fire Marshal – Aaron Briner

Assistant Fire Marshal – Alex Broumand

Engineer Inspector – Dana St. Oegger

Wildland Specialist – Maeve Juarez

Wildland Specialist – Nic Elmquist



Fire Prevention Bureau

February 28, 2022



# Overview

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- Continued the eFPC Application process allowing for electronic submission, review, approval, and storage of Fire Protection Certificate Applications and plan submittals.
- Participated on the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update.
- Coordinated with Hands Across Montecito and local law enforcement in an attempt to mitigate the risks associated with the increased number of homeless encampments in the District.



# Overview Cont'd

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- Coordinated with County Parks to create and place permanent no bonfire signs along Hammonds Beach area.
- Expanded the Engineer Inspector duties to include performance of new address assignments, sprinkler plan submission processing, and performance of the hydrant maintenance program.
- Worked with local contractors to obtain structures scheduled for demolition to be used by floor personnel for training.
- Completed 100% of the state mandated occupancy inspections and Defensible Space Surveys



# Committees

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## Internal

- Blue Card Command Cadre
- Draeger Live-Burn Cadre
- Apparatus Committee
- Equipment Committee

## External

- Fire Safe Council Board Member
- IAFC Rep on NWCG Executive Board
- SBC Subdivision/Development Review Committee
- SBC LHMP Mitigation Advisory Committee
- SBC Arson Taskforce
- SBC Traffic Engineering Committee
- Public Safety Homeless Task Force
- SBC Environmental Task Force



# Building & Development

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- Planning & Development - eFPC
- Inspections
- Code Enforcement
- Complaints
- Fire Investigation



# Planning & Development - eFPC

- Conceptual Review/Approval
- eFPC & Plan Submittal
- Site Visit
- Sprinkler Plan Review (if needed)
- Plan Review/Approval
- Condition Letter
- Inspections/Final Occupancy

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
FIRE PROTECTION CERTIFICATE APPLICATION (FPC)

**COMPLETE AND RETURN form to the Building Department.**  
This form must be signed by the applicant and accompanied by the required fee, one copy of the floor plan and three copies of the site plan indicating water for fire protection and project access. Application needs to be completed and certificate approved prior to issuance of building permit. The Fire Department will review the Certificate and forward the application with conditions to the Building Department and mail one copy to the property owner or applicant.

**ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED.**

1. Building permit # \_\_\_\_\_ APN \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
2. Building site address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_
3. Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_
4. Property owner \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_
5. Mail FPC, condition letter and applicable standards to: Applicant  or Property Owner
6. Project description \_\_\_\_\_
7. If this project is a modification to an existing structure, provide gross square footage of the existing structure (include non-habitable space) \_\_\_\_\_  
Does existing structure have a fire sprinkler system? Yes  No
8. Gross square footage of this new construction (include non-habitable space) \_\_\_\_\_  
Total square footage of final structure \_\_\_\_\_
9. After project completion, will hazardous or flammable material be on premises?  
Yes  No  If yes, describe fully \_\_\_\_\_
10. Describe project water source for fire protection (well or district, private water, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Include name and address of purveyor if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THE PROJECT DESCRIBED ABOVE SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AND CODES.

Applicant Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Fire Department Completes This Section**

Approved with Fire Department Conditions.  
Project shall comply with Santa Barbara County Fire Department condition letter

No FPC required. Finance to issue refund  
Finance to issue refund \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

F-46 Rev 3/020



# Plan Review & Condition Letter

- Access During/After Construction
- Driveway Width/Length/Surface/Slope
- Gate Widths & Set-Back
- Turnouts/Turnarounds
- Sprinklers Required (New/Increased sf)
- Water Supply/Fire Flow
- Maximum hose pull
- Defensible Space
- Solar
- Smoke/Co Detectors



MONTECITO FIRE DEPARTMENT		Job Tracking Worksheet											
Address _____		Project _____											
Parcel # _____		APN _____											
Comments													
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Review	Date _____												
<input type="checkbox"/> Site Visit	Date _____												
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-con inspection	Date _____												
<input type="checkbox"/> Submittal List	Date _____												
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Close	Date _____												
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Inspection	Date _____												
<table border="0"> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Address numbers  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of numbers</li> </ul> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Detectors  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported &amp; installed</li> <li>• Current Manufacturer Submittals</li> <li>• In an envelope ready to be returned</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Defensible Space/Defensible                      within a surface  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No slope &gt; 25%</li> <li>• Turnouts and/or gate</li> <li>• Turnarounds @ 80% and if existing, &amp; minimum 1:20</li> </ul> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Station  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road access and egress 2 ft off sidewalk</li> <li>• Proper signage @ entrance/exit</li> <li>• Proper signage @ trailer</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Signs  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No red</li> <li>• No red &amp; black primer</li> </ul> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Standby Water System  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum flow and time to reach at structure</li> <li>• Minimum pressure of 20 psi at discharge outlet</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Sprinkler System  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk, Sprinkler, SMC, Liquefied Gas, Alarm Bell, Standby Water</li> </ul> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Overhead Clearance  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 ft from edge of installation along with main</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Egress  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• Minimum height 6'6" above finished floor</li> <li>• Minimum height 6'6" above finished floor</li> </ul> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Defensible Space  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Address numbers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of numbers</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Detectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported &amp; installed</li> <li>• Current Manufacturer Submittals</li> <li>• In an envelope ready to be returned</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Defensible Space/Defensible within a surface <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No slope &gt; 25%</li> <li>• Turnouts and/or gate</li> <li>• Turnarounds @ 80% and if existing, &amp; minimum 1:20</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road access and egress 2 ft off sidewalk</li> <li>• Proper signage @ entrance/exit</li> <li>• Proper signage @ trailer</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No red</li> <li>• No red &amp; black primer</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Standby Water System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum flow and time to reach at structure</li> <li>• Minimum pressure of 20 psi at discharge outlet</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sprinkler System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk, Sprinkler, SMC, Liquefied Gas, Alarm Bell, Standby Water</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Overhead Clearance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 ft from edge of installation along with main</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Egress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• Minimum height 6'6" above finished floor</li> <li>• Minimum height 6'6" above finished floor</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Defensible Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> <li>• 1:12 max slope, 48" clear</li> </ul>
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Signature _____		Signature _____											
Print Name _____		Position _____											

# Wildfire Prevention Program Elements



- Reducing hazardous fuels along roadsides and on private properties.
- Mitigating fire risk in remote areas of the District.
- Coordinating with developers and homeowners to ensure that current fire protection standards are implemented.
- Enhancing our wildfire safety education for the community.
- Strengthening our relationships and partnerships.



# Wildfire Prevention Project Statistics

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING	FUEL TREATMENT NETWORK	TAG & TRIM	ROADSIDE WEED ABATEMENT	DEAD TREE REMOVAL
50 Days 260 Participants 310 Tons of vegetation removed	30 Days 60 Tons of vegetation removed	25 Days 10 Miles of roads completed 46 Tons of vegetation removed	36 Days 23 Miles of roads completed	20 Days 27 Dead trees removed 85 Tons of vegetation removed



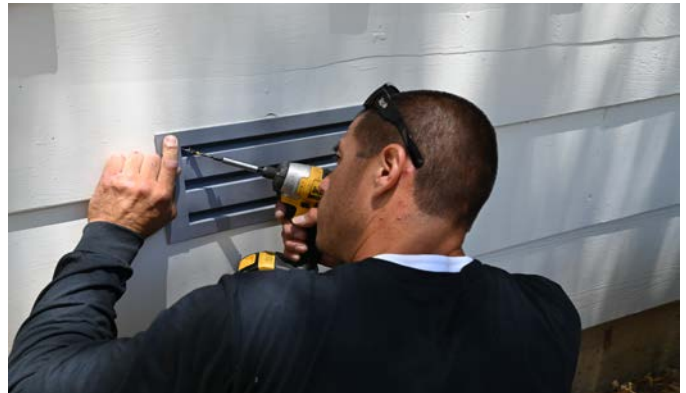


# Home Hardening Assistance Vent Retrofit

In June, the Prevention Bureau successfully completed a new pilot program with the intent to upgrade homes with ember-resistant vents.

The Home Hardening Assistance Program funded the upgrade of seven residents. The newly-designed vents provide excellent ventilation while preventing flames and embers from entering the home, therefore mitigating structural ignitions during a wildfire.

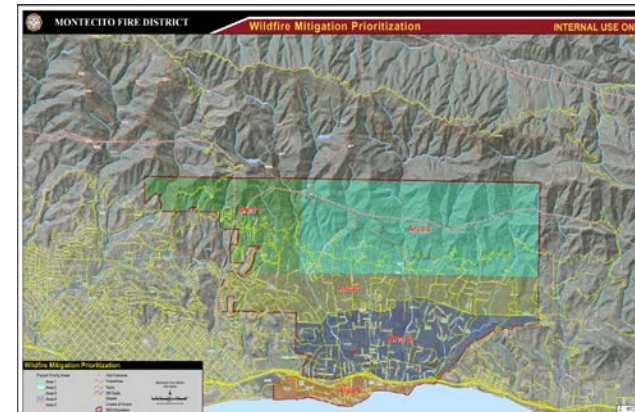
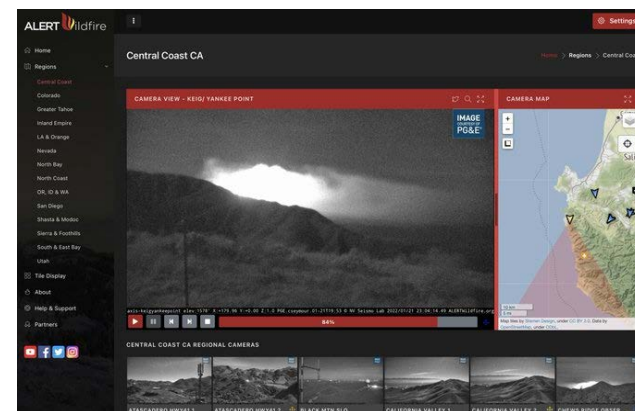
We have received inquiries from numerous fire departments hoping to mimic our program.



# Planning

Continue to learn and incorporate new science as we adapt our management to changing conditions

- In discussions for potential opportunities to establish Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) fire cameras and associated tools to discover/locate/confirm fire ignition, quickly scale fire resources up or down appropriately through enhanced situational awareness.
- Synthesize best management practices with fire history, local landscape factors and wildfire suppression experience to prioritize, implement and determine our wildfire mitigation programs.



# Planning Continued

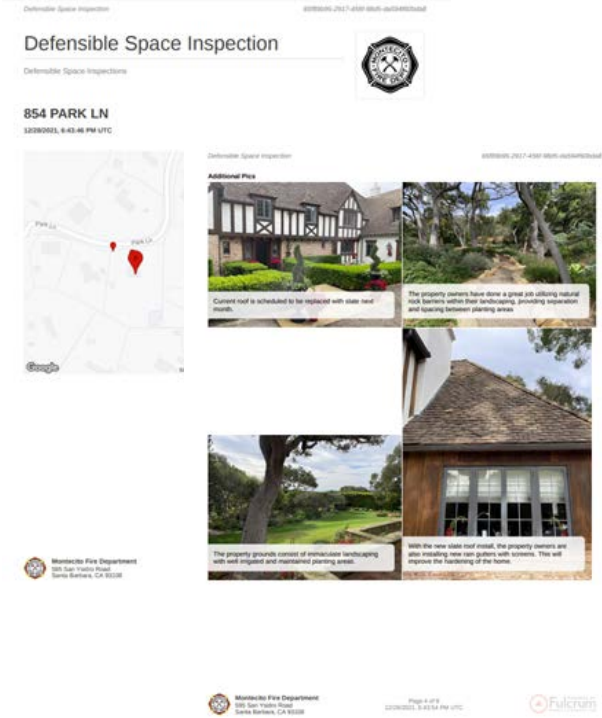
- Working closely with our partners at Southern California Edison to improve, repair and restore the vital network of damaged Edison roads throughout the District.
- The goal of the Community Evacuation Study is to identify potential deficiencies in our current community evacuation plan and discover ways to streamline our evacuation process for increased public safety. We anticipate the analysis will be complete by May 2022.



# Public Education and Outreach

Enhancing wildfire safety education for the community through outreach

- 30 Defensible Space Surveys completed across the district
- All four Fire Danger Rating Signs were rebuilt using fire resistant materials
- Ready! Set! Go!





# Questions?



MONTECITO FIRE DEPARTMENT

An Independent Fire District

February 28, 2022



# Agenda

## Item #4







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## STAFF REPORT

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**To:** Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors  
**From:** Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief  
**Prepared By:** Aaron Briner, Fire Marshal  
**Date:** February 28, 2022  
**Topic:** Cal VTP Programmatic Environmental Support for Montecito Fire Protection District's Vegetation Treatment Program

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### Summary

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The Montecito Fire Protection District recognizes an opportunity to increase the scale of the vegetation treatment program to better prepare the community and surrounding landscape for future wildland fires. To analyze the potential environmental impacts of the program's expansion and position the District for grant opportunities, the District wishes to hire an environmental consultant to conduct a Project Specific Analysis to meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The California Vegetation Treatment Program Programmatic Environmental Impact Support for Montecito Fire Protection District's Vegetation Treatment Program was approved in the current fiscal year budget process.

### Background

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The Montecito Fire Protection District has several wildfire mitigation programs. The largest program is the Vegetation Treatment Program (VTP), which consists of the removal of vegetation to reduce the potential fire behavior in strategic locations. The VTP is aligned with recommendations made in Montecito's Community Wildfire Protection Plan and Montecito's Comprehensive Wildfire Mitigation Strategy. The utility of the treatments are highlighted in "A Defensible Community? A Retrospective Study of Montecito Fire Protection Program During the 2017 Thomas Fire".

On December 30, 2019, the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection approved the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) and certified the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) prepared pursuant to CEQA. The Cal VTP is a statewide program designed for public agencies to use to perform vegetation treatment activities for the purposes of wildfire prevention. The FPEIR is intended to provide broad CEQA coverage for individual projects consistent with the analysis and mitigation strategies set forth in the document.

The Montecito Fire Protection District identified approximately 1200-acres of treatments which are anticipated to be implemented over the next ten year period. The consultant will follow the process outlined in the Cal VTP FPEIR and complete a Project Specific Analysis of these 1200-acres. This analysis will include documentation of the existing conditions, identification of the treatment's probable impacts, and completion of the applicable standard project requirements and mitigation measures. The final product will include a process the District can follow to add additional treatments not currently identified, as well as a process to refresh the document as recommended every ten years.

The benefits of this programmatic analysis is the District's entire VTP will be covered under a single CEQA document and, barring any significant change of conditions, no further analysis will be required. The

document will provide consistency and will ensure the District is highly competitive for future grant funding opportunities.

### **Discussion**

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The District had numerous scoping calls with environmental consultants while developing the specifications and scope of work for this project. Requests for Proposals (RFP) were sent out to interested parties and posted on the District website beginning December 20, 2021. Public Notices of the competitive process were posted in the Santa Barbara News Press on December 23, 2021 and December 28, 2021. The bid closed on February 4, 2022 and one bid package was received from Dudek.

Although there are numerous environmental planning consultants throughout California, there is limited experience with the Cal VTP FPEIR. The District spoke with several consultants who felt they did not have the capacity to complete the analysis in the necessary timeframe. Through conversations during the scoping process, the estimated project cost was \$100,000, which is what was requested in the budget approval process.

Dudek has one of California's largest, most experienced teams for CEQA document preparation. They have a Santa Barbara office which has completed various local natural resource management plans, wildfire management plans, and environmental compliance documentation. These plans include Santa Barbara County Fire Department's Project Specific Analysis for the Purisma Ridge Fuel Break Projects and the City of Santa Barbara Fire Departments Community Wildfire Protection Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Report. The District hosted a virtual "community tour" to meet with the potential project managers and to ensure they had the needed information to complete an accurate proposal. It was clear through correspondence and the proposal, that Dudek has the knowledge, skills and ability to complete a thorough Project Specific Analysis.

### **Conclusion**

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Staff recommends the Board authorize the Fire Chief to enter a contract with Dudek to complete the Cal VTP Programmatic Environmental Support for Montecito Fire Protection District Vegetation Treatment Program for \$93,938.25.

### **Attachments**

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- MFPD CalVTP PEIR – Dudek
- Comprehensive Wildfire Mitigation Strategy

### **Strategic Plan Reference**

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#### Strategic Priorities

Priority #1 – Constant Improvement Driven by the Needs of the Community

Maximize the effectiveness of process, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of citizen oriented and efficient community service.

Priority #2 – Innovative Service Delivery

Maximize opportunities to measurably improve citizen and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community and public safety services.

#### Goals

Goal #1- Achieve excellence in Community Service

Goal #2 – Contain our Risks  
Goal #3 – Mitigate Disaster



PROPOSAL

# California Vegetation Treatment Program PEIR Support

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**MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

February 4, 2022

621 Chapala Street / Santa Barbara, CA 93101 / 805.963.0651

**DUDEK**  
February 28, 2022



# Cover Letter

February 4, 2022

Mr. Nic Elmquist; Wildland Fire Specialist  
Montecito Fire Protection District  
595 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, California 93108

**Subject: California Vegetation Treatment Program PEIR Support for Montecito Fire Protection District Vegetation Treatment Program**

Dear Mr. Elmquist:

We are pleased to provide the following proposal for professional services for the California Vegetation Treatment Program PEIR Support for Montecito Fire Protection District Vegetation Treatment Program. We are committed to working collaboratively with the Montecito Fire Protection District (MFPD) to provide environmental services in the most efficient and responsive manner possible. Dudek understands the need to work efficiently and effectively to meet the project's timeline, and we are poised to begin work promptly upon award of contract (see Table 2 Proposed Project Timeline).

The Dudek team brings broad experience providing environmental services for forest health and vegetation management projects throughout California. Dudek combines a unique mix of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) experts, Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs), and all technical specialists needed to execute a full CEQA review under one roof. If needed, we can readily draw from this bench of expertise and call on the support of Dudek's more than 700 internal experts.

The Dudek team is experienced working in the project area for various public-sector clients. Technical staff from our Santa Barbara office have provided environmental and urban forestry services to municipalities and agencies in Santa Barbara County and throughout the Central Coast region. We have recent experience conducting CEQA analysis under the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBC Fire). The Project Specific Analysis (PSA) we prepared has been commended by CAL FIRE and SBC Fire for its efficiency, clarity, and defensible analysis. Dudek also prepared the Community Wildfire Protection Plan for the City of Santa Barbara and has developed fuel break and fire protection plans for MFPD and other local and regional clients. Our local, experienced staff are uniquely qualified to support MFPD with this important project, and as locals we are keenly aware of the importance of projects like this to increase community resilience.

We appreciate the opportunity to support MFPD with this timely and important work. If you have any questions regarding our qualifications or need any additional information, please feel free to contact Project Manager Dana Link-Herrera at 949.391.0299 or [dlinkherrera@dudek.com](mailto:dlinkherrera@dudek.com).

Sincerely,



**Joseph Monaco, AICP**  
President/CEO

*Joseph Monaco is authorized to sign on behalf of Dudek*



**Dana Link-Herrera**  
Project Manager

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# A. Background Information

## Firm Profile

Dudek assists municipalities on a broad range of projects that improve California’s communities, infrastructure, and natural environment. From planning, design, and permitting through construction, we move projects through the complexities of regulatory compliance, budgetary and schedule constraints, and conflicting stakeholder interests. We have a long history of providing environmental services to municipalities throughout California and know the local environmental resources and agency policies pertaining to resource management, development impact assessment, and mitigation.

Dudek has built a reputation for providing exemplary supplementary environmental, planning, regulatory, engineering, construction management, operations, and funding expertise, offering municipalities a cost-effective way to accomplish short- and long-term goals. Dudek’s project managers are empowered to make nimble decisions and quickly draw from our pool of technical experts.

### DUDEK AT A GLANCE

- 41 years in business
- California corporation; employee-owned
- Multidisciplinary environmental and engineering services
- 12 California offices, including, Santa Barbara
- 700+ employees
- Dun & Bradstreet 92% rating for reliability, timeliness, and responsiveness

**Table 1** presents the information about Dudek as requested by the Montecito Fire Protection District (MFPD).

**Table 1. Firm and Contact Information**

<b>Legal Name</b>	Dudek
<b>Year Established</b>	1980
<b>Organization Type</b>	Corporation (California, No. C1210012)
<b>Principal Office</b>	605 Third Street, Encinitas, California 92024 T: 760.942.5147      F: 760.632.0164
<b>Local Office</b>	621 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara, California 93101 T: 805.963.0651      F: 805.963.2074
<b>Additional Offices Servicing the Project</b>	853 Lincoln Way, Suite 208, Auburn, California 95603 T: 530.887.8500      F: 760.632.0164 38 N. Marengo Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101 T: 626.204.9800      F: 760.632.0164
<b>Primary Contact</b>	Dana Link-Herrera, Urban Forestry and Wildfire Planner Santa Barbara Office T: 949.391.0299, dlinkherrera@dudek.com

## Primary Services

We offer more than 50 services across nearly 20 practices to support projects across the United States. Dudek brings extensive experience in wildfire and vegetation management planning services, as well as California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, civil engineering, biological and botanical assessments, cultural resources assessments, regulatory permitting, stormwater compliance, unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) mapping, and geographic information system (GIS) modeling and analysis. Our subsidiary company, Habitat Restoration Sciences, successfully implements habitat restoration, erosion control, and vegetation management projects. The Dudek advantage is that we can truly take a project from conception through completion, setting us apart from other consulting firms that often lack environmental and other supporting services, and from smaller multidisciplinary companies that may not employ all technical specialists needed for CEQA compliance. Services provided by Dudek's in-house CEQA experts, Registered Professional Foresters, and technical specialists are described in further detail in Section B. General Qualifications.

## Scope of Work

The tentative scope of work and timeline outlined in this proposal have been developed to complete CEQA review for Montecito's Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) by completing a Project Specific Analysis (PSA) tiered from the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Dudek would provide Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs), CEQA experts, and technical specialists in biology, cultural resources, air quality, landscape architecture, and other fields of study, as needed, to complete the full scope of services under this contract. Dudek understands that meeting the project timeline is critical to its success, and Dudek is poised to promptly begin work upon award of contract and receipt of notice to proceed. Table 2 presents our proposed project timeline.

Dudek will prepare a PSA that analyzes implementation of Montecito's VMP and will provide guidance to MFPD to successfully complete CalVTP process to obtain final CEQA clearance for the project. Dudek understands that the VMP is comprised of approximately 350 acres of "Mixed Treatment" and approximately 900 acres of "Prescribed Herbivory." The project parcels are located on private property, are outside of the identified Coastal Zone, and are primarily within the CalVTP Treatable Landscape. The mixed treatments would generally occur within 100 feet of a road system (no new roads proposed) and would utilize hand crews with chainsaws to remove dead trees, ladder fuels on mature trees, and dead woody material; decrease standing shrubs by approximately 50%; and reduce the height of annual grasses. Removed vegetation would be chipped into a dump truck, and the chips would be hauled away to the local green waste facility. The prescribed herbivory would include the use of sheep and goats on steep and rugged terrain. Temporary electric fences would be constructed along existing roads and trails (requiring approximately 3-foot saw lines) to contain the animals.

Dudek will evaluate the project using the PSA checklist to determine if the project would 1) cause any new impact, 2) cause any substantially more severe significant impact than addressed in the PEIR, or 3) reveal a mitigation measure or alternative that is substantially different from those in the PEIR or found infeasible in the PEIR but is now feasible and that the project proponent declines to implement. If none of these outcomes are determined, and the effects on the environment were covered in the PEIR, the impacts of the project can be found to be within the scope of the PEIR, and no additional environmental documentation would be required (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168[c][1], [2] and [4]). If any new impacts, substantially more severe impacts, or infeasible mitigation measures are found, Dudek will work with MFPD to determine the best path forward. Dudek will provide recommendations to modify the project as needed to remain within

the scope of the PEIR. If project modifications are not feasible, additional CEQA documentation may be required and will be completed under a separate scope of work.

To begin our analysis, Dudek will assess the project parcels to determine suitability for evaluation under the CalVTP. Based on a preliminary review of proposed project parcels, the majority of project parcels are within or partially within the CalVTP Treatable Landscape and can be assessed using the CalVTP. Due to some project parcels extending outside of the CalVTP Treatable Landscape, Dudek anticipates that an Addendum to the PEIR will be the appropriate level of analysis. The Addendum document will be wholly contained within the PSA checklist template and will follow similar procedures as completing a standalone PSA. An addendum to an EIR is appropriate where a previously certified EIR has been prepared and some changes or revisions to the project are proposed, or the circumstances surrounding the project have changed, but none of the changes or revisions would result in new or substantially more severe significant environmental impacts, consistent with CEQA Section 21166 and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162, 15163, 15164, and 15168. In this case, the change is the inclusion of areas outside of the Treatable Landscape analyzed in the CalVTP PEIR. An addendum may be combined with a PSA into a joint PSA/Addendum to address a project that includes land both inside and outside the Treatable Landscape. Neither a PSA nor a PSA/Addendum requires public review.

This scope of work assumes that all project parcels are suitable for analysis under the CalVTP and that vegetation treatment prescriptions have been developed and will not need to be significantly revised prior to CEQA review. While some project parcels are disconnected from the CalVTP Treatable Landscape, Dudek would review these parcels with MFPD to determine whether they are suitable for analysis under the CalVTP. Should a different approach be necessary for evaluating the disconnected project parcels, Dudek would provide an updated scope and cost. Based on this understanding, our goal would be to identify any areas where the PEIR findings would not apply to the project and help MFPD modify the project so that it would be consistent with the PEIR and therefore, not require additional CEQA documentation.

Finally, this scope of work and timeline assume timely responses to questions and data requests and timely review and comment on draft documents.

## Scope of Services

### **Task 1: Meetings and Project Management**

Dudek Project Manager Dana Link-Herrera will oversee Dudek's successful completion of all tasks and deliverables for this contract with assistance from Project Director Scott Eckardt. The leadership team will direct Dudek's efforts in accordance with the project schedule and budget and will make sure that MFPD needs are being met by Dudek. We believe that frequent and responsive communication is the best management practice to keep the project moving forward and will apply this management approach to this project. As the project manager, Ms. Link-Herrera will do the following:

- Establish regular meetings with MFPD project managers to discuss project milestones, activities, and issues
- Hold regular project management meetings with key project staff to coordinate work efforts, check on task completion, and review budget conformance
- Update the project scope, schedule, progress reports, and inventories of available data, as necessary, so that all team members are aware of information that may affect their work products and schedules

Upon execution of a contract, Dudek will plan and attend a project kickoff meeting with MFPD, anticipated to occur via online video conference. The kickoff meeting will be used to establish communication protocols; develop an understanding of the project schedule and milestones; and provide MFPD the opportunity to identify known concerns, issues, stakeholders, and other important factors. The kickoff meeting will also provide the opportunity for Dudek to present initial findings, data needs, and to obtain MFPD buy-in on the overall CEQA schedule and approach.

In the interest of keeping the project on schedule and within budget, Dudek will establish a regular reporting and communication process for project status, budget and schedule updates, and problem/resolution identification. Including the kickoff meeting, Dudek anticipates that up to six online coordination meetings with MFPD will be required throughout the duration of the project.

### **Task 1 Deliverables (electronic)**

- Meeting Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- Data Request

## **Task 2: Environmental Analysis**

### **Task 2.1: Draft PSA**

Dudek will conduct analyses to answer all the PSA checklist questions and will provide documented substantial evidence to support our findings. The PSA will include a project description that thoroughly and accurately describes the proposed project, as well as project maps depicting project parcels and proposed treatment methods.

An Administrative Draft PSA will be prepared according to the CalVTP PSA template. The overall approach will be thorough documentation of existing conditions, careful identification of probable impacts, and presentation of applicable Standard Project Requirements (SPRs) and mitigation measures (MMs). Dudek will evaluate whether the project, with incorporation of SPRs and MMs, would result in new or more substantial impacts than described in the PEIR. Brief explanations will be provided for topics for which no impact is expected and/or for which applicable reference documents can be cited to show there is no impact. Expanded analyses will be prepared for impacts with potential significance. This scope of work includes one set of revisions of the Administrative Draft PSA upon review by MFPD staff prior to finalization.

SPRs will be implemented as applicable for completing the PSA analysis and we will provide guidance to MFPD to implement additional SPRs prior to, during, and after project activities. For example, Dudek will support MFPD with coordination with CAL FIRE (SPR AD-1) and regulatory agencies, including, but not limited to, responsible agencies or agencies with jurisdiction over affected roadways, air quality, cultural resources, biological resources, water quality, etc. Dudek will provide guidance to MFPD to implement SPRs requiring posting of public notices (e.g., SPRs AD-4, AD-6, NOI-6, REC-1) and preparation of plans (e.g., SPRs AQ-1, AQ-2, HAZ-5, UTIL-1). This scope of work assumes that the posting of public notices and preparation of required plans would be completed by MFPD. Dudek can provide additional support for implementation and monitoring of such SPRs for an additional cost.

Dudek will create and maintain a project parcel database using Dudek's online GIS Geoportal to share parcel attributes amongst Dudek and MFPD team members. The database will be used to present parcel information, including parcel ownership, proposed treatment prescriptions, existing conditions, and delineation of protected/sensitive resources or site constraints identified during field surveys and desktop evaluation (SPR AD-2).

The following field surveys and technical analyses will be conducted in support of the PSA and to successfully implement multiple SPRs related to biological and cultural resources. It is anticipated that the remaining resource topics will be assessed qualitatively and are expected to be within the scope of the PEIR.

### **Task 2.2: Biological Resources**

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Dudek will identify and analyze biological resource issues and potential constraints associated with implementation of Montecito's VMP. The biological resources assessment will be conducted in accordance with Attachment C of the CalVTP (Project-Specific Review and Survey Guidance for Biological Resources) and with SPRs identified in the CalVTP PSA checklist.

Dudek will conduct a literature review and biological reconnaissance survey to identify sensitive biological resources and potentially occurring biological resources (SPR BIO-1). Prior to the reconnaissance survey, Dudek will conduct the literature review, reviewing all project materials as well as available biological resources information for the project vicinity. At a minimum, in accordance with SPR BIO-1, Dudek's review of currently available data for the area will include any available vegetation mapping data, species distribution/range information in the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System or other available sources, plant and wildlife occurrences in the California Natural Diversity Database, data from the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California, Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan and Montecito Community Plan biological resources policies, the County's Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Conservation website, USFWS critical habitat data, and the National Hydrographic Database, and National Wetlands Inventory databases.

Upon completion of the literature review and preliminary identification of potentially occurring sensitive biological resources, Dudek will conduct a reconnaissance survey of the entire project site to identify the locations of sensitive biological resources, and of potentially occurring sensitive resources, in accordance with SPR BIO-1. Dudek biologists will investigate the entire project site by vehicle and on foot. Dudek will not conduct detailed vegetation mapping at this time, but will identify locations of sensitive vegetation communities based on rankings provided in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) list of California Sensitive Natural Communities (CDFW 2020) and the Manual of California Vegetation Online (CNPS 2020). Dudek will also note the location of habitats potentially supporting special-status species, streams and associated riparian vegetation, and wetlands (SPR HYD-3, SPR HYD-4). Dudek will preliminarily note the location of sensitive resources and habitat potentially supporting these resources, recording the locations in the ESRI Collector mobile app, displayed on an iPhone or iPad.

After completion of the survey, Dudek will compile the data for presentation on a single map to be included in a report to MFPD and updated in the project database GIS portal. The map will include detailed mapping of resources, such as riparian vegetation and sensitive plant communities identified during the reconnaissance survey. Dudek will provide a brief technical memorandum or letter report with a map identifying the locations of potential resources identified. Dudek will also work with MFPD to incorporate the findings of these survey and mapping efforts in the VMP, so that treatment methods will result in avoidance and minimization of impacts to biological resources identified. The report will provide a list of recommended protocol-level focused surveys; provide the rationale for conducting the surveys, including the relevant SPR under which it will be conducted; supply information on geographic scope and protocol requirements of each survey; and present the preliminary spatial data.

The cost for this task includes the time to conduct the literature review, the time for two biologists to conduct a single pass reconnaissance survey over approximately three days, drive time between Dudek's Santa Barbara office and

the project site, survey preparation time, time for a Dudek GIS specialist to prepare field maps (including maps for use in the Collector mobile data collection application), time to prepare the brief report of results, and mileage.

Dudek's findings during the reconnaissance-level survey will determine the level of effort required for focused protocol-level biological surveys, which must be completed at the appropriate season to determine the presence of potentially occurring resources, such as rare plants and special-status wildlife. Dudek can conduct these additional surveys (if needed) under a separate scope of work, if determined necessary by SPR BIO-1. The additional biological resources work would include potential implementation of SPR BIO-3, BIO-4, BIO-5, BIO-7, BIO-10, and BIO-12. Under a separate scope of work, Dudek can also prepare the Biological Resource Training for Workers as required under SPR BIO-2, and any pre-construction surveys or monitoring needed to complete all of the above measures, as well as measures SPR BIO-6, BIO-9, and BIO- 11. Note that SPR BIO-8, which pertains to impacts to Environmentally Sensitive Habitats in the Coastal Zone, does not apply to this project.

Based on the results of the reconnaissance survey, Dudek will also advise MFPD on potential refinements of the VMP to avoid impacts to sensitive biological resources and remain consistent with the PEIR. In addition, Dudek will serve as a liaison with USFWS and CDFW so that the VMP, proposed surveys, and other measures avoid take of species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act and the California Endangered Species Act and are consistent with other agency requirements.

As it is unknown what resources are present within the project site, this proposal provides a detailed description and cost only for reconnaissance-level surveys and literature review. Detailed cost and scope information will be provided for protocol-level surveys upon completion of SPR BIO-1.

#### **Assumptions**

- MFPD will arrange access to project parcels.
- Dudek will provide a separate scope of work and cost for any surveys to be conducted beyond the reconnaissance survey required under SPR BIO-1.
- No focused or protocol surveys for special-status species will be conducted under this scope of work.
- A formal delineation of waters of the United States/waters of the state will not be performed.

#### **Task 2.3: Cultural Resources**

The archaeological investigation and associated report will be conducted consistent with the CEQA regulations, the SPRs identified in the CalVTP, and County of Santa Barbara Cultural Resources Guidelines. Dudek understands that MFPD is the lead agency on this project for purposes of CEQA compliance, and that at this point, no federal nexus has been identified that would require compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The specific tasks required to prepare the Phase 1 archaeological investigation report include a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search (SPR CUL-1), background research (SPR CUL-3), fieldwork, and report preparation (SPR CUL-4), as identified below. Dudek is available to provide tribal outreach coordination services (SPR CUL-2), if desired, for an additional cost.

#### **Background Research**

Dudek will request a CHRIS archaeological records search from the Central Coast Information Center (CCIC) at University of California, Santa Barbara that houses cultural resource records for Santa Barbara County. The records search results will provide a listing of all recorded archaeological sites and investigations completed within the proposed project area; no radius determined based on requirements outlined in the Cultural Resources Review Procedures for CAL FIRE Projects (CAL FIRE 2020). In addition to a review of previously prepared site records and reports, the records search will also review historical maps of the

project area, ethnographies, the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Historic Property Data File, and the lists of California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility. Finally, a review of historic maps and aerials will be conducted to better determine the history of land use and disturbance within the project site. Dudek assumes direct fees for the CCIC records search will not exceed \$500. Please note that due to COVID-19, the SCCIC response time for records searches may be delayed.

### **Fieldwork**

Dudek will survey the proposed project parcels for cultural resources, implementing requirements and guidance provided in the Cultural Resources Review Procedures for CAL FIRE Projects (CALFIRE 2020). Dudek will use the information from the records searches, as well as characteristics of the project's physical geography to develop an archaeological sensitivity model. Areas determined sensitive will be locations with less than 30% slope, within 300 meters of a water source, on soils with potential to harbor buried A-horizons, and/or within 100 meters of a known archaeological site. These characteristics are commonly used to identify archaeologically sensitive areas. The sensitivity study will be used to create a sensitivity map that will show locations within the project boundary that should be surveyed for archaeological resources.

The archaeological survey will consist of an intensive-level pedestrian survey, conducted by a crew of Dudek archaeologists, for all accessible portions of the proposed project area using survey transects spaced no more than 15 meters apart, where feasible. Dudek anticipates vegetation to obscure the ground surface in portions of the proposed project area. To overcome visibility issues, shovel scrapes may be employed to reveal the ground surface. If necessary, shovel scrapes will occur in 10-meter intervals, or subjectively as appropriate. Identified resources will be mapped using GPS-enabled ESRI Collector software. For the purposes of this scope and cost, Dudek assumes that Native American monitors will not be required. If it is determined that a Native American monitor is required to be present during the pedestrian survey, Dudek will provide an augment to this scope of work and associated costs, accordingly.

Dudek assumes no resources will be encountered that require initial or updated recordation and no built environment resources will require formal recordation/evaluation. No artifacts, samples, or specimens will be collected during the survey. Should any new or previously recorded resources be identified during the survey that require recordation, Dudek will provide an augment to this scope of work and associated costs.

### **Report Preparation**

Dudek will prepare a cultural resources technical report that will summarize the methods and results of the cultural resources records search, background research, pedestrian survey, and Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Land Files (SLF) search results and based on the results of the SLF search, a summary of Native American outreach and will present recommendations for appropriate management pursuant to applicable state and local regulations. Dudek will use the findings from the constraints analysis letter report to complete the Cultural Resources section of the PSA. Dudek will identify mitigation measures from the CalVTP to reduce potential impacts to cultural resources (if any) to a less than significant level under CEQA.

We assume no cultural resources will be identified that require documentation of full Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 series forms. Should resources be identified that require formal documentation and evaluation efforts, Dudek will provide an augment to this scope of work and associated costs as appropriate. The Draft Phase 1 archaeological investigation report will be presented electronically, as a PDF. Dudek assumes no more than one (1) round of comments will require response for the Phase 1 archaeological investigation report.



**OPTIONAL TASK: Native American Heritage Commission Sacred Land Files Search**

Dudek will, upon the client's authorization, initiate outreach with local tribal representatives (SPR CUL-2). This coordination shall be conducted for informational purposes and does not necessarily constitute formal government-to-government consultation as specified by Assembly Bill 52 (Assembly Bill 52 consultation was conducted and fulfilled as part of the CalVTP PEIR). These efforts will be accomplished by the following:

- Contact the California State NAHC to request a review of their Sacred Lands and obtain a list of tribal representatives with potential knowledge of cultural resources within the project area
- Send letters to each of the tribal representatives provided by the NAHC, including a summary of the proposed project and objectives, and the results of background research and intensive ground survey
- Summarize the results of the Native American coordination, including the NAHC records request and any responses from local tribal representatives in the Phase 1 Archaeological Resources report

Formal Native American consultation is the responsibility of the CEQA lead agency, in this case, MFPD. Dudek will provide all information on coordination efforts at the time of request by the lead agency, and with appropriate permission, will coordinate with MFPD to assist/support in their Native American consultation obligations. This scope and associated estimated cost do not include attendance of Dudek Staff at any virtual or in-person meetings. If it is determined that support, outside of the estimated scope and cost, is required or desired to assist in the MFPD Tribal consultation process pertaining to this proposed project, Dudek will provide an augment to this scope of work and associated costs, accordingly.

**Assumptions**

- No more than 650 acres will be intensively surveyed
- No cultural resources will be identified that require formal documentation on full Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 series forms or resource evaluation efforts
- No built environment resources will require formal recordation/evaluation

**Task 2 Deliverables (electronic)**

- Technical reports/analyses: Biological Resource Technical Memo, Cultural Resources Letter Report
- Project Database/GIS Geoportal
  - Project maps with delineation of sensitive resources and site constraints
- Recommendations for project modifications, if needed
- One Administrative Draft PSA
- Package of deliverables to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) per SPR AD-7 (information on proposed projects)

**Task 3: Final PSA**

Dudek will make necessary edits to the draft PSA once comments and edits are received from MFPD staff, and will prepare a screencheck draft of the final PSA. We will submit one screencheck draft of the final PSA for final review by MFPD. Dudek will then complete the final PSA and will provide a final PDF as well as all GIS data, maps, the administrative record, and any additional supporting documents (electronic submittal).

Upon final review and approval of the final PSA, Dudek will complete Attachment A of the PSA, which serves as a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the project, Attachment B of the PSA, if needed (i.e., if significant unavoidable impacts consistent with the CalVTP PEIR are found), as well as a Standard

Project Requirements and Mitigation Measure implementation guide for use in the field by MFPD staff and/or contractors prior to, during, and after treatment activities. Dudek will also prepare the Notice of Determination. This scope of work assumes MFPD will be responsible for preparation of public notices required by Standard Project Requirements and distribution of the PSA and will file the Notice of Determination with required fees upon approval of the project. Note that CDFW filing fees are not required for a PSA, as these fees were paid as part of the PEIR process. As such, fees would be limited to Santa Barbara County filing fees.

**Task 3 Deliverables (electronic)**

- One (1) screencheck draft of final PSA
- One (1) web-ready PDF of final PSA
- Attachment A of the PSA (MMRP)
- Attachment B of the PSA (Project-Specific CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations)
- Standard Project Requirements and Mitigation Measure implementation guide
- GIS maps, tables, data, the administrative record, and any additional supporting documents
- Notice of Determination
- Package of deliverables to CAL FIRE per SPR-AD-7 (information on approved projects)

## Project Schedule and Cost

**Table 2** and **Table 3** present our proposed schedule and cost. The cost estimate reflects our understanding of the project scope and environmental issues known at this time. Invoices will be submitted only for actual time and expenses incurred. The schedule and scope of work assume that the project description is not substantially changed, and no new significant issues are raised during the preparation of the PSA. Changes in the project description and/or scope by MFPD after initiation of the project and/or identification of significant new issues may require amendment of the scope of work, schedule, and/or cost estimate.

**Table 2. Tentative Project Schedule**

Project Milestone	Proposed Timeline
Anticipated Award of Agreement	February 2022
Kickoff Meeting	1 week
Schedule and Conduct Field Surveys	2-4 weeks
Submit Administrative Draft PSA and Technical Studies	4-6 weeks
MFPD Review of Administrative Draft PSA	2 weeks
Revise Administrative Draft PSA and Submit Final PSA	2 weeks
MFPD Review of Final PSA	2 weeks
Dudek revises and incorporates any changes to Final PSA	1 week
Adopt and Approve PSA	June 2022

**Table 3. Cost Estimate**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Task 1 Meetings and Project Management	<b>\$ 7,800.00</b>
Task 2 Environmental Analysis	
Task 2.1 Draft PSA	\$ 29,310.00
Task 2.2 Biological Resources	\$ 24,332.75
Task 2.3 Cultural Resources	\$ 22,535.50
<i>Task 2 Subtotal</i>	\$ 76,178.25
Task 3 Final PSA	<b>\$ 9,960.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 93,938.25</b>

## Litigation

Dudek has no pending litigation. Following is a summary of litigation settled in the last three years.

### City of Carlsbad vs. Ledcor Construction Inc.

On June 13, 2016, the City of Carlsbad filed a civil complaint in California Superior Court, County of San Diego, against Ledcor Construction Inc. Dudek was named as a co-defendant. The project architect, RRM Design Group, was also later named as a defendant. The suit was related to construction of the City's First Responder Training Center. Dudek served as construction manager for the City on the project. Dudek denied any liability in the matter. The matter has been resolved between the City and Dudek and was dismissed in August 2019.

### Terra Lago Community Association v. Indo Land Ventures, LLC, et al.

On November 12, 2015, Terra Lago Community Association sued Indio Land Ventures for alleged construction defects arising out of the construction of a residential development complex located in Indio, California. Dudek was named as one of many cross-defendants for its role in preparing the lake-liner design; the other parties were involved in various construction aspects of the lake. Dudek did not participate in any supervision or other construction management activities. Plaintiff initially demanded \$25,275 to settle the claims against Dudek, and their claims ultimately resolved in full for \$10,000. The parties executed a settlement and release agreement which the Court approved and the case was dismissed in 2019.

## Conflict of Interest

Dudek has no known or perceived conflict of interest associated with performing the proposed scope of services for MFPD.

## B. General Qualifications

Dudek has worked for numerous public-sector clients throughout California, including cities, counties, fire agencies, land management agencies, non-profits, and regulatory agencies. We have successfully completed technical studies, planning and management plans, environmental review documents, and permit documents to support projects that enhance community safety. The following sections summarize our experience relative to the MFPD Vegetation Treatment Program environmental review needs.

### CEQA

Dudek has one of California's largest, most experienced teams for CEQA and NEPA document preparation. Our environmental planners have prepared and processed more than 3,200 CEQA/NEPA documents for a variety of large and small development, restoration, conservation projects throughout the United States, including several forest health and vegetative fuels management projects. Combining comprehensive analysis and research-based findings, we provide legally defensible documents that are supported by substantial evidence, none of which have ever been successfully overturned in court. We conduct technically sound assessments and manage environmental review processes in a streamlined, compliant, and straightforward manner.

Dudek's environmental experts work collaboratively with clients; local, regional, state, and federal agencies; and the public to clearly define project objectives, address concerns, and outline appropriate processes. We apply practical CEQA/NEPA knowledge to comply with current laws, regulations, and case law. Our planners help clients creatively solve regulatory challenges within financial and scheduling constraints.

We produce complete CEQA/NEPA documents done right the first time. Our environmental planners work with our in-house technical editors and graphic designers to prepare high-quality documents that are clearly organized and easily interpreted by the public, agencies, and decision-makers responsible for future project development.

Our team has extensive experience in preparing environmental review documentation that tier off PEIRs, such as that prepared for CalVTP. We have a full and in-depth understanding of CalVTP and application of its procedures, including project-specific analyses, to ensure efficient CEQA compliance for proposed vegetation management and fuels reduction activities. We also have direct experience conducting environmental review for projects where CAL FIRE functions as the lead agency—specifically completing the CAL FIRE Environmental Review Report Form (ERRF) for Categorically Exempt projects. Our team is also familiar with federal and state environmental compliance requirements pertaining to wildfire risk reduction and forest management, including the latest updates to the CEQA Guidelines related to wildfire.

### Vegetation Management

Dudek's foresters and fire planners understand the need to maximize the ecological and aesthetic benefits of forests and native vegetation communities while balancing the need for fire hazard reduction. Dudek foresters analyze and model wildfire hazard conditions, conduct site assessments and associated resource mapping, identify and prioritize project areas, and develop plans and vegetation management prescriptions to strategically reduce fuel loads while considering potential impacts to natural resources. We understand the regulatory environment in California, have drafted numerous management plans, have processed plans and permits through various lead agencies, and can evaluate projects thoughtfully and critically.

Our fire and fuel management professionals provide the following professional services:

- VMP preparation
- Wildfire hazard evaluations and management plan preparation
- Defensible space inspections
- Development of fuel treatment prescriptions
- GPS mapping
- GIS analysis and modeling of fire behavior
- Contractor bid package preparation
- Preparation of technical reports, management plans, and CEQA documents related to forest and fire management
- Presentation of findings to decision-making bodies

## Wildfire Resilience Planning

Dudek's wildfire resilience planning team develops high-quality planning documents focused on reducing wildfire risk to communities and resources. Our planning documents are supported by thorough technical analyses of wildfire hazard and potential fire behavior, which support development and prioritization of risk mitigation strategies. We have completed numerous plans across a variety of vegetation communities and land management jurisdictions. Our knowledge of the regulatory environment results in plans that are effective and implementable.

Our wildfire resilience planning professionals prepare the following planning documents:

- Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- Regional Priority Plans
- Vegetation/Fuel Management Plans
- Wildland Fire Management Plans
- Forest Health Plans
- Wildfire Risk Analyses
- Wildfire Hazard and Fire Behavior Modeling Analyses
- CEQA and NEPA Documents
- CAL FIRE Plan, Exemption, and Emergency Notices

# C. Specific Qualifications

## Project Team

We have assembled a team with the knowledge and specific expertise to complete the scope of services outlined in the Request for Proposal. Dana Link-Herrera will serve as the project manager and primary point-of-contact for MFPD. Ms. Link-Herrera is an urban forestry specialist and environmental planner with expertise in natural resource management, wildfire planning, and CEQA/NEPA compliance and documentation. She works collaboratively with Dudek’s certified arborists, fire planners, and licensed foresters to prepare urban forest management plans (UFMPs), fire protection plans (FPPs), community wildfire protection plans (CWPPs), and technical analyses in accordance with CEQA/NEPA and local and regional policies. Ms. Link-Herrera will be supported by Project Director Scott Eckardt and a technical team with expertise in biology, cultural and historic resources, air quality, noise, landscape architecture, and geographic information systems. Mr. Eckardt is an RPF and senior project manager who specializes in forest resource and fire management issues throughout California.

Dudek’s in-house team can perform all services requested and our team members contain expertise that exceed the minimum qualifications. Our proposed team is primarily located in the Santa Barbara region and has extensive wildfire and urban forestry planning as well as CEQA analysis and documentation experience throughout the Central Coast region. **Figure 1** presents the Dudek team organization, including roles and responsibilities for the proposed staff members. Brief biographies highlighting the qualifications and experience of proposed staff follow the organization chart, and key personnel resumes are provided in **Appendix A**.

Figure 1. Dudek Team Organization



**Scott Eckardt, RPF**  
**PROJECT DIRECTOR**

**Education**

California State University,  
 Long Beach  
 MA, Geography

California Polytechnic State  
 University (Cal Poly),  
 San Luis Obispo  
 BS, Forestry and Natural  
 Resources Management

**Certifications**

RPF, No. 2835

ISA Certified Arborist,  
 No. WE5914A

Association for Fire Ecology  
 Certified Wildland Fire Professional

**Expertise**

- Fire protection planning
- Forest/woodland management

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Santa Barbara CWPP and PEIR
- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project

**Dana Link-Herrera**  
**PROJECT MANAGER**

**Education**

Cal Poly, Pomona  
 MURP, Urban and Regional  
 Planning

University of California (UC), San  
 Diego  
 BA, International Studies  
 (Environmental Studies minor)

**Professional Affiliations**

APA, AEP

**Expertise**

- Wildfire management
- CEQA analysis and documentation
- Environmental and urban planning

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Gaviota Coast CWPP
- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project
- Santa Barbara CWPP and PEIR

**Jane Gray**  
**CEQA LEAD/QA-QC**

**Education**

Universität Dortmund, Germany  
 MS, Regional Planning and  
 Management

State University of New York, Buffalo  
 BS, Social Work

**Professional Affiliations**

2nd District Appointee to the County  
 Agricultural Advisory Committee

Vice Chair, Central Coast Regional  
 Water Quality Control Board

**Expertise**

- Environmental and regional planning
- CEQA compliance and documentation
- Grant writing

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Semitropic Water Storage District IS/MND
- Countywide IRWMP Management

**Dave Compton**  
**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Education**

Marquette University  
 MA, U.S. History

Christian Brothers College  
 BA, History

**Certifications**

Scientific Collecting Permit,  
 No. SC-7918

**Expertise**

- Natural resources planning
- Habitat assessments
- Special-status species

**Relevant Project Experience**

- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project
- Santa Barbara CWPP and PEIR
- UC Santa Barbara Open Space Management Plan

**Heather McDevitt, RPA**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Education**

California State University,  
 Northridge  
 MA, Public Archaeology  
 MA, GIS (ABT)  
 BA, Anthropology

**Certifications**

RPA

CEQA Training through Advanced  
 GIS Professional Certificate

**Expertise**

- Archaeological surveying
- Tribal consultation
- CEQA/NEPA documentation

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Santa Barbara County On-Call Archaeological Services
- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project

**Kristen Zecher**  
**GIS SPECIALIST**

**Education**

UC Santa Barbara  
 BA, Geography (GIS, Remote  
 Sensing, and Cartography  
 emphasis)

**Certifications**

Certified GISP, No. 00041197

FEMA Integrated Computer  
 Solutions-100, Introduction to the  
 Incident Command System

**Expertise**

- Geospatial analysis
- Mapping
- CEQA documentation

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Santa Barbara CWPP
- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project
- Gaviota Coast CWPP

**Adam Poll, LEED AP BD+C  
 AIR QUALITY/GHG**

**Education**

University of Denver  
 MS, Environmental Policy and  
 Management, Energy and  
 Sustainability

UC, Santa Barbara  
 BS, Environmental Studies

**Certifications**

LEED AP BD+C,  
 No. 10364581

ISO, No. 14001, Lead Auditor

**Expertise**

- Air quality analyses
- GHG accounting
- GHG inventory verification

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Santa Barbara CWPP and PEIR
- Montecito Water District Air  
 Quality Permitting Support
- UC Santa Barbara AB 2588  
 Support

**Jonathan Leech, AICP  
 NOISE**

**Education**

UC, Santa Barbara  
 BA, Environmental Studies/  
 Geology

Pennsylvania State University,  
 Coursework in Graduate Acoustics  
 Program

**Certifications**

AICP

**Expertise**

- Noise assessments and  
 monitoring
- CEQA analysis and  
 documentation
- Land development permit  
 processing

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Summerland Community Plan
- Santa Maria Wastewater  
 Master Plan

**Alessandra Zambrano  
 CEQA ANALYST**

**Education**

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo  
 MS, Forestry Sciences  
 BS, Environmental Management  
 and Protection

**Professional Affiliations**

AEP

Association of Fire Ecology

**Expertise**

- CEQA compliance and  
 documentation
- Urban forestry
- Fire hazard analysis
- Long-range land use planning

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Montecito Evacuation Plan
- Gaviota Coast CWPP
- La Purisima Ridge Fuel Break  
 Project

**Perry Russell, PG, CEG  
 HYDROLOGY/GEOLOGY/HAZARDS**

**Education**

California State University,  
 Northridge  
 MS, Geological Sciences

UC, Santa Barbara  
 BA, Geological Sciences

**Certifications**

PG, CA No. 5777

CEG, CA No. 1837

**Expertise**

- Geology/soils analyses
- CEQA analysis and  
 documentation
- Phase I Environmental Site  
 Assessments

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Santa Barbara CWPP and PEIR
- Santa Barbara City College Long-  
 Range Development Plan EIR

**Dennis Pascua  
 TRANSPORTATION**

**Education**

UC, Irvine  
 BA, Social Ecology (Environmental  
 Analysis and Design)

**Professional Affiliations**

APA

AEP

Institute of Transportation  
 Engineers

**Expertise**

- Transportation planning and  
 engineering
- CEQA/NEPA compliance and  
 documentation
- Traffic and circulation impact  
 analyses

**Relevant Project Experience**

- LADWP On-Call  
 Environmental Services
- Marsh Park Access Evaluation

**John Minchin, RLA  
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

**Education**

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo  
 BS, Landscape Architecture

**Certifications**

RLA, CA No. 2225

**Expertise**

- Habitat restoration and  
 mitigation
- Restoration design,  
 implementation, and  
 monitoring
- Habitat management planning
- Mitigation for sensitive and  
 endangered species

**Relevant Project Experience**

- Cabrillo Business Park Wetland  
 Mitigation Program
- Dos Pueblos Creek Rehabilitation  
 and Restoration Project
- Paradiso del Mar Development



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## D. Project Samples and Client References

During preparation of a PSA for Montecito's Vegetation Treatment Program, Dudek will use our significant CEQA and fire planning experience in California. The following projects are representative of Dudek's expertise in the environmental review and wildfire and fuels management planning field.

### PROJECT SPECIFIC ANALYSIS FOR THE PURISIMA RIDGE FUEL BREAK PROJECT

**Client:** Santa Barbara County Fire Department

**Project Budget:** \$95,000

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** January 2021 – April 2021

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** February 2021 – June 2021

**Reference:** Rob Hazard, Division Chief/Fire Marshal; 805.681.5554; rob.hazard@sbcfire.com

Dudek supported the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in its efforts to implement proposed vegetation treatment activities on approximately 598 acres of private property. The vegetation treatment project would implement an approximately 16-mile fuel break atop La Purisima Ridge. The project was funded by a grant from the CAL FIRE California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant Program. The purpose of the proposed project was to reduce flammable vegetation, improve environmental conditions (i.e., forest health), and provide a strategic location between Los Alamos Valley and the City of Lompoc where firefighting ground and air resources can gain access and provide firefighters the ability to safely reduce the intensity of, slow down, or stop the spread of a wildfire that may occur on either side of the ridge. Pursuant to CEQA, Dudek prepared a PSA tiering from the CalVTP EIR. Proposed fuel management activities include manual (hand crew), mechanical (masticator and track chipper), and prescribed pile burning. Dudek conducted biological and cultural resources field surveys and assisted the Santa Barbara County Fire Department with contacting regulatory agencies, preparing fuel treatment prescriptions, and refining work areas based on sensitive resources and site constraints.

### COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN AND PEIR

**Client:** City of Santa Barbara Fire Department

**Project Budget:** \$400,000

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** October 2019 – February 2021

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** September 2019 – February 2021

**Reference:** Mark vonTillow, Wildland Specialist; 805.331.5406; mvontillow@santabarbaraca.gov

Dudek worked with the City of Santa Barbara to develop their CWPP, a comprehensive plan intended to mitigate the impact of wildland fire to the city. The project was funded through a grant from CAL FIRE. The City of Santa Barbara initiated the project to update their 2004 Wildland Fire Plan. The 2004 Plan was an important document guiding the City of Santa Barbara toward greater fire resilience. Changes in the City's development patterns, policies, and its fire environment since 2004 necessitated a plan update to guide fire hazard reduction efforts into the future. Dudek worked closely with the City of Santa Barbara's fire department while developing the Draft CWPP. The initial project task involved conducting a wildfire hazard assessment, which involved field evaluations, research, spatial data analysis, and fire behavior modeling. Fire behavior modeling utilized FlamMap software to evaluate the potential for extreme fire behavior (e.g., high flame lengths, crown fire activity, spotting). FlamMap is a GIS-based software; it provides modeling outputs in a spatial data format that can be analyzed to determine what portions of the City of Santa Barbara present greater fire hazard. Dudek also modeled structure (building) densities and fire department response capabilities in GIS to inform project prioritization.

Based on the results of the fire hazard assessment, Dudek worked with the City of Santa Barbara to develop policies and action items to mitigate wildfire risk in the city. Two of the primary recommendations in the Draft CWPP were to expand the City of Santa Barbara's High Fire Hazard Area and add to the city's network of Vegetation Management Units where ladder fuels and readily ignitable vegetation can be treated routinely to reduce the potential for extreme fire behavior. Prioritization of Vegetation Management Units was based on treatment history, adjacent structure density, and distance from fire stations. The Draft CWPP also included recommended action items associated with fire codes and standards, funding, fire rehabilitation, evacuation, fire protection, and public education.

Dudek also developed and implemented a robust Community Outreach Plan to engage community stakeholders and gather input on CWPP development. The Community Outreach Plan is being supported by our technical and graphics team and includes online surveys and development of a project website (<https://cwpp.santabarbaraca.gov/>) to host project-related resources (e.g., maps, meeting information, CWPP drafts, surveys). The Dudek team also facilitated two community meetings—one held in-person and the other held via Zoom webinar due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place restrictions. Both meetings were well-attended and community feedback gathered was included in the CWPP development process.

Dudek also drafted the PEIR for the CWPP, which was finalized and adopted in February 2021.

#### **GAVIOTA COAST COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN**

**Client:** Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council

**Project Budget:** \$158,164

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** January 2021 – January 2022

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** January 2021 – Present (2021 Alisal Fire affected project schedule)

**Reference:** Scott Coffman, Project Manager; 805.705.8616; drakescott98@gmail.com

Dudek is currently working with the Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council to develop the CWPP for the Gaviota Coast. The plan area encompasses approximately 100,000 acres extending from the City of Goleta in the east to Point Conception in the west. The plan area includes a variety of land uses, including residential, recreation, ranching, agriculture, and open space management. To date, Dudek has completed the wildfire hazard analysis for the plan area using the fire behavior modeling and integrated hazard mapping tools included in the Interagency Fuels Treatment Decision Support System application. Dudek is also in the process of conducting stakeholder outreach with two development team meetings and one community meeting held, and agency and additional community meetings planned. The CWPP is also being drafted and anticipated to be completed in 2022.

#### **SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT IS/MND**

**Client:** Montecito Water District

**Project Budget:** \$30,590

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** July 2017 – December 2017

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** July 2017 – December 2017

**Reference:** Nick Turner, General Manager; 805.969.2271; nick@montecitowater.com

The Montecito Water District decided to purchase of 4,500 acre-feet of groundwater storage capacity within the Stored Water Recovery Unit (SWRU) of the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program. The Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic) is one of eight water storage districts in California and is the largest in Kern County. The SWRU of the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program is located in north-central Kern County in the San Joaquin Valley, approximately 20 miles northwest of the City of Bakersfield. The total area of Semitropic is

220,000 acres, with approximately 159,000 acres irrigated. There are no incorporated cities within Semitropic, which was organized in 1958 for supplying supplemental water within its service area boundaries.

Participation in the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program provides Montecito Water District with the right to recovery of 1,500 acre-feet of water per year of the 50,000 acre-feet of SWRU pumpback capacity. Montecito Water District also has the right to use any SWRU pumpback capacity not used by other SWRU banking partners, subject to restrictions and costs as specified in the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program Agreement. The project involved conjunctive use of surface and groundwater through iterative exchanges through the San Luis Reservoir and Semitropic SWRU and delivery through the existing state water delivery system. Dudek prepared an IS and ND for the project.

#### OCEAN VIEW AVENUE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT IS/MND

**Client:** Montecito Water District

**Project Budget:** \$215,090

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** July 2019 – June 2021

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** July 2019 – June 2021

**Reference:** Nick Turner, General Manager; 805.969.2271; nick@montecitowater.com

The Ocean View Avenue Water Main Replacement Project replaces a 100-year-old 4-inch cast iron water main, service laterals, one hydrant, and one air vacuum valve on Ocean View Avenue in Montecito, California, operated by the Montecito Water District. This water main replacement is required due to the restriction in flow within the water main and lack of pressure and flow rate for firefighting operations for the adjacent 20 properties. The water main will be replaced with 630 linear feet of new 6-inch ductile iron pipe in a new trench along Ocean View Avenue. The existing 4-inch pipe will remain in service during construction and be abandoned in place. The water main trench will be 630 feet long by 12 inches wide and 40 inches deep. The project will also replace 18 service laterals with new copper piping. The service lateral trenches will total approximately 400 linear feet and will be 12 inches wide and 30 inches deep. The project will also include a new hydrant lateral and air vacuum valve with a total trench length of 30 linear feet and 12 inches wide and 40 inches deep. All trenching will be backfilled with sand to 6 inches above the top of pipe and concrete slurry above the sand and asphalt to match the existing asphalt thickness in accordance with County of Santa Barbara Construction Standards. The construction timeline is estimated to be 5 business days to install the water main and 10 business days to install the service laterals, hydrant, and air vacuum valve. Dudek has prepared an IS/MND for the project.

#### SANTA BARBARA BOTANICAL GARDEN FIRE PROTECTION PLAN

**Client:** Santa Barbara Botanical Garden

**Project Budget:** \$75,000

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** May 2007 (no projected completion date)

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** May 2007 – October 2010

**Reference:** Steven Windhager, PhD, Executive Director; 805.682.4726; swindhager@sbbg.org

Dudek prepared a fire protection and evacuation plan for the proposed Santa Barbara Botanical Garden (SBBG) expansion to provide for expanded facilities while improving safety for SBBG workers, visitors, and neighbors, and to provide a safer area for firefighters to stage equipment during a fire event. The 78-acre SBBG property is in a high fire-hazard severity zone in Mission Canyon, is adjacent to residences, and is limited to one ingress/egress route.

The FPP was developed as part of a revised permit approved by the county for SBBG to add approximately 20,000 square feet of research, education, and administration buildings. The FPP included site-specific fire behavior modeling, analysis of the option for on-site sheltering, and addressed all fire protection features that would be provided for the site's structures. Fuel modification was also customized for this site based on its terrain and expected fire behavior. In addition, the FPP included several key elements developed to mitigate fire risk or enhance the capabilities of responding agencies, including the following:

**Early Evacuation/On-Site Shelter.** Early evacuation during a wildfire is the plan's primary goal; however, should conditions prevent an evacuation, on-site designated shelters will be built to highly ignition-resistant standards and equipped with special ember-resistant vents, customized air-handling systems, interior sprinklers, communication upgrades, and wider fuel-modification zones. Additionally, roadside fuel reduction will be implemented, and on-site roads and driveways will be improved to aid traffic circulation and firefighter access. SBBG personnel will also be trained to work with first responders during an evacuation.

**Visitor Caps/Weather Monitoring.** As part of the permit conditions, the county limited the number of annual and on-site visitors, with a lower cap during the peak May–November fire season. Trained fire safety–watch personnel will be required during fire weather–watch conditions. SBBG will be closed to visitors when the National Weather Service issues Red Flag warnings. SBBG will also install a remote automated weather station to feed critical fire weather information into the statewide data exchange.

**Firefighting Infrastructure.** Nine commercial fire hydrants will be installed throughout the SBBG, a larger pipeline will be added to increase water flow, and a cul-de-sac will serve as a helipad that “dip-tank” helicopters can use to replenish water buckets for aerial drops.

## FUEL MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND PERMITTING

**Client:** City of San Carlos

**Project Budget:** \$37,950

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** January 2019 – June 2020

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** February 2019 – June 2020

**Reference:** Amy Newby, Director of Parks and Recreation; 650.802.4131; anewby@cityofsancarlos.org

Dudek supported the City of San Carlos in its efforts to implement proposed fuel reduction activities on approximately 130 acres of City-owned open space in the wildland-urban interface. The project was funded by a FEMA grant. The purpose of the project was to reduce hazardous fuel loads and vertical and horizontal fuel continuity within the wildland-urban interface in four City-owned parks located in an area classified by the City of San Carlos as a Hazardous Fire Area. Dudek prepared fuel treatment prescriptions and conducted biological and cultural resources field surveys. Dudek also prepared a notice of exemption to support CEQA compliance. Proposed fuel management activities include grazing, brush and tree thinning/pruning, herbicide treatment of invasive species, and vegetation chipping and mastication. Additionally, Dudek foresters assisted the City of San Carlos in identifying priority fuel reduction areas and refining work areas based on sensitive resources and site constraints, including biological and cultural resources. Dudek biologists also performed special-status plant surveys in advance of fuel reduction work.

**OAKLAND HILLS VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Client:** Oakland Fire Department

**Project Budget:** \$231,600

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** December 2016 – June 2022 (inclusive of addendums due to changing project scope)

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** December 2016 – Ongoing

**Reference:** Angela Robinson-Piñon, Strategy and Planning Manager, City of Oakland Public Works; 510.238.3707; arobinsonpinon@oaklandca.gov

Dudek prepared a Draft VMP for the City of Oakland Fire Department. The scope of the VMP covers nearly 2,000 acres of City-owned land, along with over 300 miles of roadside treatment areas in the City of Oakland's designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The Draft VMP outlines vegetation management techniques and standards to reduce the likelihood of extreme fire behavior and promote public and firefighter safety. The management recommendations included in the Draft VMP draw on field data, research, principles of vegetation/fuels management, and the results of GIS-based fire behavior modeling using FlamMap software. Prioritization of vegetation treatment areas in the Draft VMP considers these variables as well as the size, physical characteristics, and spatial distribution of City-owned parcels throughout the plan area. Dudek presented at six public/stakeholder meetings to gather input and receive feedback on the Draft VMP. In addition, we have conducted numerous phone interviews to gain feedback from stakeholders and City staff. A draft EIR was completed in 2020, and Dudek is currently providing technical support and addressing comments in preparation for the Final EIR.

**SAN MATEO COUNTY HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION PROGRAM**

**Client:** FIRE SAFE San Mateo County

**Project Budget:** \$15,340

**Projected Start/Completion Dates:** May 2018 – September 2018

**Actual Start/Completion Dates:** May 2018 – September 2018

**Reference:** Denise Enea, Executive Director, FIRE SAFE San Mateo; 650.851.6206; denea@woodsidefire.org

Dudek foresters conducted CEQA review and prepared an Environmental Review Report Form (ERRF) per CAL FIRE standards to evaluate the environmental effects of fuel management activities being conducted by Fire Safe San Mateo within Eaton and Big Canyon Parks, located in the City of San Carlos. This project was funded by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant. Dudek conducted field surveys to assess fuel loading, forest stand conditions, and biological resource field surveys to evaluate potential operational constraints posed by special-status plant and wildlife species or sensitive habitats. Dudek foresters consulted with CAL FIRE (lead agency) staff during preparation of the ERRF, which also outlined natural resource impact avoidance and minimization measures to be implemented during fuel treatment operations. The ERRF was submitted to CAL FIRE for project-related CEQA compliance and was subsequently approved. Biological field surveys and development of special-status species avoidance and impact minimization measures were also completed as a component of the project. The project was implemented in 2018 and 2019.

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## E. Fee Schedule

**Table 4** presents the hourly rates for the proposed staff members as well as ranges for additional technical staff and field staff. Field work will be performed by staff located in Dudek's Santa Barbara office, and all of our technical specialists have experience interacting and cooperating with clients, the public, and stakeholders.

**Table 4. Fee Schedule**

Staff Role/Classification	Hourly Rate
Project Director/Senior Specialist III	\$225
Project Manager/Specialist II	\$150
CEQA Lead/Senior Specialist IV	\$235
Senior Biologist/Senior Specialist V	\$235
Archaeologist/Specialist V	\$185
GIS Specialist/GIS Analyst IV	\$165
Air Quality Specialist/Senior Specialist I	\$195
Noise Specialist/Environmental Project Director	\$255
Landscape Architect/ Environmental Project Director	\$255
CEQA Analyst	\$105-\$150
Field Biologist	\$95-\$135
Field Archaeologist	\$95-\$125
GIS Analyst	\$115-\$145
Technical Editor	\$120-\$150
Publications Specialist I	\$90-\$120
Graphic Artist	\$120-\$165

**Travel Expenses** – Mileage at current IRS allowable rates. Per diem where overnight stay is involved is charged at cost.

## F. Underutilized Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Dudek can perform all services and work outlined in the RFP with in-house staff, including staff primarily located in our Santa Barbara office or living in the region. If MFPD desires the use of local or other DBE firms for the proposed project, Dudek would be amenable to including any DBE firms preferred by MFPD or seek local or regional DBE firms to be included on the team.



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# Appendix A

Resumes



# Scott Eckardt, RPF

## FORESTER/FIRE PROTECTION PLANNER

Scott Eckardt is a project manager and licensed forester with 23 years' professional experience in the natural resource management field, specializing in forest resource and fire management issues in open-space and wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas throughout California. Mr. Eckardt's project experience includes assessment and inventory of woodlands and forests; monitoring of woodland and forest resources on development sites; assessment of fire and fuel hazard conditions; WUI inspections for local fire departments; preparation of fire protection plans (FPPs) and community wildfire protection plans (CWPPs); GPS mapping; environmental monitoring; and preparation of assessment reports, oak woodland management, preservation plans, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) technical documents. In addition, he routinely utilizes geographic information system (GIS) data and aerial imagery in mapping, analysis of resource data, preparation of project plans, conducting project impact analyses, evaluating mitigation opportunities, and modeling fire behavior and wildfire hazard conditions. Mr. Eckardt previously worked for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in South Lake Tahoe, where he conducted fuel reduction, vegetation thinning, and forest rehabilitation projects.

## Project Experience

### **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), Santa Barbara Fire Department, City of Santa Barbara, California.**

Mr. Eckardt served as the lead author and prepared the CWPP for the City of Santa Barbara, a comprehensive plan intended to mitigate the impact of wildland fire to the City. The project served to update the City's 2004 Wildland Fire Plan and involved conducting a wildfire hazard assessment, which involved field evaluations, research, spatial data analysis, and fire behavior modeling. Fire behavior modeling utilized FlamMap software to evaluate the potential for extreme fire behavior. The results of this assessment helped to identify and prioritize projects to be included in the CWPP. Mr. Eckardt also supported the project's community outreach component, drafted sections of the PEIR, and worked closely with other Dudek technical staff to clarify the recommend actions included in the CWPP. The CWPP and PEIR were both finalized and adopted in February 2021.

**Gaviota Coast Community Wildfire Protection Plan.** Mr. Eckardt is currently working with the Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council to develop the CWPP for the Gaviota Coast. The plan area encompasses approximately 100,000 acres extending from the City of Goleta in the east to Point Conception in the west. The plan area includes a variety of land uses, including residential, recreation, ranching, agriculture, and open space management. To date, Mr. Eckardt has completed the wildfire hazard analysis for the plan area using the fire behavior modeling and integrated hazard mapping tools included in the Interagency Fuels Treatment Decision Support System application. He is also in the process of conducting stakeholder outreach with two development team meetings and one community meeting held, and agency and additional community meetings planned. The CWPP is also being drafted and anticipated to be completed in 2022.



### *Education*

*California State University,  
Long Beach  
MA, Geography*

*California Polytechnic  
State University,  
San Luis Obispo  
BS, Forestry and Natural  
Resources Management*

### *Certifications*

*Registered Professional  
Forester (RPF), No. 2835*

*Certified Arborist,  
No. WE-5914A*

*Association for Fire  
Ecology Certified Wildland  
Fire Professional*

### *Professional Affiliations*

*International Society of  
Arboriculture (ISA)*

*Association for Fire  
Ecology*

**Vegetation Management Plan, Oakland Fire Department, City of Oakland, California.** Prepared a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for the City of Oakland Fire Department. The scope of the VMP covers nearly 2,000 acres of City-owned land, along with over 300 miles of roadside treatment areas in the City's designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The VMP outlines vegetation management techniques and standards to reduce the likelihood of extreme fire behavior and promote public and firefighter safety. Prioritization of vegetation treatment areas considers these variables and the size, physical characteristics, and spatial distribution of City-owned parcels throughout the VMP area. Supporting the project's environmental review process, which is currently underway.

**Professional Forestry Services for Fuel Management Grant, City of San Carlos, California.** Mr. Eckardt managed planning and environmental review services in support of a FEMA grant-funded fuel management project being implemented by the City of San Carlos. The project involved field assessment, biological and cultural resource surveys, and environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Proposed fuel management activities are planned on approximately 100 acres of community open space in the City's wildland urban interface (WUI) and include grazing, brush and tree thinning/pruning, herbicide treatment of invasive species, and vegetation chipping and mastication.

**Teague Hill Shaded Fuel Break Project, Fire Safe San Mateo, San Mateo County, California.** Mr. Eckardt managed preparation of an Environmental Review Report Form (ERRF) per CAL FIRE standards to evaluate the environmental effects of fuel management activities being conducted by Fire Safe San Mateo within the Teague Hill Preserve, owned by Midpeninsula Open Space District. This project was funded by a CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Program Grant and project tasks involve conducting forest resources and fuels surveys and biological and archaeological resources field surveys to evaluate potential constraints to proposed fuel reduction activities. Preparation of the ERRF form was conducted for project-related environmental compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Wildfire Specialist, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Feasibility and Effectiveness Reviews, FEMA Region IX.** Mr. Eckardt supported the HMGP review process for FEMA Region IX by conducting initial reviews of subapplications for wildfire mitigation projects, focusing on evaluating whether proposed projects meet FEMA standards for inclusion in the HMGP, whether the projects were feasible, and whether the projects would effectively mitigate wildfire hazard. Mr. Eckardt also coordinated with other members of the review team and ran BCA reviews where necessary and where project documentation supported a re-analysis.

**Forest Health Plan for Mt. Madonna County Park, Santa Clara County Parks, Santa Clara County, California.** Served as the lead forester and project manager and developed a forest health plan for the 4,600-acre Mt. Madonna County Park. Santa Clara County Parks engaged Dudek to develop a plan to proactively address management of forest threats (pests, diseases, fire hazard) to maintain high recreational value in the Park. The Park is in the southern Santa Cruz Mountains and is characterized by varied terrain redwood forests and oak woodlands, and includes numerous recreational amenities (campsites, trails, picnic areas). The Park is used by the public year-round. Development of the plan and associated CEQA document was completed in 2018.

**Roadside Hazard Tree Assessment and Mapping, Sonoma County, California.** Served as the project manager for a hazard tree identification and mapping project for approximately 1,700 dead, dying, and hazardous trees along 31 miles of roads in the northwestern portion of Sonoma County. The intent of the project was to identify trees that may impact Sonoma County roads and deliver project data so that it could be used for tree removal contractor bidding. The project was conducted in early 2020 and involved identifying and tagging trees located within the Sonoma County right-of-way and collecting tree attribute data for trees on adjacent private properties where right-of-entry will be needed to facilitate tree removal. Dudek delivered tree attribute and mapping data to Sonoma County in May 2020. The project was funded by a CAL FIRE grant.

# Dana Link-Herrera

## PROJECT MANAGER, URBAN FORESTRY AND WILDFIRE PLANNER

Dana Link-Herrera is a project manager and urban forestry and wildfire planner with 7 years' experience and a strong foundation in environmental and urban planning. She has a diverse background in natural resource management, environmental analysis, permitting support, community outreach and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Ms. Link-Herrera provides project management and analytical support for various projects in rural, suburban, and urban communities, and specializes in completing CEQA/NEPA compliance for forest health, vegetation management, and fuels reduction projects in California. She works collaboratively with Dudek's certified arborists, fire planners, and registered professional foresters to prepare urban forest management plans (UFMPs), fire protection plans (FPPs), community wildfire protection plans, and technical analyses in accordance with CEQA/NEPA and local/regional policies. She is experienced in project management, conducting site visits and field work, interpreting data to provide comprehensive canopy cover analyses, completing regulatory setting research, reviewing and developing plans/policies/ordinances, and community engagement. Ms. Link-Herrera is skilled at synthesizing technical information into planning documents and reports and provides a comprehensive approach to environmental planning.

## Project Experience

**La Purisima Ridge Fuel Reduction Project, California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Program EIR, Santa Barbara County Fire Department, California.** Served as project manager for the La Purisima Ridge Fuel Reduction Project, which involved preparation of a PSA tiered from the CalVTP PEIR. The project consists of vegetation treatment to create a fuel break along Purisima Ridge in northern Santa Barbara County. Coordinated with Dudek technical staff and Santa Barbara County Fire Department staff to conduct site visits and complete technical analyses and implement Standard Project Requirements and mitigation measures. Provided recommendations for project modifications to maintain a within the scope of the PEIR finding for the project. Created a Standard Project Requirements and mitigation implementation guide to facilitate project staff in the field prior to, during, and after treatment activities.

**Santa Barbara Community Wildfire Protection Plan and Program EIR, City of Santa Barbara, California.** Assisted with preparation of the Santa Barbara Community Wildfire Protection Plan and the accompanying PEIR. Worked collaboratively with the project team to prepare and update the citywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan and prepare a accompanying program-level EIR in accordance with CEQA and local and regional policies. The project is funded through a grant from CAL FIRE and subject to the grant timeline.

**Ocean Meadows Residential Project IS/MND, County of Santa Barbara, California.** Provided project management support and assisted with research and analysis to prepare the IS/MND for the proposed residential



### **Education**

*California State Polytechnic University, Pomona*  
*MURP, Urban and Regional Planning*  
*University of California, San Diego*  
*BA, International Studies (Environmental Studies minor)*

### **Professional Affiliations**

*American Planning Association (APA)*  
*Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP)*

development. Authored multiple IS/MND sections and assisted with public review and addressing concerns regarding the proposed development and potential impacts to biological and hydrological resources.

**Hitch Ranch Project Fire Protection Plan and EIR, City of Moorpark, California.** Authored the CEQA wildfire analysis for the project, which includes single-family residential development and outdoor recreational space located in a very high fire hazard zone/wildland-urban interface area. Worked collaboratively with Dudek wildfire planners to prepare a Fire Protection Plan (FPP) and CEQA wildfire EIR chapter to provide a comprehensive wildfire analysis. The analysis included a review of the existing fire environment, fire behavior modeling for pre- and post-project conditions, proposed fuel modification zones, and mitigation measures for the project.

**County of Los Angeles Integrated Wildfire Safety Program, County of Los Angeles, California.** Providing project management support and working collaboratively with Dudek's registered professional foresters, wildfire planners, GIS and technical staff to prepare a wildfire risk assessment, unified land management plan, and a county-wide community wildfire protection plan for unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

**Entrada South and Valencia Commerce Center Project FPP and Supplemental EIR, County of Los Angeles, California.** Prepared the CEQA wildfire analysis for the project, which includes single-family residential and commercial development located in very high and high fire hazard zones, as part of the development facilitated by the state-approved Newhall Ranch Resource Management and Development Plan and Spineflower Conservation Plan within the Entrada and Valencia Commerce Center Planning Areas in the County of Los Angeles. Worked collaboratively with Dudek wildfire planners to provide fire protection planning services for the project, including preparation of an FPP, a construction fire protection plan, and a wildfire analysis in accordance with CEQA. The analysis included a review of the local fire environment, fire history, fire behavior modeling for pre- and post-project conditions, proposed fuel modification zones, and mitigation measures for the project.

**Costco/Vineyard II and Vineyard III EIRs, City of Murrieta, California.** Provided project management support and assisted with research and preparation of two environmental impact reports (EIRs) for adjacent commercial development projects in the City of Murrieta, including a Costco Warehouse and adjacent retail shopping centers located in a very high fire hazard severity zone. Worked collaboratively with wildfire planners and the Murrieta Fire Department to conduct wildfire analysis and identify alternative methods and materials to reduce the risk of exposure to wildfire.

**Mesa Wind Repower Project, EIR, CDFW, Riverside County, California.** Provided technical support and served as lead author for the aesthetics, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, utilities, and wildfire analyses in accordance with CEQA for the Mesa Wind Repower Project, which involves decommissioning and removal of over 400 existing wind turbine generators (WTGs) and constructing, operating and maintaining up to 9 new WTGs that would be up to 499 feet tall, and installation of overhead and underground collector lines and substation upgrades. The project is located on 401 acres of BLM-administered lands. Responsibilities include review of the applicant prepared initial study, preparation of data requests, and preparation of an EIR. Key issues include consistency with the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, and BLM plans, policies and regulations.

# Jane Gray

## ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Jane Gray is a regional planner, environmental specialist, and project manager with 23 years' project management and environmental planning experience, specializing in water/wastewater planning and permitting, agricultural resource and policy planning, policy analysis, land use planning, project development and entitlement services, and grant writing and management. Ms. Gray has a diverse and nuanced planning background, having worked as a project manager, analyst, and environmental planner for non-governmental entities, public agencies, and private firms and corporations. She has been responsible for projects varying from small-scale development and infrastructure planning in developing economies to private residential and commercial developments throughout California.

Ms. Gray brings an effective and customized approach to efficiently deliver services. Her ability to skillfully negotiate the often-disparate interests involved in projects and bring about consensus is an asset in any situation. Ms. Gray has organizational expertise, technical aptitude, planning proficiency, and competency facilitating projects through contentious issues in a variety of communities.

## Project Experience

**Extension of City Staff Services for the City of Goleta's MS4 Program, Goleta, California.** Serving as project manager. The position entails coordination and oversight of Dudek staff in the development and implementation of the City of Goleta's Municipal Stormwater Program (MS4), which is a state and federally mandated program under the Clean Water Act, National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit Program. Have worked with the City since February 2019 and have a contract to provide in-house services until at least June 30, 2020.

**CEQA Document Preparation, Water Banking for the Montecito Water District, Montecito, California.** Serving as CEQA project manager. Responsible for the preparation of an Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the Montecito Water District's Water Banking Project. The Montecito Water District decided to purchase of 4,500 acre-feet of groundwater storage capacity within the Stored Water Recovery Unit (SWRU) of the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program. The Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic) is one of eight water storage districts in California and is the largest in Kern County. The SWRU of the Semitropic Water Banking and Exchange Program is located in north-central Kern County in the San Joaquin Valley, approximately 20 miles northwest of the City of Bakersfield. The total area of Semitropic is 220,000 acres, with approximately 159,000 acres irrigated. There are no incorporated cities within Semitropic, which was organized in 1958 for supplying supplemental water within its service area boundaries.

**CEQA Addendum for the Montecito Water District's Water Service Agreement with City of Santa Barbara, Montecito, California.** Serving as CEQA project manager. Currently preparing a CEQA Addendum for the joint water



### *Education*

*Universität Dortmund,  
Germany  
MS, Regional Planning  
and Management  
State University of New  
York, Buffalo  
BS, Social Work*

### *Professional Affiliations*

*2<sup>nd</sup> District Appointee to  
the County Agricultural  
Advisory Committee  
Vice Chair, Central Coast  
Regional Water Quality  
Control Board*



service agreement between the City of Santa Barbara and the Montecito Water District for conveyance of desalination water to the Montecito Water District for water supply reliability.

**CEQA Document Preparation, Ocean View Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, Montecito Water District, Montecito, California.** Served as CEQA project manager. Prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ocean View Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, which replaces a 100-year-old 4-inch cast iron water main, service laterals, one hydrant, and one air vacuum valve on Ocean View Avenue in Montecito, California, operated by the Montecito Water District. The project entailed coordination on cultural resources and other technical studies.

**Biomass to Energy Demonstration Project Goleta Sanitary District, Santa Barbara County, California.** Served as CEQA and entitlement project manager. Responsible for management, consultant coordination and preparation of technical studies as well as a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Substantial Conformity Determination and CDP for the District's demonstration project focused on an environmentally and economically sustainable organics-to-energy system. Specifically, the Project demonstrates that source separated food waste can be pre-treated and processed to produce a high quality biogas, which can ultimately be used as a fuel source for electrical energy generation.

**Program Management of Santa Barbara Countywide Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program Santa Barbara County Water Agency (SBCWA), California.** Serving as extension of county staff. The position entails overall program management assistance and coordination of more than 30 agencies and nonprofits involved in regional benefit projects for competitive grant applications and over 120 stakeholders. Coordinates and manages the public stakeholder process and all public outreach efforts associated with the IRWM program.

**Santa Barbara Countywide IRWM Program Grant Applications, Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E, SBCWA, Santa Barbara, California.** As extension of SBCWA staff, was part of a team that generated a Regional Acceptance Process application required for competition in the multiple rounds of funding associated with Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E under IRWM provisions. Participated in generation of the Proposition 84 Planning Grant Application submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on September 28, 2010, and in the Proposition 84 Implementation Application submitted to DWR on January 7, 2011. The Implementation Grant Application was prepared on behalf of Santa Barbara County and six other jurisdictions/districts.

**Carpinteria Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), City of Carpinteria, California.** Serving as project manager as extension of city staff. Responsible for project management and preparation of the City of Carpinteria's SWMP, as well as leadership and implementation of the city's first-year permit requirements under the NPDES Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems General Permit. The city's final SWMP was approved by the Central Coast RWQCB.

**Creek and Watershed Management Plan, City of Goleta.** Serving as public and stakeholder engagement manager. Providing community engagement and facilitation services for the duration of the Plan development related to public meetings and workshops, Technical Advisory Committee meetings and other community outreach events and forums. This includes coordination of language appropriate support services, generation of meeting and workshop materials, meeting minutes, agenda and presentations.

**Miramar Beach Resort and Bungalows, Caruso Affiliated, Montecito, California.** Served as project manager for development of the 192-room luxury resort, three restaurants, a spa, beach club, ballroom facilities, and a beachfront boardwalk along Miramar Beach in Montecito. The project entitlements include demolition of the dilapidated buildings and bungalows associated with the Miramar Hotel, a complete redevelopment, and re-contouring of the site. A focused environmental impact report (EIR) was prepared on the issue of historic resources and other contentious issues, including flooding and drainage in the Oak Creek Channel and aesthetics.

# Dave Compton

## BIOLOGIST

Dave Compton is a wildlife biologist with 24 years' experience working in a variety of California environments. Mr. Compton has provided natural resources planning expertise through habitat assessments, constraints analyses, impact analyses, mitigation strategies, managing projects related to biological resources, agency coordination, permitting services, and designing and leading biological surveys.

Mr. Compton's technical expertise is in the field of ornithology, and he has also provided biological resources planning expertise relating to a variety of federally and state-listed species, as well as other special-status wildlife species. He has extensive experience with the avian life of California, and has a deep understanding of the distribution, habitat, and life histories of California's birds. Mr. Compton has contributed to various California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and California Coastal Act documents and reports. He has also prepared several California Fish and Game Code Section 2081 applications and Biological Assessments as part of the Federal Endangered Species Act Section 7 permitting process. Mr. Compton has developed mitigation strategies for federally and state-listed species, as well as many other special-status wildlife species, and has also led a variety of field efforts. Mr. Compton has surveyed for various rare and listed wildlife species in southern and central California. He has also received training in bat survey methodologies and conducted several acoustic and visual surveys for these species.

## Project Experience

### **City of Santa Barbara Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and Program EIR.**

Dudek worked with the City of Santa Barbara to develop their CWPP, a comprehensive plan intended to mitigate the impact of wildland fire to the City, and prepared the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the plan. Dudek also developed and implemented a robust Community Outreach Plan to engage community stakeholders and gather input on CWPP development. Mr. Compton prepared the biological resources section of the PEIR, describing the biological resources of the City, assessing the impacts of an expanded system of Vegetation Management Units (VMUs) and designation of new High Fire Hazard Areas, and preparing a program for avoiding and minimizing biological impacts from fuel management activities. The task required not only an extensive knowledge of local biological resources, but also a thorough understanding of planning priorities, development standards, and policies in relation to biological resources.

**Project Specific Analysis for the Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project, Santa Barbara County, California.** Dudek supported the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in its efforts to implement proposed vegetation treatment activities on approximately 598 acres of private property. The vegetation treatment project would implement an approximately 16-mile fuel break atop La Purisima Ridge. Mr. Compton conducted the biological reconnaissance survey for the project, prepared a memorandum based on the surveys, coordinated with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure the surveys avoided take of listed species and was implemented in accordance with resources agency requirements, and prepared the biological resources section of the Project-Specific Analysis, in accordance with requirements of CAL FIRE's CalVTP Programmatic EIR.



### **Education**

*Marquette University  
MA, U.S. History*

*Christian Brothers College  
BA, History*

### **Certifications**

*Scientific Collecting  
Permit SC-7918*

### **Professional Affiliations**

*American Ornithologists'  
Union*

*Raptor Research  
Foundation*

*Western Field  
Ornithologists*

*The Wildlife Society*

**San Miguel Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion, San Miguel, San Luis Obispo County, California.** Dudek is performing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other environmental permitting services for the upgrade and expansion of the San Miguel Wastewater Treatment Plant, for the San Miguel Community Services District. Mr. Compton conducted biological surveys for the project, including vegetation mapping, a botanical survey, and an assessment for suitability for the State and federally listed San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*); prepared memos reporting results for both the botanical survey and the kit fox assessment; wrote the biological resources section of the CEQA document; and prepared a federal Biological Assessment for kit fox and other federally listed species as part of Section 7 Endangered Species Act permitting.

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Foothill Feeder EIR Preparation and Permitting, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.** In 2016 to 2017, Dudek assisted the Metropolitan Water District in permitting continued maintenance of their Foothill Feeder pipeline in Los Angeles County, including determining mitigation options for project impacts to the unarmored three-spine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni*; UTS), preparation of a biological technical report (BTR), preparing an EIR, coordinating with agencies on a mitigation strategy for UTS impacts, and obtaining the first Section 2081 permit for impacts to the species. Helped draft an initial memo on mitigation options and conducted more in-depth research on the suitability and cost-effectiveness of various mitigation options (including preservation, habitat creation and enhancement, exotic species removal, various monitoring options, and contributing to a conservation facility for housing and breeding UTS). He co-authored the BTR and the EIR bio section, and also prepared the initial draft of the Section 2081 application.

**Santa Barbara Airport Master Plan Update, Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, Goleta, California.** Dudek conducted biological surveys and provided biological and Coastal planning expertise to Coffmann Associates, for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Master Plan Update. From January to April 2012, assembled survey results and extensive historical information on the plant and wildlife resources of the Santa Barbara Airport and prepared a report detailing special-status and common species occurring at Goleta Slough and the airport, as well as habitat occupied by special-status species. Also participated in all field surveys to update the vegetation and wetland mapping for the entire airport and helped identify potential mitigation areas for projects to be included in the updated Master Plan. During later stages of the project, he provided expertise on bird air-strike hazards (BASH) in relation to potential on-site wetlands mitigation and drafted or helped draft responses to comments on issues related to the State Fully Protected white-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) and the state-listed Endangered Belding's savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi*).

**Open Space Management Plan Biology Report, University of California, Santa Barbara.** In accordance with requirements of its Long Range Development Plan and the California Coastal Act, the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) contracted with Dudek to prepare an Open Space Management Plan in the fall of 2017. Conducted field investigations and an extensive literature review, prior to preparing a report on the biological resources of open space areas across campus. Provided an assessment of habitat for roosting monarch butterflies, raptors, and other special-status wildlife species, and provided an assessment of wildlife movement and movement barriers in the UCSB vicinity and within the UCSB open spaces. He also provided an assessment of restoration opportunities for these resources in the open space areas. The biological report was to be used in preparation of the OSMP, with Dudek assisting UCSB.

# Heather McDaniel McDevitt, RPA

## ARCHAEOLOGIST

Heather McDaniel McDevitt is an archaeologist and cultural resources lead with 16 years' cultural resource management experience throughout North America with a specialized focus in California. Ms. McDevitt has served as a principal investigator, lab director, and project manager in the public and private sector on all manner of projects, including surveys, testing, site significance evaluations and recordation, data recovery, and laboratory analysis. Her technical expertise encompasses vertebrate and invertebrate analysis, human osteology, geographic information system (GIS), and ground penetrating radar.

As a bioarchaeologist, Ms. McDevitt combines physical anthropology and archaeology in the study of faunal and human remains to reveal ancient lifeways. Her specific area of GIS research is the use of predictive modeling and remote sensing to better understand settlement and subsistence patterns, which can be used to forecast areas of potential impacts and assist in mitigating damage to cultural resources more efficiently. Ms. McDevitt also specializes in the tribal consultation process and in the preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation.

Ms. McDevitt has worked on projects for the National Park Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the Smithsonian Institute, California State Parks, California Department of Transportation, and various private and environmental firms. Ms. McDevitt's professional experience in CRM provides significant knowledge and practical experience with state and federal regulations, such as NEPA, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and CEQA. Ms. McDevitt has also served as an adjunct professor at community and state institutions for courses in physical and cultural anthropology, archaeology, and GIS.

## Project Experience

### **Project Specific Analysis for the Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project, Santa Barbara County, California.**

Dudek supported the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in its efforts to implement proposed vegetation treatment activities on approximately 598 acres of private property. The vegetation treatment project would implement an approximately 16-mile fuel break atop La Purisima Ridge. As supervising archaeologist, conducted the cultural reconnaissance survey for the project, prepared associated technical analysis and cultural resources report, client consultation, support of and guidance for tribal consultation, and prepared the cultural resources section of the Project-Specific Analysis, in accordance with requirements of CAL FIRE's CalVTP Programmatic EIR.

**On-Call Archaeological Services, County of Santa Barbara, California.** As supervising archaeologist, managed Dudek's on-call archaeological, historical services, including but not limited to monitoring, archaeological record



### *Education*

California State University,  
Northridge  
MA, Public Archaeology  
MA, GIS (ABT)  
BA, Anthropology

### *Certifications*

Registered Professional  
Archaeologist (RPA)  
CEQA Training through  
Advanced, AEP  
GIS Professional  
Certificate  
HAZWOPER Training,  
Hydrogeologic

### *Professional Affiliations*

American Anthropological  
Association  
American Institute of  
Archaeology  
Society for American  
Archaeology  
Society for California  
Archaeology

searches, historical research, architectural history, surveys for both prehistoric and historical resources, extended Phase I surveys, test excavations, data recovery, Native American coordination, coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 support, treatment protocols, feasibility/concept plan studies and recommendations, hiring and management of applicable subconsultants and specialty disciplines as required, preparation of management plans, and design and implementation of mitigation methods.

**5-Year On-Call Cultural Services, City of Ventura, California.** As supervising archaeologist, managed Dudek's contract for the City of Ventura on-call archaeological and historical services, including but not limited to monitoring, archaeological record searches, historical research, architectural history, surveys for both prehistoric and historical resources, extended Phase I surveys, test excavations, data recovery, Native American coordination, coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission, AB 52 support, treatment protocols, feasibility/concept plan studies and recommendations, hiring and managing applicable subconsultants and specialty disciplines as required, preparation of management plans, and design and implementation of mitigation methods. Potential projects include municipal infrastructure improvements, such as domestic water distribution system, sanitary sewer collection system, storm drainage collection system, and other undertakings as determined.

**Lower Arroyo Burro Open Space Phase I Archaeological Survey Report and Historic Structures and Sites Report and Arroyo Burro Restoration at Barger Creek, Santa Barbara, California.** As project archaeologist, conducted an intensive ground survey to determine the potential of cultural resources within the project area, researched support for the historic structures and sites, investigated the area for the City of Santa Barbara, Parks and Recreation, Creeks Division for the Arroyo Burro Creek Restoration effort.

**Ocean View Avenue Water Line Replacement, CEQA Services and Compliance Monitoring Management, Montecito Water District, Carpinteria, California.** As project manager and supervising archaeologist, currently managing CEQA and cultural resources tasks, including extended Phase I investigation of CA-SBA-14, preparation of an MND, and management of associated technical analysis in support of the MND, client consultation, support of and guidance for the district throughout AB-52 tribal consultation, periodic presentations to district board of directors, and execution of a data recovery upon inadvertent discovery of human remains. Compliance monitoring management includes creation and implementation of cultural resource monitoring and treatment plan, supervision of monitoring staff, cultural awareness training of construction personnel, providing recommendations to construction and project management staff based on project design, providing the district with field visit verification reports for compliance with reporting requirements, and preparation of final monitoring report.

**Emergency Technical Services and Compliance Monitoring Management; Montecito Water District; Montecito, Summerland, and Carpinteria; California.** As supervising archaeologist, managed the cultural resources efforts Dudek performed in support of emergency technical services, including intensive ground survey and site inventory in conformance with emergency permit applications related to the Montecito Water District's emergency repair of water pipes destroyed or damaged by the catastrophic mudslides commencing January 9, 2018. The purpose of the study was to document cultural resources that may have been affected by the emergency repairs already completed and ongoing. The study tasks for this undertaking were carried out in a manner consistent with the Federal Emergency Management Agency regulatory responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800). Additional services include permit coordination support and services related to the issuance of permits from the following agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Dudek was able to respond immediately (same day) to the district's request and was able to complete a full site inventory, field survey, and assessment letter report in conformance with emergency permit applications within 5 business days.

# Kirsten Zecher

## SENIOR GIS ANALYST

Kirsten Zecher is a senior geographic information system (GIS) analyst with 31 years' experience working in the geospatial field, specializing in the management of GIS projects requiring complex spatial analysis and cartographic excellence. Kirsten has had significant experience as the lead GIS analyst for the preparation of hundreds of environmental planning documents, involving data inventory, design, analysis, modeling, mapping, and impact reporting for multilayered, large-scale projects. Kirsten has supported numerous biological resources reports, wetlands permitting and jurisdictional delineation reports, solar and wind farm implementation, and community wildfire protection plans throughout California. Kirsten has specific expertise in presenting complicated data with clarity and visual appeal.

## Project Experience

**Community Wildfire Protection Plan, City of Santa Barbara Fire Department, California.** Provided lead GIS oversight, coordination, analysis, and figure creation for the City of Santa Barbara's Community Wildfire Protection Program. Provided consistent, model-based analysis along with high-end cartographically seasoned visuals to convey results and strategies for effective wildland fire management.

**Project Specific Analysis for the Purisima Ridge Fuel Break Project, Santa Barbara County, California.** Dudek supported the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in its efforts to implement proposed vegetation treatment activities on approximately 598 acres of private property. The vegetation treatment project would implement an approximately 16-mile fuel break atop La Purisima Ridge. Kirsten coordinated existing data received with pertinent publically available layers, and created project specific target areas and access maps based on GIS analysis.

**Bacara Resort and Spa Completion Phase, City of Goleta, California.** Kirsten was responsible for GIS tasks, including data intake, data preparation, GPS data conversion, field map preparation, special-status species research, vegetation/trails digitization, wetland digitization, data QA/QC, and final report products.

**Community Plan Documents, County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development Department, Various Cities, California.** Provided long-range planners and decision makers with scenario alternatives, including hundreds of maps, figures, diagrams, analysis, and data for large, multiyear community plan projects for the County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development Department. Performed GIS analysis, including creating, integrating, and modeling large data sets. Data sets included land use, zoning, biology, topology, geology, circulation, vegetation, adopted overlays, existing conditions, and other constraints data. Spatial analysis tools integrating digital elevation models and contour data were used to produce slope, aspect, and hill shade data for use in visual, vegetation, and site selection analysis.



### *Education*

*University of California, Santa Barbara  
BA, Geography (GIS, Remote Sensing, and Cartography emphasis)*

### *Certifications*

*Certified GIS Professional, Permit No. 00041197  
FEMA Integrated Computer Solutions-100, Introduction to the Incident Command System*

### *Professional Affiliations*

*Association of American Geographers  
Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, Southern California Chapter*

**2030 County Projection Reports, County of Santa Barbara, California.** Served as lead GIS analyst to assist the County of Santa Barbara with future projection reports on housing and open space. Advanced geoprocessing GIS tools were used to perform complex overlay analysis of census data with land use and constraint data, employing model builder, metadata, concrete methodology, and documentation to produce clear results and powerful visuals.

**Carpinteria Rincon Trail, California Department of Transportation, City of Carpinteria, County of Santa Barbara, California.** Multijurisdictional project that included planning a missing segment of multi-use trail through a biologically sensitive area. Provided clear maps and visuals for public use to convey challenges and project solutions clearly.

**Malibu Parks Local Coastal Program Amendment/Public Works Plan, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Ventura County, California.** Responsible for oversight and coordination of project GIS tasks, including data intake, data preparation, GPS data conversion, field map preparation, sensitive species research, vegetation/trails digitization, wetland digitization, cultural data, land use data, fire hazard data, data QA/QC, development of desktop viewer, cartography, and final report products. This plan proposed more than 50 miles of new trail development in connection with the existing network.

**University of California, Santa Barbara, Long Range Development Plan/Open Space Management Plan, California.** Responsible for working with the University of California planners and restoration specialists to create understandable and engaging maps of the existing resources and future plans for campus open space.

**Sweetwater Reservoir Storage and Habitat Management Project, Sweetwater Authority, San Diego County, California.** Responsible for data transfer, data intake, data preparation, GPS data conversion, field map preparation, sensitive species research, and data QA/QC. Also responsible for creating a risk assessment model for least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) related to various inundation levels of the reservoir. Incorporated topography collected from project-delivered Light Detection and Ranging task, processed documentation, developed desktop application viewer, and prepared the risk assessment map and final report products.

**Cañada Gobernadora Multipurpose Basin Project, Santa Margarita Water District, Orange County, California.** Responsible for multiple GIS tasks, including data intake, data preparation, GPS data conversion, field map preparation, special-status species research, vegetation digitization, natural community conservation plan/habitat reserve data, wildlife corridors and linkages data, data QA/QC, and final report products. Surveys supported include least Bell's vireo, willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*), vegetation, and wetlands.

## Specialized Training

- ESRI Instructor-Led Training: ArcGIS 3D Analyst, ArcGIS Spatial Analyst, Geodatabase, Geoprocessing, Model Builder, and VBA.







# DUDEK

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# Montecito Fire Department



## Comprehensive Wildfire Mitigation Strategy

October 20, 2021

### Purpose

The purpose of the Comprehensive Wildfire Mitigation Strategy is to consolidate the information and recommendations provided within the Montecito Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2016), Thomas Fire Retrospective Study (2018), and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Amendment (2019). This strategy will identify the wildfire mitigation projects undertaken by the Department and provide guidance on project prioritization.

The goal of the Montecito Wildfire Mitigation Program is to protect life safety and prevent community losses during a wildfire through increased efficiency of firefighting resources.

This goal is achieved by:

1. Coordinating with architects, developers, and homeowners to ensure current building codes are met and the most current fire protection standards are incorporated into remodels and new development.
2. Enhancing wildfire safety education for the community through public outreach, defensible space surveys, and Fire Code enforcement.
3. Developing relationships and partnerships within the community and neighboring jurisdictions to address wildfire risk at the landscape scale.
4. Reducing hazardous fuels along roadsides and on private property through collaborative projects with District residents.
5. Mitigating fire risk in remote areas of the District.

### Chaparral Fire Ecology

To best manage wildland vegetation, it is important to understand its fire ecology. The vegetation that dominates the slopes above Montecito is known collectively as chaparral. Chaparral is common throughout California's steepest, rockiest slopes and provides ecosystem value through slope stabilization, watershed cover, wildlife habitat, and nutrient cycling. Its continuous blanket of vegetation cover provide a fuel bed that is highly conducive to wildfire spread, especially during the annual period of drought that characterize the local Mediterranean climate's summer and fall months.

The local fire history maps (Figure 1 and 2) show significant fires always impact the northern portion of the District. These damaging fires are caused when an ignition becomes established in the wildland vegetation to the north of the community and spreads downhill under a "sundowner" wind event through the continuous chaparral shrublands. These weather events are most likely to occur in the spring and fall months but are most problematic during fall, when moisture in the vegetation is at critically dry levels. Chaparral has evolved with a long fire return interval, meaning the time between consecutive fires burning the same area. Historically, in southern California chaparral, the fire return interval ranges from 30-100 years. Due to the relatively long periods between fires, when the vegetation does burn, there is a high dead component. This high volume of dead vegetation causes an intense, canopy-replacing wildfire that is challenging to suppress.

Once burned, chaparral dominated landscapes are initially populated by annual wildflowers and short-lived perennials. These "fire followers" provide ground cover and nutrients to the blackened slopes. Within several years, the chaparral shrubs will once again dominate the hillsides. However, it will take over a decade for the landscape to accumulate the dead fuels necessary to spread another high intensity wildfire.

Project Prioritization

Assessing the vegetation and weather conditions which exist during the most catastrophic wildfires allows us to effectively plan and prioritize the Department’s use of “Wildfire Defense Zone” annual funds.

Science and experience have shown that home ignitions during a wildfire often occur through ember cast. Ember production exponentially increases in wildfires where structures are burning. By focusing wildfire mitigation actions and limiting structure ignitions in the northern reaches of Montecito, the area most vulnerable to a fire coming from the chaparral covered wildlands, wildfires have less opportunity to become established in more populated portions of the community. Additionally, due to the nature of chaparral, prioritization is given to the western portion of the District where the vegetation has matured an additional 13 years, relative to the eastern portion near the 2017 Thomas Fire.

The Wildfire Mitigation Prioritization Map (Figure 3) identifies five project areas and graphically displays how projects are geographically prioritized across the District based on their relative risk of impacts from future wildfires.

Annual Wildfire Mitigation Projects

The table below highlights the projects planned every year, the estimated annual area treated, the typical months the projects are implemented, the estimated number of days to complete the project, and the estimated cost for implementation.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Treated Area</b>	<b>Months Implemented</b>	<b>Days to Implement</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Cost for Implementation</b>
Neighborhood Chipping Program	1500 parcels within project 250 participants/yr 300 tons/yr removed	February - June	50	\$110,000
Fuel Treatment Network Maintenance	25 acres/yr	August – March	30	\$50,000
Prescribed Herbivory	50 acres	As Needed	50	\$65,000
Roadside Hazard Abatement	10 miles	March – July	25	\$30,000
Roadside Tag and Trim	3 miles	As Needed	15	\$30,000
Defensible Space	10 parcels	As Needed	10	\$25,000
Roadside Invasive Weed Removal	10 miles	February – June	15	\$20,000
Hazard Tree Removal	10 parcels	As Needed	20	\$30,000
Home Hardening Assistance Program	5-10 homes	As Needed	NA	\$25,000

## Project Description

### *Neighborhood Chipping Program*

The Neighborhood Chipping Program has a relatively fixed annual cost. All other projects can expand and/or contract depending on the year's conditions and available funding.

The goal of the Neighborhood Chipping Program is to assist community members in increasing defensible space around values most at risk from wildfire. The project allows the Fire Department to highlight the importance of property owner preparation efforts and communicate the approaching high fire season. It also allows the Wildland Fire Specialists an opportunity to build relationships with many of the property owners residing in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

### *Fuel Treatment Network Maintenance*

Reducing the continuity and density of vegetation in strategic locations increases the safety and efficiency of wildfire suppression actions. The Fuel Treatment Network consists of approximately 85 acres that connect the northern road systems of West Mountain Drive, East Mountain Drive, and Bella Vista Drive with fuel reduction treatments on private properties. The treatment includes removing lower branches of mature trees, removing dead woody material, decreasing the number of standing shrubs by approximately 50 percent, and reducing the height of the annual grasses.

### *Prescribed Herbivory*

The Thomas Fire burned off most of the wildlands along the northern part of the District, providing an opportunity to limit regrowth and continuity of the vegetation and expand on the existing Fuel Treatment Network towards the Los Padres N.F. boundary. Given the physical characteristics of this area, prescribed herbivory is an attractive option as it has proven to be an ecologically and economically sustainable management tool. The steep and rugged terrain combined with limited access make it the only realistic vegetation management option in this area.

### *Roadside Hazard Abatement*

In Santa Barbara County, statistics show 77 percent of all wildfire ignitions occur within 50 feet of a roadway and 22 percent of all determined ignitions are started from vehicles. The Roadside Hazard Abatement project reduces the fire risk directly adjacent to the travel corridors by eliminating the annual grasses each year before they are fully cured and available to burn. The expanded clearance reduces the potential fire intensity along critical escape routes and evacuation corridors in the event of a wildfire.

### *Roadside Tag and Trim*

The Roadside Tag and Trim project removes low-hanging branches, those below the 13.5 feet required by Fire Code, improving emergency vehicle access, visibility, and enhancing the evacuation corridor by expanding the usable width of roadways on Montecito's narrow streets.

### *Defensible Space*

Due to the topographical and vegetation conditions, there are parcels throughout the very high fire hazard severity zone of the District where more than the required 100 feet of defensible space is recommended. Additionally, there are certain parcels where increased defensible space expands the existing fuel treatment network. When these strategic projects are identified, the department facilitates and contributes to the cost of completing the project.

*Roadside Invasive Weed Removal*

The Roadside Invasive Weed Removal project targets the most prominent non-native invasive plant species along Montecito’s roadways. A crew pulls the invasive plants out by hand and transports them to the waste disposal facility for proper disposal. The project occurs before the plants produce seeds each year and prior to the Roadside Hazard Abatement project to reduce the expansion of non-native plants within the community.

*Hazard Tree Removal*

Standing dead trees are a safety concern because weakened trees and large limbs can come down during periods of high winds damaging infrastructure and causing evacuation issues. Dead trees also increase fire spread during a wildfire as they cast embers downwind causing new spot fires, contributing to fire spread and hampering suppression efforts. The Hazard Tree Removal Program is conducted on a case-by-case basis and is initiated with a letter from the Fire Marshal. The notification letter is often the only step taken by the Department as most times the owner will mitigate the hazard upon receipt of the letter.

*Home Hardening Assistance Program*

The best chances for a home to survive a wildfire is to prepare the structure itself so it can “stand alone”, meaning a fire can move through the area causing minimal damage without action being taken. Creating a stand-alone structure means taking the necessary steps to limit the chances an ember can either enter the home and/or land on a receptive fuel bed directly adjacent to the house. Recent post fire assessments have concluded hardened structures had over three times the likelihood of surviving a wildfire compared to non-hardened structures. In 2021, the Department initiated a Home Hardening Assistance Program which allowed residents to apply to receive funding to retrofit their home’s vents with Brand Guard ember resistant vents. The plan is to continue this program and expand it in future years to include the hardening of additional components of the structure.

Important Projects Adjacent to Montecito

There are several projects which are adjacent to Montecito’s jurisdictional boundary, but whose maintenance are important for the overall wildfire resilience of the community and should be supported however possible by the Fire Department.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>
East Camino Cielo Fuel Break Maintenance	Los Padres N.F.
Horseshoe Fuel Break Maintenance	Los Padres N.F.
Edison Road System Repair/Maintenance	Southern California Edison
West Mountain Drive Roadside Fuels Reduction	Santa Barbara City F.D.
Ladera Lane Roadside Fuels Reduction	Carpinteria/Summerland F.D.

Monitoring and Adaptive Management

Wildfire, especially as it relates to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), is both complex and dynamic. It is important for all mitigation projects to have clear objectives and to be monitored over time to ensure the projects are successful and any unintended consequences are evaluated.

All projects are tracked geospatially using ArcMap software where the following attributes are captured; property owner, size, date of completion, fuel type, treatment type, tons of fuel removed, contractor, and cost. There are two permanent monitoring plots across the District where fuel loads are calculated and

pictures are taken to track changes in vegetation over time. The department utilizes information gathered from the monitoring plots, published literature, professional conferences, and experience in wildfire suppression to adapt the projects to the evolving environmental conditions.

#### Programmatic Environmental Impact Report

In 2019, California's Board of Forestry and Fire Protection released a Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) that evaluates the environmental impacts of the California Vegetation Treatment Program (Cal VTP). This report fulfills the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and provides a programmatic environmental assessment of potential vegetation treatments which could occur within the identified treatable landscapes of California's local and state responsibility areas.

Montecito Fire Department is in the process of hiring an environmental consultant to provide a comprehensive environmental analysis, utilizing this CalVTP PEIR, for all projects which could be completed on the District over the next 10 years. This analysis will provide an expedited process to meet state and local government's goal of increasing vegetation treatments to reduce wildfire risk while conserving natural resources.

#### Education – Providing “What Right Looks Like”

There is often a false sense from property owners that the Fire Department will be able to extinguish all fires that start in and around their homes. Although local fire departments stand ready to quickly respond to contain any wildfire that may start, sometimes conditions make it impossible to place a fire engine at every home. Property owners often have the financial resources necessary to make the changes to improve fire safety on their property but need information of what actions should be taken. The Department views its wildfire mitigation projects as an example of “what right looks like” and as an opportunity to encourage property owners to conduct similar actions.

Montecito Fire Department has several programs to help residents understand their responsibilities and how they can best prepare their property for wildfire. The Department's webpage offers a host of information, and the Public Information Officer communicates with the community through various local news outlets and the Department's social media platforms.

Fire mitigation is incorporated into the building planning process for both new and remodel construction through the Fire Protection Certificate process. Additionally, the Department offers complimentary Defensible Space Surveys where a Wildland Fire Specialist walks the property with the homeowner and makes specific recommendations on wildfire mitigation actions. Homeowners are provided with a Defensible Space Report with recommended actions to harden their home against future wildfires.

#### Weed Abatement Inspections

Each spring, the Montecito Fire Department reminds residents of their responsibilities to prepare for the approaching high fire season by ensuring their structure and property comply with the regulations set by the Montecito Fire Code. Depending on the weather patterns of the specific year and its impact on the onset of increased fire danger, the weed abatement mailer highlights the date in which the requirements identified in Development Standard #2 – Vegetation Management need to be met. After the set date, department personnel inspect all 4,226 properties within the District to ensure compliance. If non-compliant issues are found on the property, a corrective letter is sent to the property owner identifying the needed mitigated actions and a date for the subsequent inspection.

### The Importance of Collaboration

It is important for the Department to communicate and collaborate with not only other emergency service agencies, but with the various organizations that work on researching and improving local wildfire preparedness. Some examples of this collaboration are the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council, Cachuma Resource Conservation District, Southern California Edison, and University of California Santa Barbara. The Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program and the Regional Priority Plan both developed from these collaborative relationships and will have long-term, regional-scale impacts.

### Conclusion

The Montecito Fire Protection District is a progressive organization committed to the protection of the people, property, and the environment. This Comprehensive Wildfire Mitigation Strategy is a key component of the Department's success in meeting that mission.

The Retrospective Study completed after the 2017 Thomas Fire, highlighted the impacts the Department's Wildfire Mitigation Program had on the successful defense of Montecito and the overall suppression efforts of the wildfire. The Department recognizes that these impacts are a direct result of the relationships and partnerships developed between the District's property owners and the Department. Flexibility and discretion will always be incorporated into the program to allow for the continued implementation of projects that strengthen the partnership between property owners and the Department, collectively creating a more fire-resilient community.



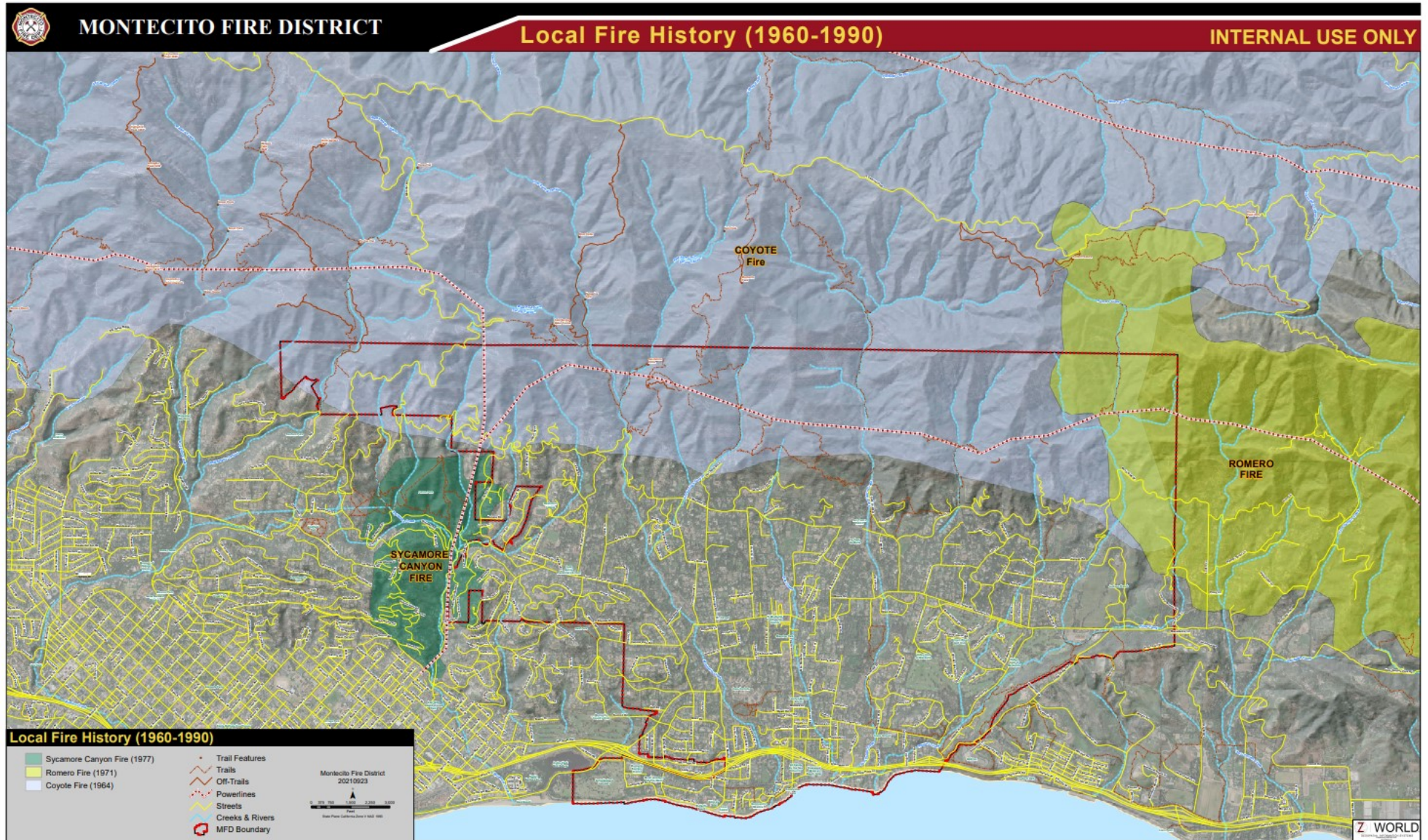


Figure 1: Local Fire History Map 1960-1990.

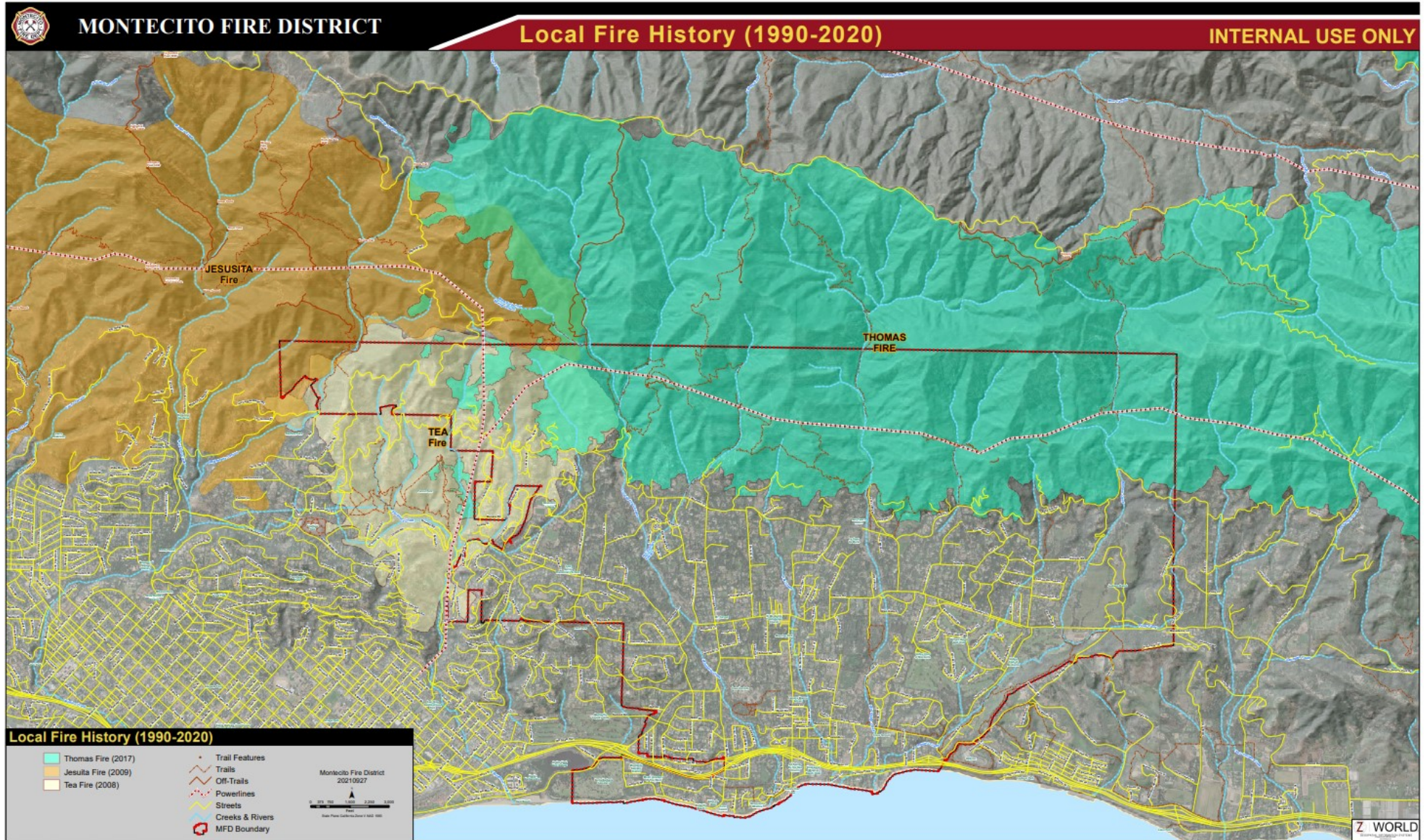


Figure 2: Local Fire History Map 1990-2020.

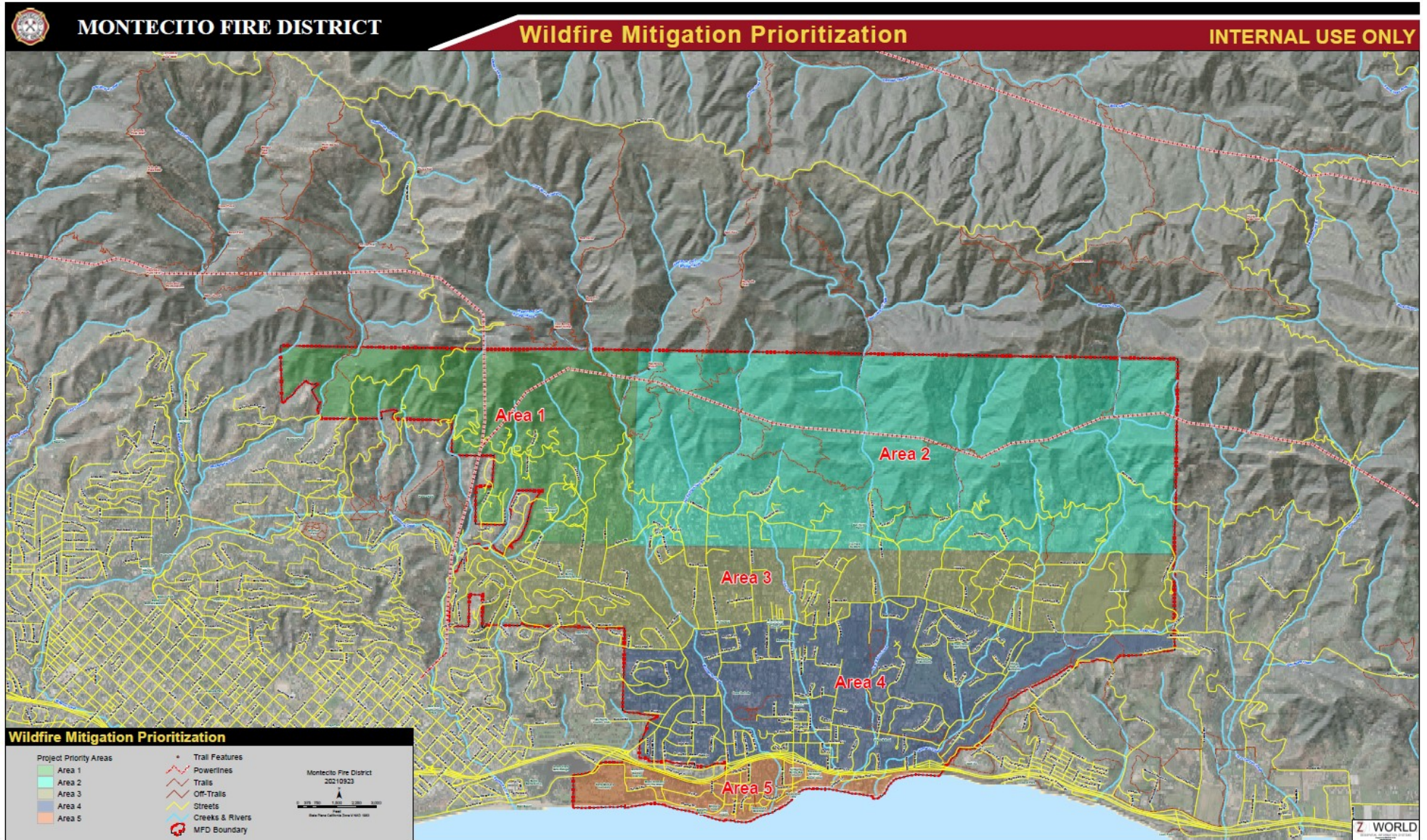


Figure 3: Wildfire Mitigation Project Prioritization Map showing which area get the highest priority (Area 1) and which area get the least (Area 5) based on risk of impact from future wildfires.



# Agenda

## Item #5






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## STAFF REPORT

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**To:** Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors  
**From:** Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief  
**Date:** February 28, 2022  
**Topic:** Election of Regular Special District Member to LAFCO

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### Summary

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The District was notified by the Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) on February 9, 2022 of a mailed ballot election process for the Special District LAFCO representative.

### Discussion

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LAFCO was established in 1963 by the Knox-Nisbet Act and modified by the Cortese/Knox Local Government Reorganization Act in 1985. The purpose of LAFCO is to rationalize growth and development through local control of the formation, expansion, and alteration of agencies within each county. Independent Special Districts are represented on LAFCO by two regular members and an alternate that serve four-year terms. The term of office of one of the current members ends March 1, 2022.

The regular member election was scheduled to be held at the Santa Barbara Chapter of the CSDA Annual Meeting on January 24, 2022. President Lee attended as our representative. Unfortunately, not enough member districts attended to establish a quorum necessitating this mailed ballot process. The candidates for Independent Special District representative are:

1. Edward Fuller, Goleta Sanitary District
2. Jay Freeman, Incumbent, Isla Vista Community Services District

The second ballot is an Alternate Nomination and Election Procedure. If successful, this would require all future nominations and elections to be done by mail eliminating the existing in-person process.

### Conclusion

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Staff recommends that the Board of Directors direct staff to:

1. Complete Ballot #1 for the desired candidate; and
2. Select yes on Ballot #2; and
3. Return both completed ballots no later than April 11, 2022.

### Attachments

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1. LAFCO Ballot #1
2. LAFCO Ballot #2

### Strategic Plan Reference

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1. None.

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS SELECTION COMMITTEE  
**Submit No Later than 5:00 pm, Monday, April 11, 2022**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT No. 1**

Election of Regular Special District Member on Santa Barbara LAFCO

Vote for one of the following **Regular Special District Member** nominees:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Edward Fuller – Goleta Sanitary District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay Freeman, Incumbent – Isla Vista CSD

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Independent Special District**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

**Title (please check one)**

- Presiding Officer of the Special District Board
- Board member alternate designated by Special District Board to vote in this election. (Gov. Code sec. 56332(a).)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Each returned ballot shall be signed by the presiding officer or his or her alternate as designated by the district governing body. (Gov. Code sec. 56332(a) & (c)(5).)**

The voting member should submit his or her ballot directly to LAFCO by hand or U.S. mail to Jacquelyne Alexander, SANTA BARBARA LAFCO, 105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407, Santa Barbara CA 93101, or via email to [lafco@sblafco.org](mailto:lafco@sblafco.org), or Fax to (805) 568-2249



## SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOMINATION FOR <u>REGULAR</u> SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Return to:</i> Executive Officer Santa Barbara LAFCO 105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407 Santa Barbara CA 93101 or FAX to (805) 568-2249 or email to lafco@sblafco.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LAFCO STAFF USE</p> <p>Date Received: <u>12/29/21</u></p>
<p>Please print in ink or type</p>	
<p>POSITION SOUGHT:                      Regular Special District Member</p>	
<p>NAME OF NOMINEE:    <u>EDWARD FULLER</u></p> <p>NOMINEE'S DISTRICT: <u>GOLETA SANITARY DISTRICT</u></p> <p>MAILING ADDRESS: <u>5860 Mandarin Dr. C</u> <u>Goleta, CA 93117</u></p> <p>Phone: Bus. _____ Cell: <u>805 570-6988</u></p>	
<p>SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>GOLETA SANITARY DISTRICT</u> Name of Independent Special District</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jerry D. Smith</u> Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>JERRY D. SMITH</u> Print Name</p> <p><b>Nominator Title (please check one)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presiding Officer of the Special District Board</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Presiding Officer's alternate as designated by Special District Board to vote or make a nomination in this election. (Gov. Code sec. 56332.)</p> <p>Date: <u>12/20/2021</u></p>	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: On this form or an accompanying letter, describe the nominee's personal interests, qualifications, experience, education, volunteer activities or community organization memberships that may bear on the nomination for the Alternate Special District Member: This information will be distributed to all independent special districts.

Local Agency Formation Commission  
Edward Fuller Bio  
December 29, 2021

Ed Fuller came into this world at Santa Barbara's Saint Francis Hospital in 1956 and has spent his entire life residing on the south coast of Santa Barbara County. He has attended local schools including Garfield, Isla Vista, Goleta Valley Junior High, Dos Pueblos Senior High, Santa Barbara City College, and extension classes at University of California Santa Barbara. Areas of study have been business, marketing, real estate, and mediation. He has received a Certificate in Professional Accounting from UCSB Extension and completed the Pepperdine/Caruso School of Law C.A.R. Mediation Training. He has completed diverse professional course work through the National Association of REALTORS covering many aspects of land use and real estate related issues.

As one of the 1,400 members of the Santa Barbara Association of REALTORS® he served as a Director for nine years and as President in 2014. In 2016 was awarded Honorary Member for Life. For four years starting in 2014 he served as a Director of the 200,000 member California Association of REALTORS® and in 2014 was a Delegate to the 1,400,000 member National Association of REALTORS® convention. He has been a member of the Santa Barbara Rental Property Association since 1974 and served six years on its Board of Directors. Organizational memberships have included the League of California Cities, Citizen's Planning Association of Santa Barbara, and many years as President of his Home Owners Association.

Throughout his life he has been an astute observer of local current events, issues and legislation including land use and transportation concerns. In 2014 he was appointed to the City of Goleta Planning Commission and served until his election in 2020 to the Goleta Sanitary District. In 2016 he made an unsuccessful run for California State Assembly 37<sup>th</sup> District based on his platform calling for the return of local planning issues to local communities. He received 36% of the vote in the General Election.

A lifelong bachelor, he has two brothers, one deceased from COVID, nine nieces and nephews, and twelve great nieces and nephews.

## SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOMINATION FOR <u>REGULAR</u> SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Return to:</i> Executive Officer Santa Barbara LAFCO 105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407 Santa Barbara CA 93101 or FAX to (805) 568-2249 or email to <a href="mailto:lafco@sblafco.org">lafco@sblafco.org</a></p>	<p>LAFCO STAFF USE</p> <p>Date Received: <u>1/20/22</u></p>
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Please print in ink or type

**POSITION SOUGHT:** Regular Special District Member

**NAME OF NOMINEE:** Jay Freeman

**NOMINEE'S DISTRICT:** Isla Vista Community Services District

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

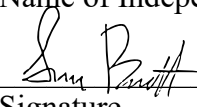
970 Embarcadero del Mar Suite 101

Isla Vista, CA 93117

π  
**Phone:** Bus. (805) 770-2752 Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR:**

Isla Vista Community Services District  
**Name of Independent Special District**

  
**Signature**

Spencer Brandt  
**Print Name**

**Nominator Title (please check one)**

Presiding Officer of the Special District Board

Presiding Officer's alternate as designated by Special District Board to vote or make a nomination in this election. (Gov. Code sec. 56332.)

**Date:** January 12, 2022

**INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS SELECTION COMMITTEE**  
**Submit No Later than 5:00 pm, Monday, April 11, 2022**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT No. 2**

Approval of All Mailed Ballot Process for Nomination and Election of  
 Special District Members on Santa Barbara LAFCO

Vote for one of the following **Alternate Nomination and Election Procedure:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (all mailed ballot process)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No (keep process the same)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Independent Special District**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

**Title (please check one)**

- Presiding Officer of the Special District Board
- Board member alternate designated by Special District Board to vote in this election. (Gov. Code sec. 56332(a).)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Each returned ballot shall be signed by the presiding officer or his or her alternate as designated by the district governing body. (Gov. Code sec. 56332(a) & (c)(5).)**

The voting member should submit his or her ballot directly to LAFCO by hand or U.S. mail to Jacquelyne Alexander, SANTA BARBARA LAFCO, 105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407, Santa Barbara CA 93101, or via email to [lafco@sblafco.org](mailto:lafco@sblafco.org), or Fax to (805) 568-2249

# Agenda

## Item #6








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## STAFF REPORT

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**To:** Montecito Fire Protection District Finance Committee  
**From:** Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief   
**Prepared by:** Araceli Nahas, Accountant   
**Date:** February 28, 2022  
**Topic:** Long-Term Financial Outlook

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### Summary

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The Long-Term Financial Outlook is presented to the Board to provide an overview of available funding, identify future commitments and identify key variables that cause change to revenue and expenditure levels. The five-year forecast will be used as a tool for the development of the District's annual budget.

### Discussion

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The Long-Term Financial Outlook development process includes a review of revenue and expenditure trends, labor costing analysis, discussions with the Auditor-Controller's Division Chief for Property Tax Administration regarding revenue projections, meetings with pension and OPEB actuaries and the District's Municipal Advisor, and a review of future financial commitments.

The forecast is based on historical averages and/or known factors and there are no assumptions on future staffing levels or changes to service levels to the community.

For your reference, attached is the five-year forecast presented to the Board last February. Significant changes from last year's forecast include the addition of the Pension Obligation Bond re-payments and cost-savings from reducing the pension UAL included in the Employee Salaries and Benefits line item.

### Conclusion

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Staff recommends that the Board receive and file the Long-Term Financial Outlook.

### Attachments

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1. Long Term Financial Outlook presentation
2. Five-year Forecast for FY22 to FY26 (presented in February 2021)

### Strategic Plan Reference

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Strategic Plan Goal #9, Ensure Financial Accountability & Transparency







# Long Term Financial Outlook

February 28, 2022



MONTECITO FIRE DEPARTMENT

An Independent Fire District

# Overview

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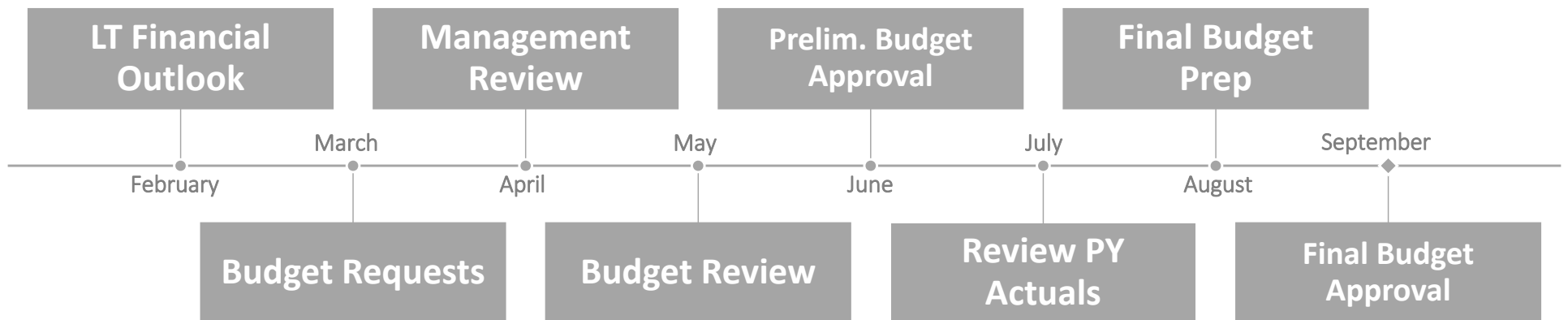
- Budget calendar for fiscal year 2023
- Current financial position
- Five-year financial forecast



## Long Term Financial Outlook

# Budget Calendar

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Long Term Financial Outlook

# Current Financial Position

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## Assets

- General Fund
  - Reserves = \$7,685,000 (on 7/1/21)
  - Residual Fund = \$669,000 (on 7/1/21)
- Vehicle Replacement Fund = \$3,048,000 (on 7/1/21)
- Land & Building Fund = \$3,446,000 (on 7/1/21)
  
- PARS Trusts
  - OPEB = \$13.8 million (on 12/31/21)
  - Pension = \$6.6 million (on 12/31/21)



Long Term Financial Outlook

# Current Financial Position

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## Liabilities

- Pension (estimate at 6/30/21)
  - UAL = \$2.5 million
  - Funded status = 97.9%
- OPEB (at 6/30/20)
  - UAL = \$1.7 million (excludes implicit subsidy)
  - Funded status = 87.3%
- Pension Obligation Bond (at 6/30/21)
  - Outstanding balance = \$8.7 million
  - Final payment in February 2028



Long Term Financial Outlook

# About the Forecast

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- Used to establish priorities and goals during budget development
- Current budget plus five-year forecast
- Based on historical averages and/or known factors
- Assumes no significant recession or COVID-19 impacts



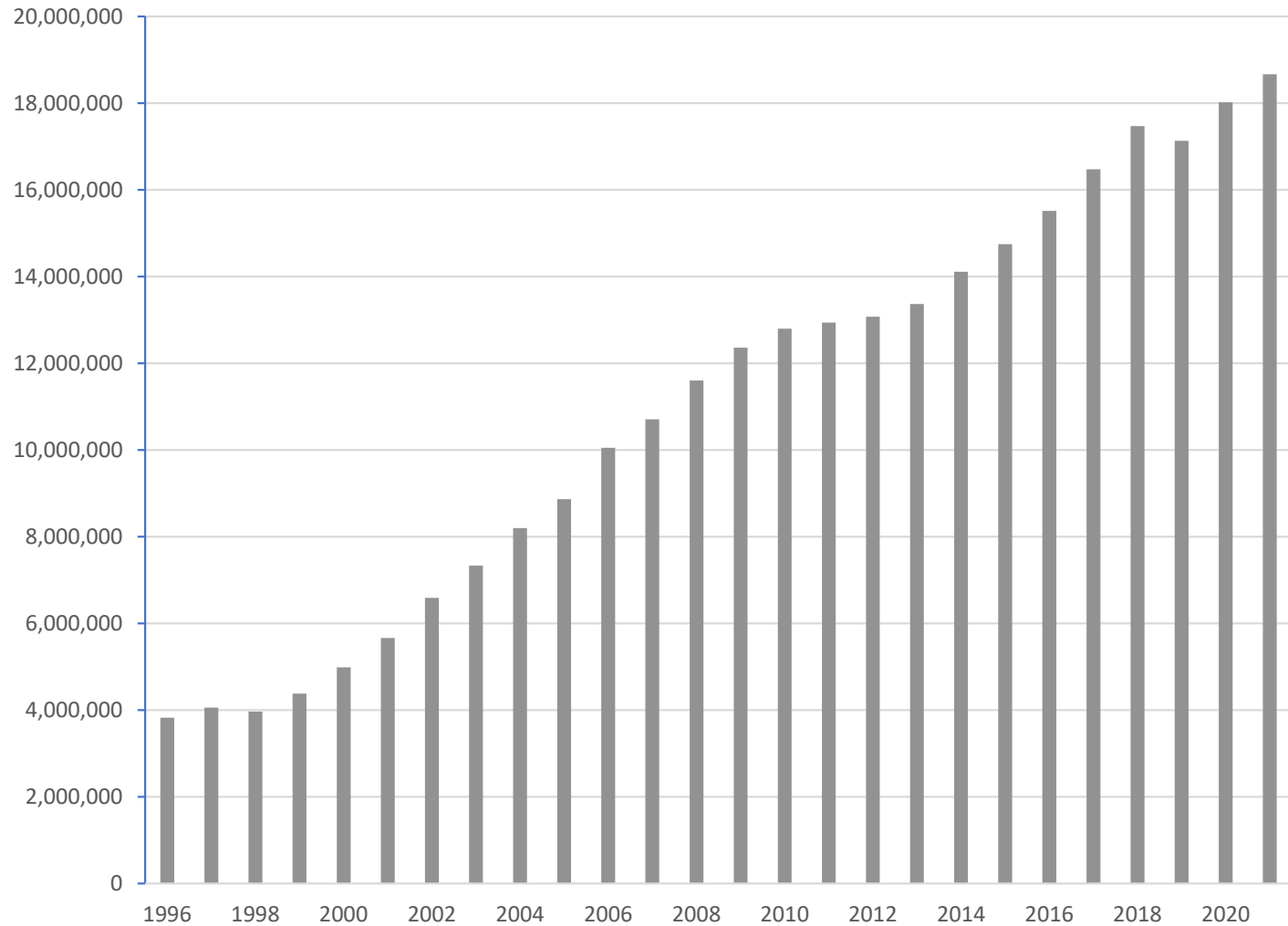
# Revenue: Property Tax Trends

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- 90% of total revenue
- Significant growth in the last 25 years
- Revenue assumption: 4.7% in year 1, 3.7% in year 2, and 3.3% thereafter



# Revenue: Property Taxes



## Long Term Financial Outlook



# Expenses

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## Salaries

**0.7%** average annual increase

- No assumptions on non-negotiated salaries
- Longevity steps

## Pension

**2.0%** average annual decrease

- Significant UAL payment decreases starting in FY24
- PEPRA impacts

## Services & Supplies

**5.0%** average annual increase

- Rising costs across all industries
  - PPE
  - Vehicle maintenance
  - Medical supplies
  - Fuel and travel



# Five-year Forecast

	Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>
<b>Revenues</b>						
Property/State Taxes	\$ 19,743,000	\$ 20,671,000	\$ 21,436,000	\$ 22,143,000	\$ 22,874,000	\$ 23,629,000
District Services, Interest, Donations	480,000	514,000	395,000	407,000	419,000	432,000
Fire Assignment, Disaster Recovery	<u>3,600,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>23,823,000</b>	<b>23,185,000</b>	<b>23,831,000</b>	<b>24,550,000</b>	<b>25,293,000</b>	<b>26,061,000</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Employee Salaries and Benefits	19,361,000	18,936,000	19,236,000	19,423,000	19,565,000	19,718,000
Services and Supplies	2,569,000	2,697,000	2,832,000	2,974,000	3,123,000	3,279,000
Capital Assets	230,000	-	-	-	-	-
Pension Obligation Bond Payments	1,250,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000
Capital Reserves Funding	<u>450,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>23,860,000</b>	<b>23,291,000</b>	<b>23,726,000</b>	<b>24,055,000</b>	<b>24,346,000</b>	<b>24,655,000</b>
<b>Net Financial Impact</b>	<b>\$ (37,000)</b>	<b>\$ (106,000)</b>	<b>\$ 105,000</b>	<b>\$ 495,000</b>	<b>\$ 947,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,406,000</b>



## Long Term Financial Outlook

# Summary

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- The District's financial position is stable
  - \$14.8 million in the County-held funds, plus
  - \$20.4 million in PARS
- Based on forecast, revenue will out-pace expenses starting in FY24
  - Unrestricted residual balance of \$600k available to fund future budgetary needs
  - Cumulative net income over 5 years = \$2,847,000





# Five-year Forecast

	<u>Budget</u> <u>FY21</u>	<u>Forecast</u> <u>FY22</u>	<u>Forecast</u> <u>FY23</u>	<u>Forecast</u> <u>FY24</u>	<u>Forecast</u> <u>FY25</u>	<u>Forecast</u> <u>FY26</u>
<b>Revenues</b>						
Property/State Taxes	\$ 18,769,500	\$ 19,558,000	\$ 20,379,000	\$ 21,235,000	\$ 22,127,000	\$ 23,056,000
District Services, Interest, Donations	587,000	596,000	605,000	614,000	623,000	632,000
Fire Assignment, Disaster Recovery	3,292,500	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>22,649,000</b>	<b>21,654,000</b>	<b>22,484,000</b>	<b>23,349,000</b>	<b>24,250,000</b>	<b>25,188,000</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Employee Salaries and Benefits	18,712,000	18,721,000	19,320,000	19,790,000	20,295,000	20,725,000
Services and Supplies	2,538,000	2,728,000	2,933,000	3,153,000	3,389,000	3,643,000
Capital Assets	1,277,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Capital Reserves Funding	475,000	485,000	500,000	520,000	450,000	460,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>23,002,000</b>	<b>22,084,000</b>	<b>22,903,000</b>	<b>23,613,000</b>	<b>24,284,000</b>	<b>24,978,000</b>
<b>Committed Fund Balance Source</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Financial Impact</b>	<b>\$ 647,000</b>	<b>\$ (430,000)</b>	<b>\$ (419,000)</b>	<b>\$ (264,000)</b>	<b>\$ (34,000)</b>	<b>\$ 210,000</b>



## Long Term Financial Outlook



# Agenda

## Item #7





## MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held on January 24, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. via teleconference connection in accordance with the requirements set out in Government Code section 54953 (e) and pursuant to the findings and authority set out in Montecito Fire Protection District Resolution No. 2022-01.

Director Lee called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:** Director Lee, Director Easton, Director Ishkanian, Director van Duinwyk, Director Powell. Chief Taylor and District Counsel Cameron Goodman were also present.

- 1. Public comment: Any person may address the Board at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (30 minutes total time allotted for this discussion.)**

Jay Freeman from the Isla Vista Community Services District provided information regarding the LAFCO Independent Special Districts selection committee meeting to be held this evening.

- 2. Receive 2021 Montecito Fire Department Annual Report. (Strategic Plan Goal 1 and 9)**
  - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.**

Chief Taylor provided a staff report regarding the 2021 Montecito Fire Department Annual Report.

- 3. That the Board of Directors authorize the Fire Chief to enter a contract for one year and can be extended each year for a total of three years, with Eco Tree Works for the Neighborhood Chipping Program. (Strategic Plan Goal 1, 2 and 3)**

- a. Staff report presented by Fire Marshal Briner.**

Fire Marshal Briner presented a staff report regarding the bid award for the Neighborhood Chipping Program. Motion to authorize the Fire Chief to enter a contract for one year and can be extended each year for a total of three years, with Eco Tree Works for the Neighborhood Chipping Program made by Director Ishkanian, seconded by Director Powell. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**4. That the Board of Directors direct staff to initiate the Proposition 4 override election process for the November General Election or receive and file the Appropriations Limit/Expenditure Intersection Forecast, or amend, modify, or reject the above options. (Strategic Plan Goal 9)**

**a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.**

Chief Taylor provided a staff report regarding the Proposition 4 override election. Motion to receive and file the Appropriations Limit/Expenditure Intersection Forecast Report made by Director Powell, seconded by Director Ishkanian. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**5. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2022-02 Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for a Period of 30 Days pursuant to the Brown Act. (Strategic Plan Goal 1)**

**a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.**

Chief Taylor provided a staff report regarding Resolution 2022-02, Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for a period of 30 days pursuant to the Brown Act. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Easton. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**6. Report from the Finance Committee. (Strategic Plan Goal 9.1)**

**a. Consider recommendation to approve November and December 2021 financial statements.**

Director van Duinwyk provided a report regarding the November and December 2021 financial statements. Motion made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Ishkanian to approve the November and December 2021 financial statements. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell  
 Nays: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: None

**b. Review PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statements for October and November 2021.**

Director van Duinwyk provided a report regarding the PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statements for October and November 2021.

**7. Review and make recommendation for approval of Resolution 2022-03, Amending Final Budget for FY 2021-22. (Strategic Plan Goal 9)**

**a. Staff report presented by Accountant Nahas.**

District Accountant Nahas provided a staff report regarding items included in the amended Final Budget for FY 2021-22. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-03, amending Final Budget for FY 2021-22 made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Lee. The Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell  
 Nays: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: None

**8. Annual review of the District's Financial Policies. (Strategic Plan Goal 9)**

**a. Staff report presented by Accountant Nahas.**

District Accountant Nahas provided a staff report regarding the District's Financial Policies. The Board decided to receive and file the District's Financial Policies.

**9. Approval of Minutes of the December 13, 2021 Special Meeting.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 Special meeting made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Powell. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell  
 Nays: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: None

### **10. Approval of Minutes of the January 7, 2022 Special Meeting.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2022 Special meeting made by Director Easton, seconded by Director van Duinwyk. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: P. van Duinwyk, J. Ishkanian, S. Easton, M. Lee, J. A. Powell

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

### **11. Fire Chief's report.**

Division Chief Neels highlighted significant calls for the month of December. He also provided information regarding a current Mutual Aid assignment. Division Chief Neels mentioned the tsunami alert that occurred on January 15. Division Chief Neels provided an update regarding Department training and Peer Support. Division Chief Neels provided an update regarding the East Valley Road project, Solar project, and station 1 plumbing repair project. He stated the Annual Operations Bureau Report will be presented next month. Wildland Specialist Elmquist provided an update regarding the Fire Prevention Grant process. Fire Marshal Briner provided an update regarding the burn permit process. He stated the Annual Fire Prevention Bureau Report will be presented next month. Chief Taylor stated the Five-Year Financial Forecast will be presented next month. The Chief stated that a Strategic Planning Committee meeting will be held the first week of March. Chief Taylor stated the Department continues to work closely with the Montecito Planning Commission, Montecito Association, and the First District on Senate Bill 9. The Chief provided information regarding the Governor's Budget Proposal as it relates to fuel mitigation. Chief Taylor extended his thanks to the Bucket Brigade, Montecito Association, and the Montecito Journal for sponsoring the Raise the Light event at the station. The Chief provided a brief COVID update.

### **12. Board of Director's report.**

There were no items to report at this meeting.

### **13. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the February 28, 2022 Regular Board meeting.**

There were no additional suggestions from the Directors.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 President Michael Lee

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary Judith Ishkanian

# Agenda

## Item #8



## MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Minutes for the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held on February 14, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at Montecito Fire Protection District, 595 San Ysidro Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108 and via teleconference connection in accordance with the requirements set out in Government Code section 54953 (e) and pursuant to the findings and authority set out in Montecito Fire Protection District Resolution No. 2022-02.

Director Lee called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Present:** Director Lee, Director Easton, Director Ishkanian, Director van Duinwyk, and Chief Taylor.

**Absent:** Director Powell

- 1. Public comment: Any person may address the Board at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (30 minutes total time allotted for this discussion.)**

Jonathan Allcock provided a comment regarding Montecito Fire Department Develop Standard #3, Fire Access Roads & Driveway Requirements. He requested that the Board consider an exception to reduce the minimum clearance to 10 feet for existing access roads.

- 2. Consider approval of Resolution No. 2022-04 Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for a Period of 30 Days pursuant to the Brown Act. (Strategic Plan Goal 1)**

- a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.**

Chief Taylor provided a staff report regarding Resolution 2022-04, Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for a period of 30 days pursuant to the Brown Act. After thorough Board discussion, it was determined that the Board would continue to meet remotely and re-evaluate at the March meeting. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-04 made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Ishkanian. The roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: S. Easton, J. Ishkanian, P. van Duinwyk, M. Lee

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: J. A. Powell

Meeting Adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

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President Michael Lee

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Secretary Judith Ishkanian

Note: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District office at 969-7762. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Montecito Fire Protection District's office located at 595 San Ysidro Road during normal business hours.

February 28, 2022



# Agenda

## Item #9





# Fire Department

*"Serving the community since 1926"*

## HEADQUARTERS

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1042  
(805) 681-5500 FAX: (805) 681-5563

Mark A. Hartwig  
Fire Chief  
County Fire Warden

Rob Heckman  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Administration

Woody Enos  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Operations

February 16, 2022

Fire Chief Kevin Taylor  
Montecito Fire Protection District  
595 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

RE: Memorial Service for Firefighter Joseph De Anda

Dear Chief Taylor:

Thank you for your solidarity and support as we mourn the loss of Firefighter Joseph De Anda. Your agency's presence at Joey's memorial service paid great honor to both Joey and the De Anda family.

Joey touched many people across various agencies in his short life. One of the things that resonated most with us about Joey was his ability to bring people together. Your agency's presence at the memorial honors that legacy.

Sincerely,

  
Mark A. Hartwig  
Fire Chief/Fire Warden