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 27, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

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 2022 Operations Report from Division Chief Neels. (Strategic Plan Goal 3)
 - a. Staff report presented by Division Chief Neels.
- 3. Receive 2022 Fire Prevention Bureau Report from Fire Marshal Briner. (Strategic Plan Goal 3)
 - a. Staff report presented by Fire Marshal Briner.
- 4. Receive Annual Report from Chief Taylor. (Strategic Plan Goal 3)
 - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.
- 5. Presentation regarding Long Term Financial Outlook by Accountant Nahas. (Strategic Plan Goal 8)
 - a. Staff report presented by Accountant Nahas.
- 6. Determine Fair Market Value of Rental Property. (Strategic Plan Goal 1)
 - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.
- 7. Consider budget allocation for attorney fees related to Santa Barbara County Ground Ambulance Contract not to exceed \$50,000. (Strategic Plan Goal 3)
 - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.
- 8. Approval of Minutes of the January 23, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Montecito Fire Protection District Agenda for Regular Meeting, February 27, 2023 Page 2

- 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 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting.
- 12. CLOSED SESSION:
 - a. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code section 54957.6)
 Agency designated representatives: Director van Duinwyk and Director Lee
 Unrepresented employee: Fire Chief

<u>Adjournment</u>

This agenda posted pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code commencing at Section 54950. The date of the posting is February 23, 2023.

Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Agenda Item #2



STAFF REPORT

To: Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Prepared by: David Neels, Division Chief – Operations

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: 2022 Annual Operations Bureau Report

Summary

We are proud to present the 2022 Annual Operations Bureau Report.

Discussion

The 2022 Annual Operations Bureau Report captures the organizations operational performance for calendar year 2022.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that Board receive and file the 2022 Annual Operations Bureau Report.

Attachments

1. 2022 Annual Operations Bureau Report

Strategic Plan Reference

Strategic Plan Goal #3, Achieve Excellence in Community Service

QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

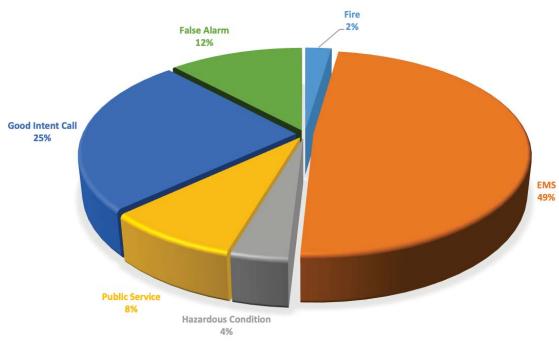
Board of Directors Meeting February 27, 2023





RESPONSE DATA FOR Q4 OF 2022

RESPONSES BY PERCENTAGE







RESPONSES BY CATEGORY

Fire •	9
Hazardous Condition • • • •	14
EMS •	188
Good Intent Call	97
Public Service •	33
False Alarm •	46

TOTAL INCIDENTS: 387

EMERGENCY CALLS FOR SERVICE

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

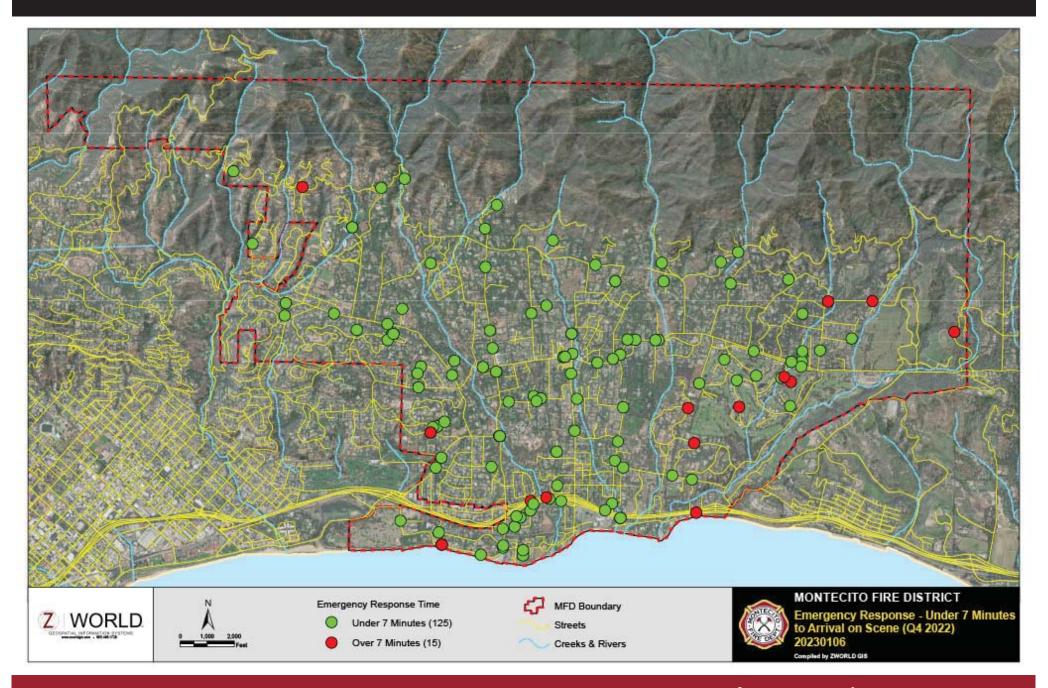
TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS IN MTO DISTRICT = 140

Total Response Time ≥ 7:00 = 125 Calls = 89%

Total Response Time ≤ 7:00 = 15 Calls = 11%

7:00 minutes or less, 89% of the time for Emergency Response in Q4

7-MINUTE RESPONSE MAP



ROMERO CANYON SHED FIRE

On November 25, Montecito Fire received a call for a structure fire on the 800 block of Romero Canyon Road. Firefighters first on scene found a fully involved shed. Flames spread to nearby vegetation, burning approximately 1/8 of an acre. No evacuations were necessary.

A total of five engines responded including resources from Montecito Fire, Carpinteria-Summerland Fire, Santa Barbara City Fire and Santa Barbara County Fire. Santa Barbara County Sheriff's deputies also responded.

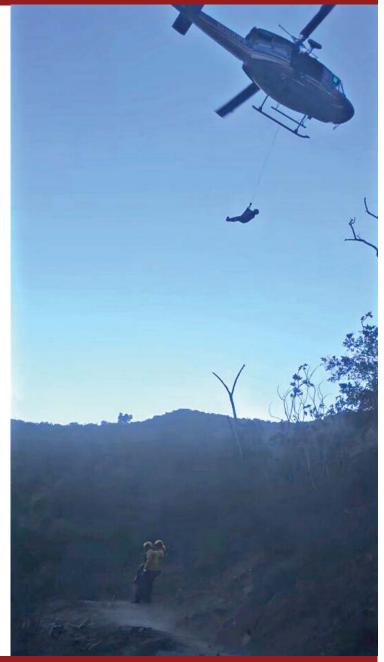




HOT SPRINGS TRAIL RESCUE WITH HOIST

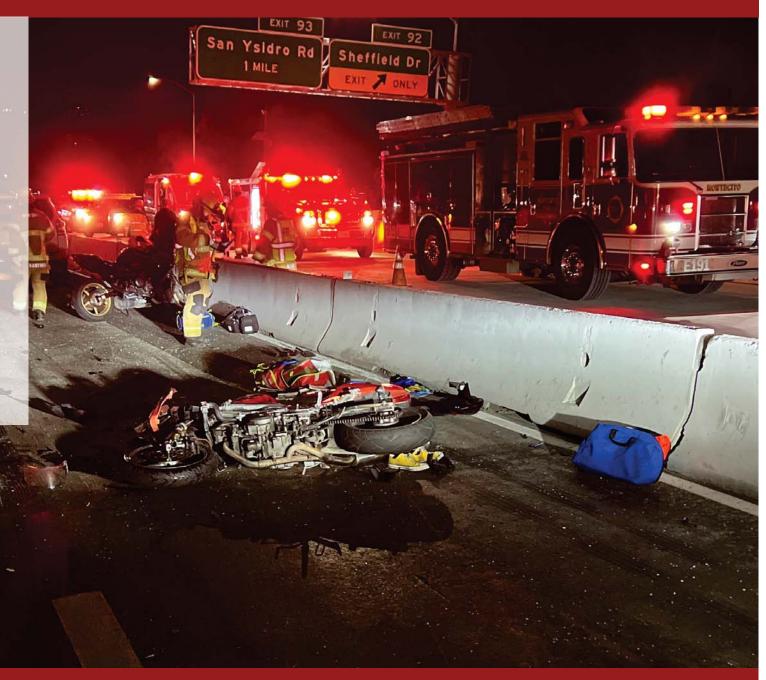
On November 26. Montecito Fire responded to a distressed hiker on the Hot Springs Trail. The 25year-old woman was feeling faint and paramedics determined she needed to be hoisted out via helicopter. Santa **Barbara County Fire Copter** 4 hoisted the patient out and she was transported via ambulance to the hospital. Santa Barbara **County Search and Rescue** assisted with the response.





MULTI-VEHICLE CRASH ON HIGHWAY 101

On November 26, Montecito Fire responded to a traffic collision on Highway 101 near Ortega Hill Road involving seven vehicles and a motorcyclist. The northbound lanes were closed for several hours as a result of the incident. One patient was treated for moderate injuries, the rest were uninjured.



DOG RESCUE

On December 10, Montecito firefighters on Medic Engine 91 responded to San Ysidro Creek to help a stranded dog. Wilson, the 14-year old dog, had wandered away from home and gotten stuck in the creek. His family found him there after he did not return home from his typical time outside. Firefighters carried Wilson out and returned him to his family.



MUTUAL AID RESPONSES



TRAINING IN Q4

XSB/XSL TYPE 3 INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM JOINT DRILL

On Nov. 14, several of our personnel participated in a joint drill with members of the Santa Barbara County Type 3 Incident Management Team and the San Luis Obispo County Type 3 Incident Management Team. The Santa Maria Veterans Hall served as the mock incident command post where the team sections worked together to respond to a wildfire scenario in Suey Creek. The training allowed our personnel to build valuable relationships with our partners across both Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties and practice their specialized incident management skills.







TRAINING IN Q4



PERSONNEL UPDATES

PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

In December, David Johnson and Daniel Arnold were promoted to Fire Engineer and Billy Wrenn was appointed to Fire Engineer-Inspector. Their new positions became effective in January 2023. We are grateful for their dedication to Montecito Fire and congratulate them all on this significant professional achievement.



Fire Engineer David Johnson



Fire Engineer Daniel Arnold



Fire Engineer-Inspector
Billy Wrenn

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MONTECITO BEAUTIFICATION DAY

On Nov. 5, community members volunteered their time to collect trash and improve areas around Montecito. Montecito Firefighters Association resumed our tradition of serving the volunteers a well-deserved lunch in the Upper Village and our PIO hosted an information booth.

LIGHT UP A LIFE & HATHAWAY HOLIDAY TREE

As Montecito got into the holiday spirit, firefighters pitched in to help decorate the Hathaway Holiday Tree on San Ysidro. Montecito Fire also dedicated 23 stars to Hospice of Santa Barbara's Light Up A Life Tree in the Lower Village, in remembrance of the 23 community members we lost in the 1/9 Debris Flow.





CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

1255 & 1257 EAST VALLEY ROAD REBUILD





ANNUAL OPERATIONS REPORT

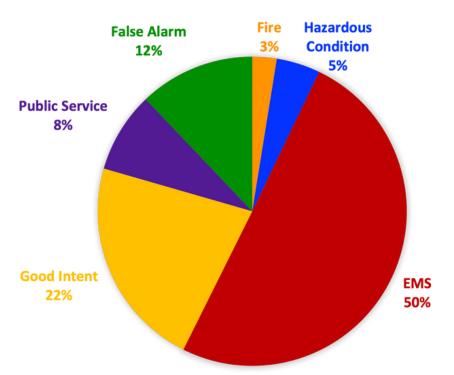
Board of Directors Meeting February 27, 2023





RESPONSE DATA FOR 2022

RESPONSES BY PERCENTAGE







RESPONSES BY CATEGORY

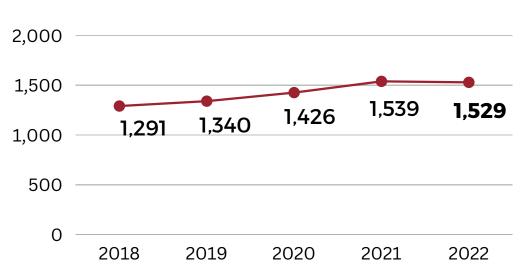
Fire •	39
Hazardous Condition • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7 0
EMS •	7 68
Good Intent Call	338
Public Service •	129
False Alarm •	185

TOTAL INCIDENTS: 1,529

February 27, 2023

RESPONSE DATA FOR 2022

TOTAL CALLS PER YEAR









EMERGENCY CALLS FOR SERVICE

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

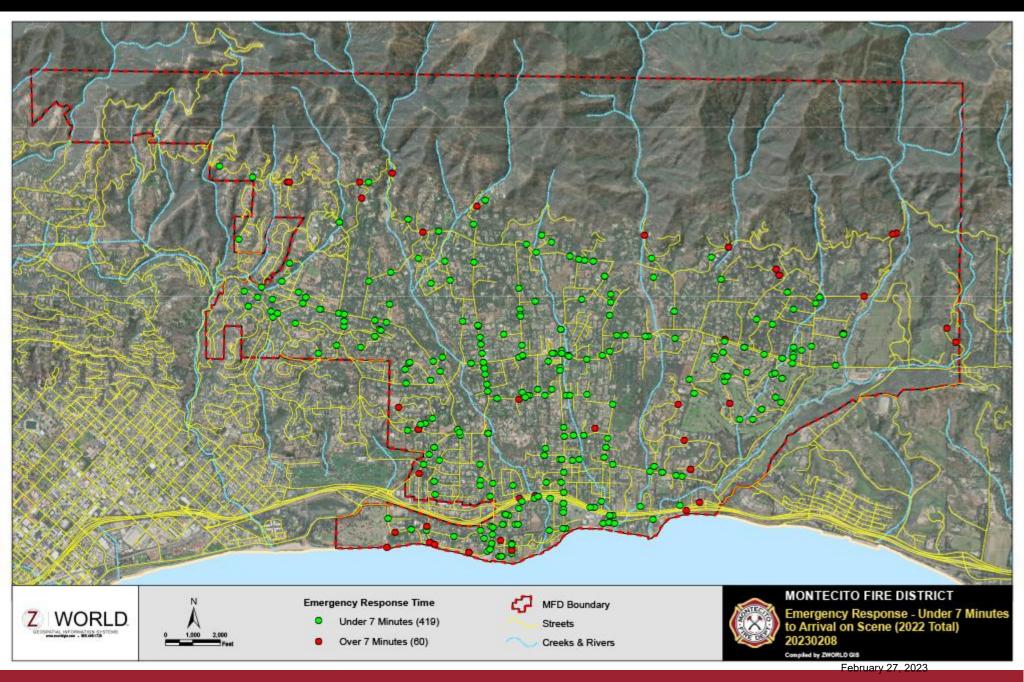
TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS IN MTO DISTRICT = 479

Total Response Time ≥ 7:00 = 60 Calls = 13%

Total Response Time ≤ 7:00 = 419 Calls = 87%

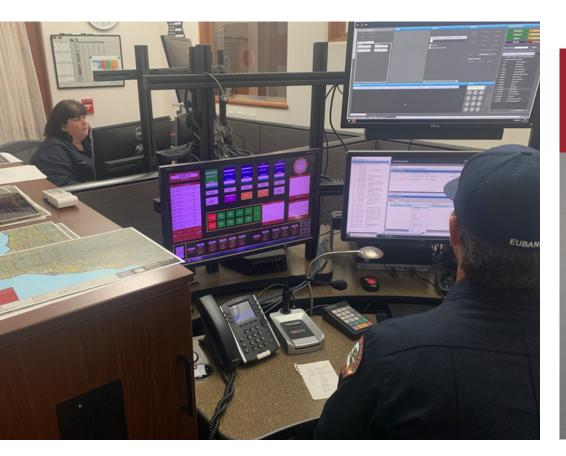
7:00 minutes or less 87% of the time for Emergency Response in 2022

7-MINUTE RESPONSE MAP



SOUTH COAST DISPATCH

In 2022, 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 3,658 incidents** for both the Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts.





South Coast Dispatch dispatched & tracked

3,658

incidents in 2022



February 27, 2023

MUTUAL AID REPSONSES

In 2022, Montecito Fire responded to incidents across California and the western United States. Sending our members out on these regional assignments allows them to assist other communities in need and gain valuable experience that they can apply to future incidents here at home. Our stations in Montecito remained fully staffed at all times.

- CALF CANYON FIRE NM
- COLORADO FIRE
- CROOKS FIRE AZ
- HOLLISTER FIRE
- PIPELINE FIRE NM
- SWCC SUPPORT NM
- CAMINO FIRE
- MCKINNEY FIRE
- MOSQUITO FIRE
- OAKS FIRE
- OES PREPOSITION XSB
- ONC PREPOSITION
- RTF PREPOSITION
- SRF LIGHTNING COMPLEX
- WASHBURN FIRE
- WISHON FIRE



TRAINING

TRAINING

In 2022, Montecito Fire personnel and Board Members logged **15,250** training hours.

Our average is **407 hours of training per person** in the ranks of Firefighter, Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer, Captain and Battalion Chief.

15,250

Training Hours in 2022



PERSONNEL WHO COMPLETED TRAINING TASK BOOKS IN 2022

Travis Ederer

- Operations Section Chief Type 2
- Operations Branch Director

Maeve Juarez

• Operations Section Chief Type 1

Araceli Nahas

- Equipment Time Recorder (EQTR)
- Personnel Time Recorder (PTRC)

Evan Skei

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Andy Rupp

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Billy Wrenn

Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Daniel Arnold

Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)



EAST VALLEY ROAD REBUILD OVER 2022

Bd. Pg. 29



February 27, 2023

Agenda Item #3



STAFF REPORT

To: Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Prepared by: Aaron Briner, Battalion Chief – Fire Marshal

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: 2022 Annual Prevention Bureau Report

Summary

We are proud to present the 2022 Annual Prevention Bureau Report.

Discussion

The 2022 Annual Prevention Bureau Report captures the organizations operational performance for calendar year 2022.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that Board receive and file the 2022 Annual Prevention Bureau Report.

Attachments

1. 2022 Annual Prevention Bureau Report

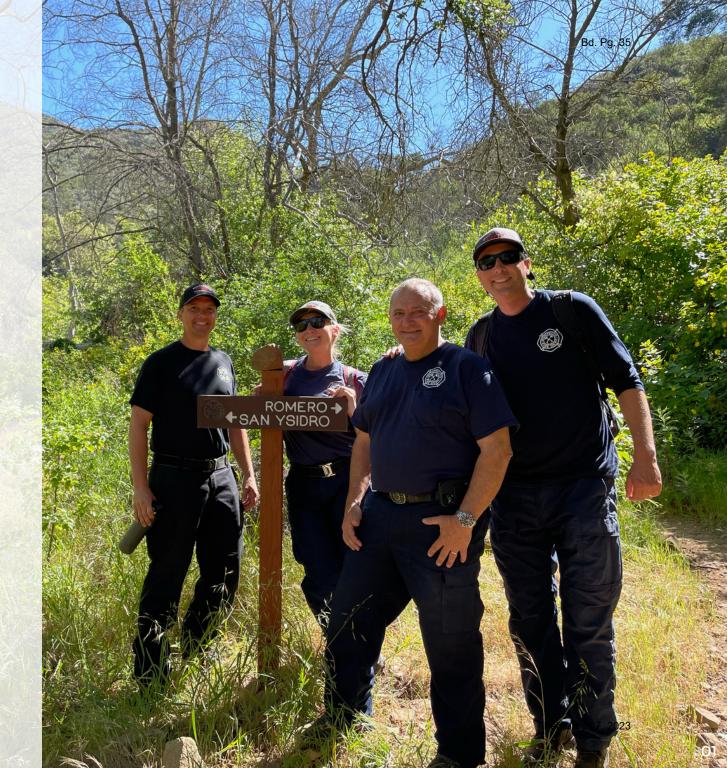
Strategic Plan Reference

Strategic Plan Goal #3, Achieve Excellence in Community Service

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ANNUAL REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting February 27, 2023





PREVENTION BUREAU TEAM



Fire Marshal Aaron Briner



Assistant
Fire Marshal
Alex Broumand



Wildland Fire Specialist Maeve Juarez



Wildland Fire Specialist Nic Elmquist



Fire Engineer -Inspector Billy Wrenn

OVERVIEW

- Completed the 2022 California Fire Code amendment and adoption.
- Completed the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-year update including the Montecito LHMP update.
- Continued work with CityNet and Hands Across Montecito in an attempt to mitigate the risks associated with the increased number of homeless encampments in the District.
- Completed all of the state-mandated occupancy inspections and Defensible Space Surveys.

COMMITTEES

INTERNAL

- Blue Card Command Cadre
- Draeger Live-Burn Cadre
- Firefighter New-Hire Academy
 Cadre
- RT-130 Instructor Cadre
- Equipment Committee
- Peer Support Team Member

EXTERNAL

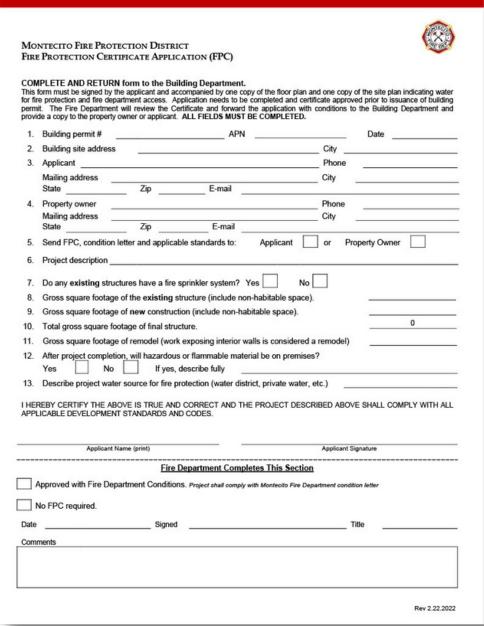
- Fire Safe Council Board Member
- IAFC Rep on NWCG Executive Board
- SBC Subdivision/Development Review Committee
- SBC LHMP Mitigation Advisory Committee
- SBC Arson Taskforce
- SBC Traffic Engineering Committee
- Public Safety Homeless Task Force
- SBC Environmental Task Force

BUILDING & DEVELOPMENT

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



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



February 27, 2023

PLAN REVIEW & CONDITION LETTER

- Access Prior/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	An Independent Fire Distric	
Job Tracking Worksheet		
Address	Project	
ermit#	APN	
_	Comments	
Conceptual Review Date		
Site Visit Date		
Rough Inspection Date		
Preliminary Final Date		
Final/Accela Date		
Address numbers 4" Numbers	Smoke Detectors Hardwired & Interlinked	
Driveway/Roadway	Carbon Monoxide Detectors	
☐ Width & Surface	☐ In all hallways leading to bedrooms	
Slope/Turnouts/Turnarounds No slope > 20%	PV System Roof access and ensure 3' off ridgeline	
☐ Turnouts every 200′	□ Proper signage @ electrical panel	
☐ Turnarounds @ 400', end of roadway, & driveways > 100'	☐ Proper signage @ inverter	
Gates	Stored Water System	
14' min Knox & backup power	 ☐ 5000 gallons per 2500 sq feet of structure Minimum pressure of 20 psi at discharge outlet 	
Sprinkler System	Overhead Clearance	
Riser, signage, bell, spare heads, alarm test,	13' 6" from edge of road/driveway along entire route	
Hydrant	Defensible Space	
< 500' non-sprinklered, <700' sprinklered, <300' commercial	☐ Zone 1 (0-30 ft): < 12" in height, use hardscape, trees > 15' from house, no woodpiles	
☐ Minimum required flow 500gpm with 20PSI	 Zone 1 (0-30 ft): Well-spaced and irrigated, trees 	
residual.	spaced 30' apart, eliminate dead component	
Demonsible Dest	Mantaille Insuasi	
Responsible Party	Montecito Inspector	
Signature	Position	

WILDFIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM ELEMENTS P9.42

- Coordinating with designers, builders, and property owners to ensure that current fire protection standards are implemented
- Reducing hazardous fuels along roadsides and on private properties
- Mitigating fire risk in remote areas of the District
- Enhancing community resilience
- Strengthening our relationships and partnerships



WILDFIRE PREVENTION PROJECT STATISTICS. 43

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING

- 50 days
- 225 participants
- 175 tons of vegetation removed

NEIGHBORHOOD TAG & TRIM

- 8 days
- 10 miles of roads completed
- 15 tons of vegetation removed

FUEL TREATMENT NETWORK

- 29 days
- 130 tons of vegetation removed

DEAD TREE REMOVAL

- 10 days
- 18 dead trees removed
- 80 tons of vegetation removed

ROADSIDE WEED ABATEMENT

- 36 days
- 23 miles of road completed



WILDFIRE PREVENTION PROJECT STATISTICS ...

194

Days of Vegetation Management Projects across the District

\$407,166 \$110,000

Total Cost to Implement Vegetation Management Projects

400

Tons of Vegetation Removed from Very High Fire Severity Areas

Funded by California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Project



ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Enhancing community resilience through wildfire prevention education, outreach and preparing residents for emergencies

Montecito added two highdefinition, pan-tilt-zoom cameras providing a 24-hour network to monitor possible wildlife ignitions and other disasters. These cameras perform 360-degree sweeps approximately every two minutes and can view as far as 60 miles. We are currently in conversations with three companies to integrate a method of early detection with machine learning (AI) smoke detection software.



ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Enhancing community resilience through wildfire prevention education, outreach and preparing residents for emergencies

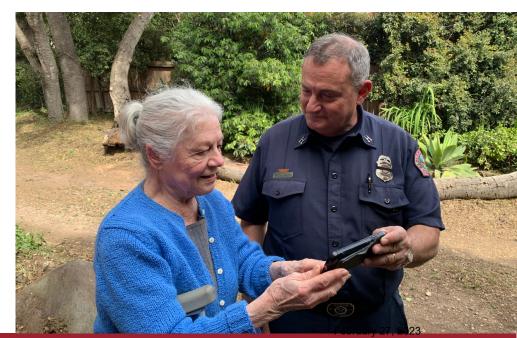
HOME HARDENING ASSISTANCE VENT RETROFIT

In 2022, we retrofitted six homes in the district with new vents. The program has gained national attention and due to a high number of applicants, we have focused our efforts on prioritizing homes within the Very High Severity Zones of the district.



DEFENSIBLE SPACE SURVEYS

The department provided **58 Defensible Space Surveys**. These surveys are an interactive opportunity between the Prevention Bureau and property owners. We work together to promote home hardening and defensible space, build and maintain relationships and better understand our community's risk and address any barriers to action.



Fire Prevention Bureau Annual Report

ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Enhancing community resilience through wildfire prevention education, outreach and preparing residents for emergencies

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY MEETING

In July, we hosted a Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting at Westmont College. We were fortunate to have MERRAG, the Red Cross and the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management join us to share preparedness resources with the community.



FIRE SAFE COUNCIL WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS EXPOSITION

In October, we participated in the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council's Wildfire Preparedness Exposition at Direct Relief International. Alongside our local partners, we provided community members with information to prepare them for wildland fire season.



PLANNING

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

CAL VTP

In October, the Montecito Vegetation
Management Program's Project Specific
Analysis was completed and included all
projects that could possibly be completed
within the district over the next 10 years. This
analysis included 938 acres of prescribed
herbivory, 316 acres of mixed treatmentssuch as cutting, stacking and chipping.



GRANTS

The department was included in several grants awarded to the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council. This includes \$350,000 in FY24 and FY25 to pay for our Neighborhood Chipping Program. The Santa Barbara South Coast Herbivory Grant will award the department approximately \$146,000 to graze 325 acres in FY23, FY24, and FY25.

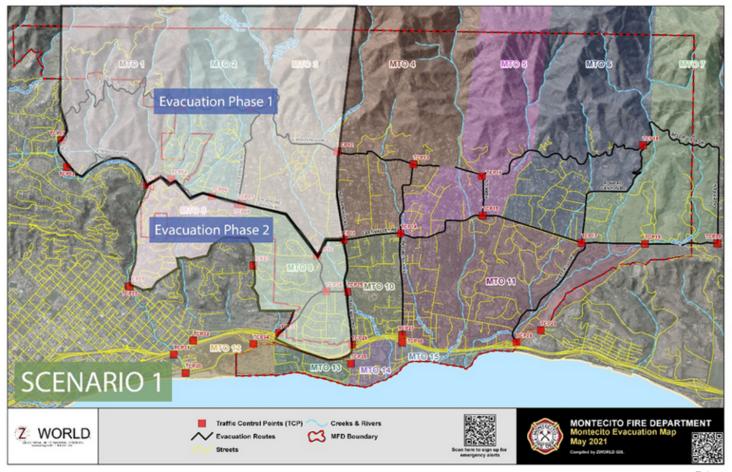


Fire Prevention Bureau Annual Report

PLANNING

EVACUATION ANALYSIS

In July, a team led by transportation consultant Fehr & Peers, finalized the Emergency Evacuation Study. The study included a community survey, interviews with emergency officials, literature review of recent incidents, and traffic operations modeling for the community. The report's recommendations will increase the efficiency of future emergency evacuations.



February 27, 2023

QUESTIONS?







Fire Prevention Bureau Annual Report

Agenda Item #4



STAFF REPORT

To: Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: 2022 Annual Report

Summary

We are proud to present the 2022 Annual Report.

Discussion

The 2022 Annual Report captures the organizations accomplishments in the previous year. It consists of an overview, identification of the Board of Directors, an organization chart, Fire Chief's message, Operations Report, Fire Prevention Report, Financial Status Report, and a summary of our community engagement the past year. The Report was published to our website and social media earlier this month.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that Board receive and file the 2022 Annual Report.

Attachments

1. 2022 Annual Report

Strategic Plan Reference

Strategic Plan Goal #3, Achieve Excellence in Community Service

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PE DE

ANNUAL REPORT



DISTRICT OVERVIEW

Board of Directors & Organization

CHIEF'S MESSAGE Reflecting Upon 2022 & Looking Ahead

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Education & Connection

OPERATIONS REPORT

Incidents, Responses & Training

FINANCIAL STATUS

Revenues & Expenditures

PREVENTION REPORT
Projects & Accomplishments













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DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Montecito Fire Protection District (MFPD) is an independent service district that provides fire, rescue and emergency services to the Montecito community.

The District is approximately 21.7 square miles in size and serves about 9,000 residents.

The MFPD is funded by a portion of general property tax revenue collected within district boundaries, which covers the costs of all services. The MFPD is governed by a five-member board of directors who are elected by public vote, each serving four-year terms.

STATIONS

We currently have two fire stations:

- Station 91- 595 San Ysidro Road
- Station 92 2300 Sycamore Canyon Road

Our fleet includes structural and wildland fire engines, a paramedic squad, an ambulance, a specialized Urban Search & Rescue vehicle, a mechanic's vehicle and Battalion Chief vehicles.

Our South Coast Dispatch Center is located at Station 91 and provides dispatch services for the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District and Montecito Fire Protection District.

To shorten response times and upgrade capability, we have partnered with Carpinteria-Summerland Fire to study and develop a joint fire station. A Fire Station Location Study found response-time service gaps in both fire districts and therefore, suggests gaps would be reduced with the establishment of a joint fire station in the eastern part of Montecito.

Thanks to our Board's wise planning and foresight in setting aside funds to finance the development of a new station someday, no additional taxes or revenues will be required. Details about the new station, including location and timeline, will be provided to the community as they become available.

PERSONNEL & SERVICES

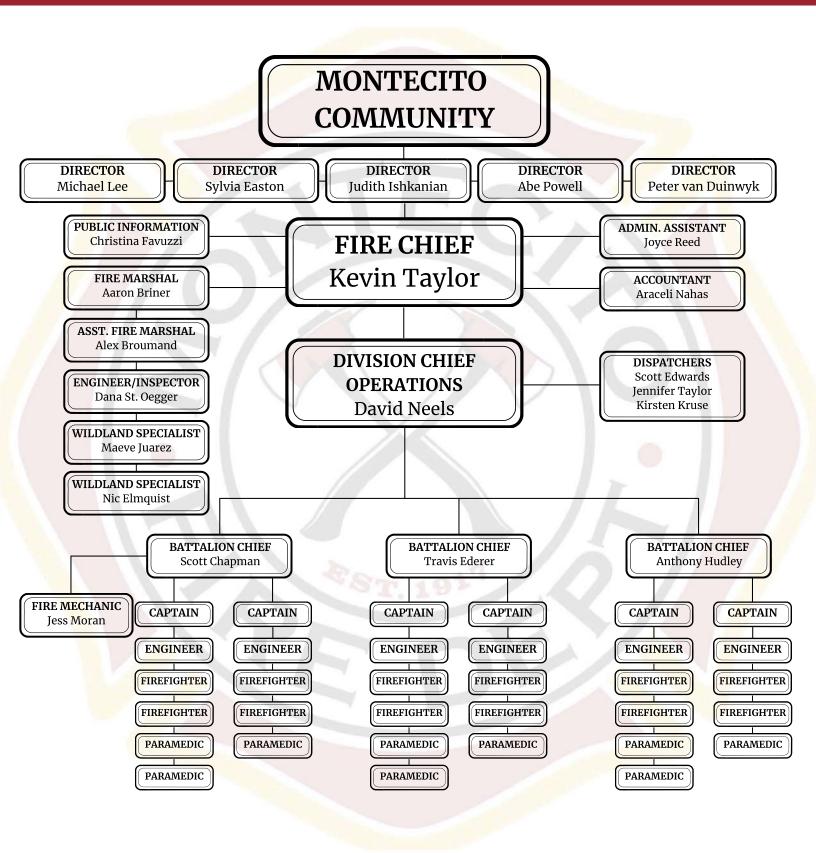
Our organization is comprised of **51 employees** who work together to serve the Montecito community.

Our skilled personnel train throughout the year, often receiving specialty certifications that qualify them for specific roles serving on Incident Management Teams locally, and on state and federal incidents. These qualifications and skillsets enhance the capability and experience of our staff while building goodwill and reciprocity with other departments.

Here are some of the important emergency services your fire department is trained and equipped to perform:

- STRUCTURAL FIRE PROTECTION
- WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION
- PARAMEDIC SERVICES
- VEHICLE ACCIDENTS & FIRES
- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION
- TRENCH RESCUE
- · CONFINED SPACE RESCUE
- BUILDING COLLAPSE RESCUE
- TRAIL RESCUE
- TECHNICAL ROPE RESCUE
- SWIFT WATER RESCUE

ORGANIZATION



CHIEF'S MESSAGE

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

On behalf of the Montecito Fire Protection District, it is a pleasure to share our 2022 Annual Report with our community. Over the past year, our organization experienced meaningful growth, identified opportunities for improvement and realized significant accomplishments.

A noteworthy change in 2022 was the full return to engaging with our community in person after the pandemic. In 2022, we prioritized revitalizing our public education and outreach programs by visiting every school in Montecito to teach children about fire safety, hosting an in-person Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting and resuming one of our favorite traditions — our Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast. The past year provided us countless opportunities to be together with you again, from serving lunch to Montecito Beautification Day volunteers to decorating the Hathaway Tree during the holiday season. We were reminded daily of how fortunate we are to have the responsibility and privilege of being your fire department.

Behind the scenes, your fire department has been busy developing plans to best serve you. In March, we convened a strategic planning committee representing all areas and levels of Montecito Fire to review community input and develop goals to carry the department through the next five years. The committee's dedication to having reflective, difficult and nuanced conversations about our organization's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities to improve resulted in refined mission, vision and values statements. Our community is the driving motivation for all our five-year goals for the department. We look forward to achieving those goals for you and have already made significant progress.

In July, our forward-looking Board of Directors approved the results of a comprehensive, scientific analysis of Montecito's unique evacuation challenges. The evacuation study by Fehr & Peers took hundreds of hours over 10 months and proves what we have known to be anecdotally true. Our task now is to carefully consider the study's findings as we evaluate our evacuation procedures and implement changes to evacuate our community most efficiently and safely in the event of a wind-driven wildfire. Look for substantial updates to our evacuation processes in 2023 and beyond.

Your Fire Prevention Bureau built upon our holistic approach to fire preparedness and prevention in 2022. The Bureau expanded our popular Neighborhood Chipping Program to additional neighborhoods and retrofitted more homes in Montecito with ember-resistant vents through our Vent Retrofit Program. Our Wildland Fire Specialists worked with partnering fire agencies to add new wildfire detection cameras across the South Coast that are capable of alerting firefighters of new fire starts using artificial intelligence. This multifaceted approach to wildland fire prevention bolsters Montecito as a wildfire-resilient community.



Montecito firefighters responded to dozens of incidents across the West during the 2022 fire season. Each assignment provided didactic challenges and valuable experience that our personnel now bring back to Montecito to better respond to emergencies at home and ensure your safety.

The faces of Montecito Fire are changing as we grow and evolve to best serve you. In May, three experienced firefighters joined the organization, bringing our daily staffing to optimal levels for emergency service. We also celebrated the outstanding careers of three senior members who retired in December.

In Montecito, the winter months bring a perennial concern for debris flow. Five years have now passed since the catastrophic 1/9 Debris Flow. Early winter storms thus far in 2023 have already caused significant impacts across the community due to extreme saturation and our unique topography. The most recent storm, which eerily coincided with the 1/9 anniversary, did not cause nearly the same level of devastation that occurred in 2018, but the storm's potential and our risk for debris flow impacts warranted a full evacuation of the community. Thanks to the watershed's recovery, outstanding improvements to our flood control system and our community's attentiveness to disaster preparedness, we did not suffer another tragedy.

Through the pages of this report, we hope you will learn more about your fire department, our strong financial picture as a community-established independent fire district, and the many ways we carry out our mission of providing you with exceptional service. We are thankful for our independent, elected Board of Directors' guidance and prioritization of funds to empower your fire department to offer excellent emergency response and fire prevention services.

It is our greatest honor, duty and privilege to serve this community. We promise to be steadfast in our commitment to you in 2023 and deeply appreciate your enduring support.

Kevin Taylor

Fire Chief

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors is responsible for governing the Montecito Fire Protection District. The Board currently consists of five members, each of whom serves a four-year term.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT JOHN ABRAHAM POWELL, PETER VAN DUINWYK, SYLVIA EASTON, JUDITH ISHKANIAN, MIKE LEE

Michael Lee - President

Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Sylvia Easton - Vice President

Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Judith Ishkanian - Secretary

Term of Office: 11/10/2020 - 12/2/2022

John Abraham Powell - Member

Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Peter van Duinwyk - Member Term of Office: 10/2/2018 - 12/2/2022



We thank Judith Ishkanian for her service as a Board Member of the Montecito Fire Protection District. On Nov. 8, 2022, our community re-elected Peter van Duinwyk to the Board and elected Stephen Dougherty to join the Board.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
MIKE LEE. STEPHEN DOUGHERTY, PETER VAN DUINWYK, SYLVIA EASTON, JOHN ABRAHAM POWELL

Peter van Duinwyk - President

Term of Office: 11/8/2022 - 12/4/2026

Michael Lee - Vice President Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Sylvia Easton - Secretary
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

John Abraham Powell - Member Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Stephen Dougherty - Member Term of Office: 11/8/2022 - 12/4/2026

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Mission

The Montecito Fire Protection District is a progressive organization committed to the protection of people, property, and the environment. As part of the community, we exist to provide professional and timely service through preparation for, response to, and recovery from emergencies.

Vision

- We will serve our whole community with an innovative approach to preparedness, response, and recovery.
- We will enhance our relationships through collaboration to resolve all challenges our community may face.
- We will lean forward with intent in the pursuit of advancing technology and industry best practices.
- We will develop exceptional leaders in our organization supported by a culture of empowerment.
- We will enhance mental, physical, and spiritual health within our organization.

Values

We value community through:

- Respect
- Relationships
- Approachability
- Public outreach
- Transparency

We value service through:

- Commitment to excellence
- Competence
- Preparedness
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- Professionalism

We value our people through:

- Our culture of empowerment
- Mental, physical, and spiritual health
- Personal and professional experience
- Training and education



INCIDENTS & RESPONSES

Montecito Fire utilizes the following National Fire Incident Reporting System's (NFIRS) incident typing categories to organize response data.

FIRE

Structure fire, vehicle fire, vegetation fire, other fire categories

RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

EMS, medical assist, lock-in, search for lost person, extrication, water and ice-related rescue, standby

HAZARDOUS CONDITION

Combustible/flammable spills and leaks, chemical release, electrical wiring/equipment problem, vehicle accident debris removal, attempted burning, overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat (no fire)

SERVICE CALL

Person in distress, water problem, smoke/odor problem, animal rescue, public service assist, unauthorized burning, cover assignment, severe weather and natural disaster, special incident type

GOOD INTENT CALL

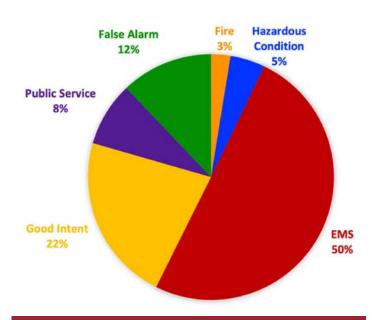
Dispatched and cancelled enroute, no emergency found, controlled burning, steam mistaken for smoke, EMS call where party has been transported

FALSE ALARM

System or detector malfunction, unintentional system activation, sprinkler activation

RESPONSES BY CAT	EGORY
Fire	39
Hazardous Condition	70
EMS	768
Good Intent	338
Public Service	129
False Alarm	185
Total Calls for Service	1,529

RESPONSES BY PERCENTAGE



TOTAL CALLS PER YEAR		
2022	1,529	
2021	1,539	
2020	1,426	
2019	1,340	
2018	1,291	
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EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN 7 MINUTES OR LESS

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

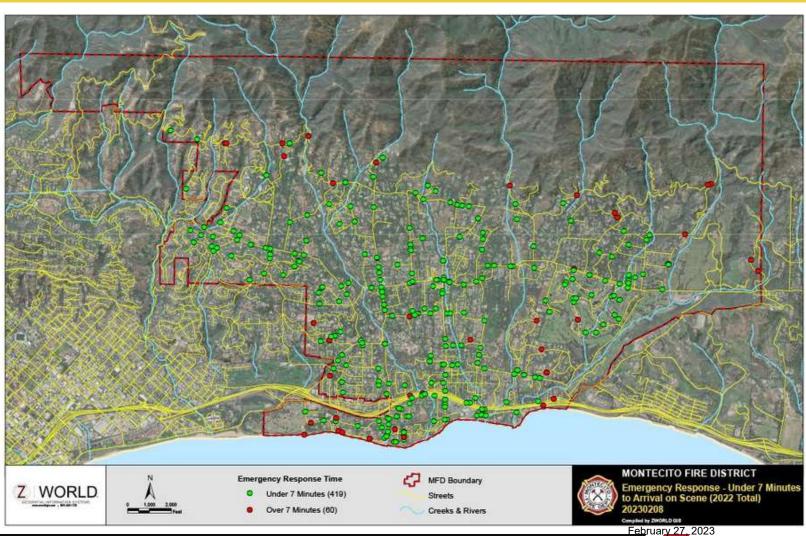
Total Response Time = Call Processing + Turnout Time + Drive Time (1:00)(2:00)(4:00)

TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS IN MTO DISTRICT = 479

Total Response Time ≥ 7:00 = 60 Calls = 13%

Total Response Time ≤ 7:00 = 419 Calls = 87%

7:00 minutes or less, 87% of the time for Emergency Response in 2022



SOUTH COAST DISPATCH

SOUTH COAST DISPATCH IN 2022

In 2022, 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 **3,658** incidents for both the Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts.







TRAINING WITH DISPATCH PARTNERS

In June, South Coast Dispatch and Santa Barbara County Dispatch coordinated a training evolution to practice the receipt, call processing and dispatch of a vegetation fire in the South Coast Dispatch area.

Over two days of training, a total of five scenarios were completed with test calls through the 911 system. Cellular calls were transferred through the California Highway Patrol call center as well as the County Dispatch 911 center.

These drills helped us streamline the assignment of operational frequencies for proper communications between fire personnel, aircraft and dispatch. It also allowed us to streamline the time needed to notify stations and resources on the initial alarm.



South Coast Dispatch dispatched and tracked

3,658

incidents for both Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts in 2022

MUTUAL AID RESPONSES

MUTUAL AID

In 2022, Montecito Fire responded to incidents across California and the western United States. Sending our members out on these regional assignments allows them to assist other communities in need and gain valuable experience that they can apply to future incidents here at home. Our stations in Montecito remained fully staffed at all times.

- CALF CANYON FIRE NM
- COLORADO FIRE
- CROOKS FIRE AZ
- HOLLISTER FIRE
- PIPELINE FIRE NM
- SWCC SUPPORT NM
- CAMINO FIRE
- MCKINNEY FIRE
- MOSQUITO FIRE
- OAKS FIRE
- OES PREPOSITION XSB
- ONC PREPOSITION
- RTF PREPOSITION
- SRF LIGHTNING COMPLEX
- WASHBURN FIRE
- WISHON FIRE



TRAINING & UPSTAFFING

TRAINING

In 2022, Montecito Fire personnel and Board Members logged **15,250** training hours.

Our average is **407 hours of training per person** in the ranks of Firefighter, Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer, Captain and Battalion Chief.

Our department was fortunate to recognize the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) qualifications of several of our members in 2022. We recognize their completion of training task books and significant time spent on incidents to gain experience and expertise in specific disciplines.

15,250

Training Hours in 2022



WEATHER UPSTAFFING

In 2022, Montecito Fire Department staffed additional apparatus and personnel for a total of 10 days on four separate occasions due to critical wind and weather events in the District and Santa Barbara County operational area.

PERSONNEL WHO COMPLETED TRAINING TASK BOOKS IN 2022

Travis Ederer

- Operations Section Chief Type 2
- Operations Branch Director

Maeve Juarez

• Operations Section Chief Type 1

Araceli Nahas

- Equipment Time Recorder (EQTR)
- Personnel Time Recorder (PTRC)

Evan Skei

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Andy Rupp

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Billy Wrenn

• Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Daniel Arnold

Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SYCAMORE CANYON ACQUIRED STRUCTURE

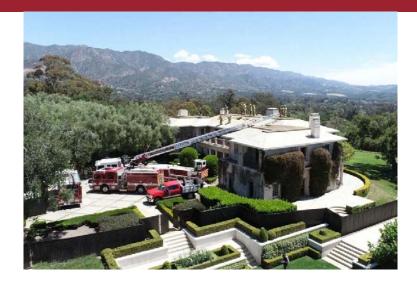
In early May, Montecito Fire hosted structure fire training at a residence on Sycamore Canyon Rd. The three-day training allowed all three shifts, plus Santa Barbara City Fire and Carpinteria-Summerland Fire, the opportunity to practice fire ground scenarios under realistic, smoky conditions. Crews practiced fire attack, hose deployment on multiple floors, search, rescue and MAYDAY drills.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to train at structures within our community when they are slated for demolition or remodel. Many thanks to the Prevention Bureau for their assistance in acquiring structures for training.

BRAEMAR DRIVE TRAINING

Santa Barbara City Fire invited us to participate in structure fire training evolutions on Braemar Drive. All three shifts from Montecito participated in fire control, search and incident command.









TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

STRUCTURE FIRE TRAINING AT MONTECITO UNION SCHOOL

At the end of July, Montecito Fire hosted structure fire training at Montecito Union School. School administration contacted the department to allow us to train prior to a significant remodel of the school's interior. The three–day training allowed all three shifts, Carpinteria–Summerland Fire and Santa Barbara City Fire, the opportunity to practice fireground scenarios.

Crews practiced securing a water supply from a hydrant, spotting apparatus, forcible entry, communications, hose deployment, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) use and search. Firehose was deployed on multiple levels of the main administration building under heavy smoke conditions. Training with our partner agencies who comprise our first alarm assignment has made us more efficient and effective with our fireground operations.









OPERATIONS REPORT

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SANTA BARBARA AIRPORT DISASTER DRILL

Montecito Fire participated in the Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Exercise at the Santa Barbara Airport in September with our ambulance, Medic 91.

The simulated disaster drill provided local first responders and airport mutual aid partners with an opportunity to train for an aircraft emergency in a safe and controlled environment.





SPAULDING/MIDLAND PRESCRIBED BURN

In October, Montecito Fire assisted Santa Barbara County Fire with a prescribed fire operation in the Santa Ynez Valley. Both Engine 691 and Engine 692 were assigned to firing operations, then transitioned to holding resources. Personnel worked alongside other engines, crews, dozers and overhead personnel. We appreciate the opportunity to work alongside our operational area partners and accomplish strategic fuel reduction to decrease future wildfire risk.





OPERATIONS REPORT

NEW HIRES, RETIREMENTS & PROMOTIONS

WELCOME CLASS 124

We are pleased to welcome three firefighters to our organization following their successful completion of a 10-week fire academy. Our three recruits trained with Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District's two recruits in a joint fire academy. Class 124 graduated May 31, 2022.



LEFT TO RIGHT - Jess Gilkey (MTO), Mike Medina (CRP), Justin Pickens (MTO), Pat Ruiz (MTO), John Weber (MTO)

RETIREMENTS

In December, we celebrated the outstanding careers of three of our members and their well-deserved retirements.

- Firefighter Paramedic Kurt Hickman 21 years
- Engineer Keith Powell- 20 years
- Engineer/Inspector Dana St. Oegger 25+ years

We are deeply grateful to each of them for their service to our community and their lasting impact on our fire family.



LEFT TO RIGHT - Kurt Hickman, Keith Powell, Dana St. Oegger

PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

In December, David Johnson and Daniel Arnold were promoted to Fire Engineer and Billy Wrenn was appointed to Fire Engineer-Inspector. Their new positions became effective in January 2023. We are grateful for their dedication to Montecito Fire and congratulate them all on this significant professional achievement.



Fire Engineer David Johnson



Fire Engineer Daniel Arnold



Fire Engineer-Inspector Billy Wrenn

OPERATIONS REPORT

2022 STAFFING

A SHIFT

Battalion Chief Scott Chapman

Captains Jeff Villarreal Ben Hauser

Engineers Eric Klemowicz William Wrenn

Firefighter/Paramedics Kurt Hickman Ryland McCracken Garet Blake

Firefighters Nicholas Eubank Daniel Arnold **Dustin Barthel** Patrick Ruiz

Dispatcher

B SHIFT

Battalion Chief Travis Ederer

Captains Jordan Zeitsoff Robert Galbraith

Engineers Rodney Walkup Lucas Grant

Firefighter/Paramedics **Brandon Bennewate** Kevin French Shawn Whilt

Firefighters Steve Cochran Charles Spencer Tyler McManigal Jess Gilkey

Dispatcher

C SHIFT

Battalion Chief Anthony Hudley

Captains Evan Skei Shaun Davis

Engineers Loren Bass David Johnson

Firefighter/Paramedics Andrew Rupp Trevor Burch **Jared Gamm**

Firefighters Evan Hamaker Jered Walberg Justin Pickens John Weber

Dispatcher



FIRE PREVENTION REPORT Bd. Pg. 76



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING

- 50 days
- · 225 participants
- 175 tons of vegetation removed

NEIGHBORHOOD TAG & TRIM

- 8 days
- 10 miles of roads completed
- 15 tons of vegetation removed

FUEL TREATMENT NETWORK

- 29 days
- 130 tons of vegetation removed

DEAD TREE REMOVAL

- 10 days
- 18 dead trees removed
- 80 tons of vegetation removed

ROADSIDE WEED ABATEMENT

- 36 days
- 23 miles of road completed



194

Days of Vegetation **Management Projects** across the District

\$407,166

Total Cost to Implement Vegetation Management **Projects**

400

Tons of Vegetation Removed from Very High Fire Severity Areas

\$110,000

Funded by California **Climate Investment Fire Prevention Project**

PROJECTS

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING

Now approaching 14 years running, the Neighborhood Chipping Program asks residents to cut down overgrown vegetation within 100 feet of their homes and pile it on their curb to be chipped and hauled to a recycling center by our contractor. Montecito Fire contracted with Eco Tree Works to complete the chipping work. Eco Tree Works devoted 50 days of hard work to chip 500 piles of vegetation and haul away 175 tons of chipped material out of Montecito.

In 2022, Montecito Fire offered the program to approximately 1,500 residences in 10 neighborhoods within the fire district boundary. These areas are identified as part of the Very High Fire Severity Zone and therefore, are prioritized for brush clearance. A total of 225 properties participated in the Chipping Program this year.

This program is always expanding. In 2023, we are adding 91 residences to the program by expanding to include Picacho Lane, Stone Meadow Lane, Green Meadow Road, Alcala Lane, Delzura Drive and Camino Viejo.



VENT RETROFIT PROGRAM

To reduce the impacts of future wildfires on our community, Montecito Fire's Board of Directors voted to allocate funds from the Fire Defense Zone Budget to initiate a Home Hardening Assistance Program. This program focuses on upgrading homes with emberresistant vents capable of preventing flames and embers from entering a residence. This helps prevent structural ignitions during a wildfire.

In 2022, we retrofitted six homes in the district with new vents. The program has gained national attention and due to a high number of applicants, we have focused our efforts on prioritizing homes within the Very High Severity Zones of the district. We have an additional 10 homes scheduled for retrofit in early 2023.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIRE PREVENTION GRANTS

The Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council (FSC) was awarded two multi-million dollar grants in 2022 promoting wildfire prevention. Montecito Fire will be the beneficiary of \$496,250 in grant funding through the FSC. The Santa Barbara County Community Chipping Program Grant awarded Montecito Fire approximately \$350,000 for fiscal years 2024–25 to pay for the Neighborhood Chipping Program. Our current program is funded through June 2023 by a \$452,760 Cal Fire Grant that was awarded to Montecito Fire in 2020.

The Santa Barbara South Coast Herbivory Grant will award Montecito Fire approximately \$146,000 to graze 325 acres in fiscal years 2024–2026. We expect to start the first project in May 2023 as a joint effort between the Ennisbrooke Homeowners Association, Montecito Fire, Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program, Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens, Santa Barbara Land Trust and Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council. Montecito Fire has previously identified sheep as the most effective means of completing prescribed herbivory, or grazing, work.

The project aims to reduce invasive species and break up the fuel load throughout the project area. This work will reduce the intensity of future wildfires that may occur there, improve the safety and defensible space of nearby residents, and increase the efficiency of fire suppression actions. The project will help restore the open space to a more natural oak and riparian woodland, supporting a diverse population of native plants and animals. We look forward to starting work on this project and welcoming community members to come to watch the sheep graze and see fire prevention in action.

CALIFORNIA VEGETATION TREATMENT PROGRAM

To enhance community preparedness and increase landscape resilience by expanding treatment areas within our Vegetation Management Program, Montecito Fire hired an environmental consultant, Dudek, to complete an environmental review and ensure compliance with the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) during project implementation.

In 2019 Cal Fire completed a Statewide Environmental Impact Review (EIR) addressing vegetation treatment and fuels reduction projects throughout California for its Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP). This provided a powerful tool and a process for Montecito Fire's Prevention Bureau to expedite CEQA review and increase the pace and scale of vegetation treatments to reduce wildfire risk while conserving natural resources.

The Montecito Vegetation Management Program's Project Specific Analysis took approximately seven months to complete. It includes all projects that could possibly be completed within the district over the next 10 years and analyzed the potential impact of completing 938 acres of prescribed herbivory, and 316 acres of mixed treatments (such as cutting, stacking, chipping, burning, etc.) for a total of 1,140 acres.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ALERT CALIFORNIA CAMERAS

Montecito Fire now has access to two new ALERT California cameras that are part of a growing network of cameras across the United States that help local, state and federal agencies detect and watch wildfires. In December, a camera was installed on TV Hill and another was installed on Ortega Ridge in early 2023. Together, the cameras provide coverage of the Santa Barbara front country, including Montecito's wildland areas. We also have access to cyberinfrastructures that harness emerging artificial intelligence technology to offer us wildfire detection and modeling within seconds of smoke being detected. The cameras can be viewed online at https://alertca.live/.



FIRE CODE ADOPTION

Every three years, the California Fire Code (CFC) is amended and adopted. The 2019 CFC was superseded by the 2022 version and became state law January 1, 2023. The Montecito Fire Protection District adopts the CFC, California Residential Code and California Building Code with amendments that address the geologic, topographic and climatic conditions specific to Montecito. Together, these codes and amendments create the Montecito Fire Protection District Fire Code.

The intent of the 2022 amendments for Montecito was simplification, consistency and collaboration with surrounding agencies. We worked with agency partners, contractors and designers to implement their suggestions and determine where agency amendments could be standardized. The Montecito Development Standards were developed to assist owners, contractors, planners and architects with the practical application of the Fire Code.

The Montecito Fire Protection District Fire Code simplified the CFC and brought it into alignment with our neighboring jurisdictions, ensuring projects within Montecito can be completed in a manner that best serve the community.

EVACUATION ANALYSIS

To enhance community emergency preparedness, Montecito Fire hired consultant Fehr & Peers to conduct a Community Emergency Evacuation Analysis. Innovative software makes it possible to improve evacuation planning through the integration of spatial analytical methods, including Geographical Information System (GIS), spatial statistics, critical cluster optimization and traffic simulations.

By simulating emergency evacuations, analysts identified vulnerabilities specific to Montecito and provided recommendations on how to improve and increase efficiency in future emergency evacuations. Montecito Fire is currently considering the results of the analysis and evaluating our evacuation procedures. We will inform the community of updates to our evacuation processes in 2023.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Bd. Pg. 81



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY MEETING

On July 7, we hosted a Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting at Westmont College. We were fortunate to have MERRAG, the Red Cross and the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management join us to share preparedness resources with the community.



READYSBC ALERTS TEST

On July 21, Montecito Fire and Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management conducted a test of the ReadySBC Alerts emergency notification system. The purpose of the test was to update contact information for all Montecito residents and verify that opted-in community members receive ReadySBCAlerts without issue.



More than 6,300 Montecito community members participated in the test. Over 300 people with Montecito addresses signed up for ReadySBC alerts for the first time as a result of our test. ReadySBC Alerts is utilized to notify community members of emergent, protective actions such as to shelter-in-place or evacuate. The success of our July test helps to ensure our community's preparedness to respond effectively during an emergency.

FOURTH OF JULY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Montecito Firefighters Association's July 4th Pancake Breakfast returned! Hundreds of community members kicked off their Independence Day festivities with breakfast at Fire Station 91. We were fortunate to have volunteers from the Montecito Rotary Club who helped prepare the pancakes.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

During the first two weeks of October, Montecito firefighters visited eight schools within the district to teach fire safety to students. Our school visits are part of the 100-year tradition of National Fire Prevention Week.











MONTECITO BEAUTIFICATION DAY

In November, many people in the community volunteered their time on a beautiful Saturday morning to collect trash and improve areas around Montecito. Montecito Firefighters Association resumed our tradition of serving the volunteers a well-deserved lunch in the Upper Village.



LIGHT UP A LIFE & HATHAWAY HOLIDAY TREE DECORATING

As Montecito got into the holiday spirit, firefighters pitched in to help decorate the Hathaway Holiday Tree on San Ysidro. Montecito Fire also dedicated 23 stars to Hospice of Santa Barbara's Light Up A Life Tree in the Lower Village, in remembrance of the 23 community members we lost in the 1/9 Debris Flow.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CONNECT WITH YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

SOCIAL MEDIA

Montecito Fire continues to grow our social media followings and better connect with our community members through these platforms. We encourage all community members to follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for both critical information related to emergency situations and feature posts to help them become more familiar with Montecito Fire.



instagram.com/montecitofire
@montecitofire



facebook.com/MontecitoFire



twitter.com/montecitofire
@montecitofire



FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

FISCALLY STRONG IN 2022

FOR THE YEAR **ENDED JUNE 30. 2022**

The MFPD has remained financially healthy in 2022. The leadership and oversight of the Board of Directors has allowed the MFPD to continue to provide a wide range of services within its operating budget, while also preparing to remain healthy and resilient in the future.

The MFPD takes great pride in making fiscal transparency and accountability a high priority. The Finance Committee reviews monthly reports and an independent auditor produces an annual report, all of which are accessible on our website, www.montecitofire.com.

REVENUES & FINANCING SOURCES

TOTAL	\$24,841,628
Miscellaneous Revenue	99,330
Charges for Services	213,152
State Fire Prevention Grant	150,048
Disaster Aid	91,767
Fire Assignments	3,981,863
Interest/Rental Income	64,970
Property Taxes	\$20,240,498

EXPENDITURES & FINANCING USES

LAFERDITORES & TIMARO	MO OSES
Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$17,891,059
Services & Supplies	2,608,370
Capital Assets	107,933
Pension Obligation Bond Repayments	1,245,682
Transfer to Capital Reserves Fund	450,000
Increase to Residual Fund Balance	2,538,584
TOTAL	\$24,841,628





MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Agenda Item #5



STAFF REPORT

To: Montecito Fire Protection District Finance Committee

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Prepared by: Araceli Nahas, Accountant AN

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: Long-Term Financial Outlook

Summary

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

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 higher property tax revenues due to an estimated growth of 10% in assessed value for the current budget year, and updated employee salaries and benefits figures that incorporate the negotiated salaries from the MOU which went into effect on July 1, 2022.

Conclusion

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

Attachments

- 1. Long Term Financial Outlook presentation
- 2. Five-year Forecast for FY23 to FY27 (presented in February 2022)

Strategic Plan Reference

Strategic Plan Goal #8, Ensure Financial Accountability & Transparency



Long Term Financial Outlook

February 27, 2023



MONTECITO FIRE DEPARTMENT

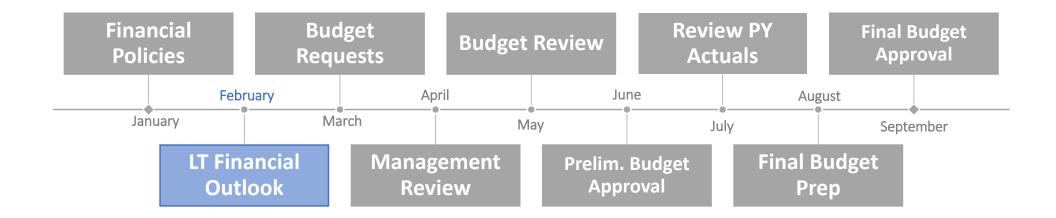
An Independent Fire District

Overview

- Budget calendar for fiscal year 2024
- Current financial position
- Five-year financial forecast



Budget Calendar





Current Financial Position

Assets

- General Fund
 - Reserves = \$7,965,000 (on 7/1/22)
 - Residual Fund = \$2,929,000 (on 7/1/22)
- Vehicle Replacement Fund = \$3,425,000 (on 7/1/22)
- Land & Building Fund = \$3,164,000 (on 7/1/22)
- PARS Trusts
 - OPEB = \$12.3 million (on 12/31/22)
 - Pension = \$5.8 million (on 12/31/22)



Current Financial Position

Liabilities

- Pension (estimate at 6/30/21)
 - UAL = \$586,000
 - Funded status = 99.5%
- OPEB (at 6/30/20)
 - UAL = \$1.8 million
 - Funded status = 87.3%
- Pension Obligation Bond (at 6/30/22)
 - Outstanding balance = \$7.5 million
 - Final payment in February 2028



About the Forecast

- 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



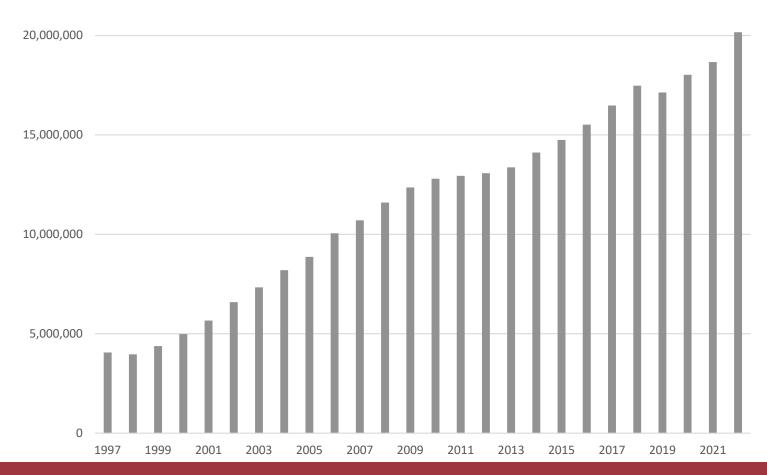
Revenue: Property Tax Trends

- 90% of total revenue
- Significant growth in the last 25 years
- Revenue assumption growth: 5.0% in year 1, 3.0% thereafter



Revenue: Property Taxes







Long Term Financial Outlook

Expenses

Salaries & Benefits

2.2% average annual increase

Pension

24.5% decrease in Year 1

Services & Supplies

5.0% average annual increase

CHITECANO THE DEP

- No assumptions on non-negotiated salaries
- Longevity steps
- Increases in years 2-5 assume -6.1% investment return in FY22 and 6.8% return in FY23
- Costs offset by paydown from POB in FY21
- Continued rising costs across all industries
 - PPE
 - Vehicle maintenance
 - Medical supplies
 - Fuel and travel

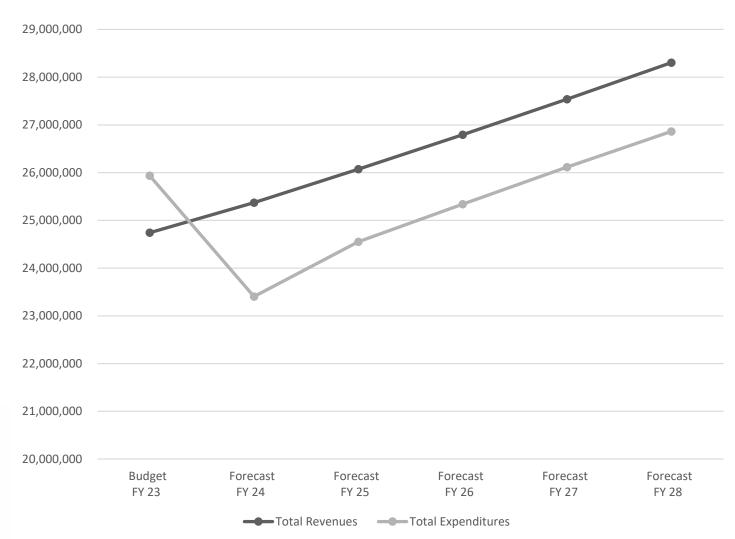
Five-year Forecast

	Budget FY 23	Forecast FY 24	Forecast FY 25	Forecast FY 26	Forecast FY 27	Forecast FY 28
Revenues						
Property/State Taxes	\$ 21,915,500	\$ 23,011,000	\$ 23,701,000	\$ 24,412,000	\$ 25,144,000	\$ 25,898,000
District Services, Interest, Donations	463,500	361,000	372,000	383,000	395,000	407,000
Fire Assignment, Disaster Recovery	2,363,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Revenues	24,742,000	25,372,000	26,073,000	26,795,000	27,539,000	28,305,000
Expenditures						
Employee Salaries and Benefits	19,553,500	19,386,000	20,415,000	21,080,000	21,726,000	22,336,000
Services and Supplies	2,247,500	2,360,000	2,478,000	2,602,000	2,732,000	2,869,000
Capital Assets	997,000	-	-	-	-	-
Pension Obligation Bond Payments	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000	1,258,000
Capital Reserves Funding	1,880,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total Expenditures	25,936,000	23,404,000	24,551,000	25,340,000	26,116,000	26,863,000
Net Financial Impact	\$ (1,194,000)	\$ 1,968,000	\$ 1,522,000	\$ 1,455,000	\$ 1,423,000	\$ 1,442,000



Long Term Financial Outlook

Revenue & Expenses Trend





Summary

- The District's financial position is stable
 - \$17.5 million in the County-held funds, plus
 - \$18.1 million in PARS
- Based on forecast, revenue will out-pace expenses starting in FY24
 - Unrestricted residual balance of \$1.7 million (at 6/30/23) available to fund future budgetary needs
 - Cumulative net financial impact over 5 years = \$7,810,000



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>
Revenues						
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	3,600,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Revenues	23,823,000	23,185,000	23,831,000	24,550,000	25,293,000	26,061,000
Expenditures						
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	450,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Total Expenditures	23,860,000	23,291,000	23,726,000	24,055,000	24,346,000	24,655,000
Net Financial Impact	\$ (37,000)	\$ (106,000)	\$ 105,000	\$ 495,000	\$ 947,000	\$ 1,406,000



Long Term Financial Outlook

Agenda Item #6



STAFF REPORT

To: Board of Directors

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Prepared by: David Neels, Division Chief and Araceli Nahas, Accountant

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: Rental Housing Rate Updates

Summary

The District owns three rental property units located on East Valley Road available for employee housing. Currently only one unit is occupied, and the other two units will be ready for tenants on July 1, 2023.

Discussion

The District's Rental Housing program is intended to provide local housing to employees at a reasonable rate. This provides the District with employees available for immediate response to emergency callbacks and local incidents.

Two of the homes have not been occupied since the 1-9 Debris Flow which destroyed one home, and caused significant damage to the second home. As we near the end of the construction and repairs to the homes, Staff is preparing to occupy the units with new tenants, which will require Board approval on the new rental rates for the three housing units as articulated in the District's Policy 1107, Rental Housing Program.

Cochrane Property Management has provided the following monthly rental rates for the three units based on the local housing market comparisons:

			Market
Unit	Unit Details	Sq. Ft.	Median Rate
1255 East Valley Rd.	3 bed/2 bath	2,036	\$ 5,500
1257 East Valley Rd.	2 bed/1.5 bath	947	\$ 3,275
1259 East Valley Rd.	1 loft/1 bath	713	\$ 2,800

Based on these market rates, the table below calculates potential rental rates for the three units at 50, 60 and 70 percent of market rates for Board consideration.

Address	50% of market	60% of market	70% of market
1255 East Valley Rd.	\$ 2,750	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,850
1257 East Valley Rd.	\$ 1,638	\$ 1,965	\$ 2,293
1259 East Valley Rd.	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,680	\$ 1,960

Rent for each unit includes water and soft water service, refuse, pest control maintenance, and shared property landscaping.

Tenants are responsible for gas, electric, cable/Internet, and possessory tax issued annually by the County of approximately \$600.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the Board set the monthly rental rates for the three rental housing units with an effective date July 1, 2023 or when units are occupied by new tenants.

Attachments

1. Policy 1107: Rental Housing Program

Strategic Plan Reference

Goal 1. Deliver exceptional emergency services to our community

Montecito Fire Protection District

Montecito Fire Protection District Policy Manual

Rental Housing Program

1107.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this guideline is to set forth the Montecito Fire Protection District rental housing program. The District has determined that it benefits from encouraging employees to live within the South Coast area. The program is intended to provide the District with employees available to immediately respond to emergency callback and to be available for response should the District be cut off due to an extreme disaster.

This program provides local housing that is owned by the District and rented to employees at a reasonable rate. This program represents an attempt by the District to cooperate with all efforts that could assist the County and community of Montecito in meeting affordable or workforce housing needs as articulated in the regional housing needs assessment.

This program is solely a managerial function of the District and is not subject to collective bargaining between the District and its employees.

1107.2 PROGRAM AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

The program is administered by the District through its Board of Directors and the Fire Chief. The District will contract with a qualified property management firm to manage tenants, rent collection, bill payment, property maintenance, dispute resolution and complete recordkeeping and reporting to the District. The property management firm shall be responsible for addressing all landlord/tenant issues.

1107.3 TENANT SELECTION PROCESS

The Fire Chief shall post an announcement inviting applications when a vacancy becomes available that includes:

- (a) Date available
- (b) Rent
- (c) Location and size of the unit available

Tenant priority:

- (a) Regular full-time District employees
- (b) Regular full-time employees of adjoining mutual aid fire departments
- (c) District retirees

The Fire Chief shall consider the following during the tenant selection process:

- (a) The extent to which the proposed tenant furthers the District goal of increasing the number of employees that reside on the South Coast
- (b) Applicants current housing status (does not own a home, owns a home outside the South Coast, owns a home on the South Coast)

Rental Housing Program

The Fire Chief may elect to convene an advisory panel to assist in tenant selection. The decision of the Fire Chief shall be considered final and not subject to appeal or the grievance procedure set forth.

1107.4 TENANCY AND RENTS

Each tenant shall enter into a written lease agreement with the District. No tenant is permitted to sublet a rental unit, all occupants must be listed on the rental agreement.

The District may terminate a lease agreement without cause as specific in current law if authorized by the Board of Directors.

The District may terminate a lease agreement with cause based on the recommendation of the property management company concerning the employee's actions as a tenant. Such termination will be at the discretion of the Fire Chief and may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

Tenants who are employees of the District will vacate a rental property immediately upon termination of employment or if, for any reason, employment status is reduced to less than full-time.

The spouse and family of the employee shall have no legal interest in the leasehold. If the employee ceases to be eligible for tenancy for any reason, or the tenancy is terminated by the District, the spouse and family must also vacate the property.

The Board of Directors will determine a reasonable rental rate for each unit in the properties held under this program based on fair rental value. The fair rental value will be re-determined at the beginning of each new tenancy and may be adjusted during the term of the tenancy. If the District elects to charge the tenant an amount less than fair rental value of the unit, the difference between the base rate and fair rental value will be considered compensation to the tenant, from which applicable payroll deductions may be taken, and which will be reported to the tenant annually as income subject to income tax. Each lease will include a requirement that the tenant will pay 100% of the annual tax liability arising from tenant's possessory interest in government owned property.

Rent may be increased annually by a consumer price index figure applicable to the geographic area.

At the time of executing the lease, each tenant will be required to provide a cleaning deposit in the amount of \$500 which the District will hold on deposit until the tenancy ends and which the District will apply to the actual costs of cleaning the unit for the next tenant. The District requires that each tenant carry his/her own renter's/general liability insurance with coverage limits of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence and with the District named as an additional insured.

Agenda Item #7



STAFF REPORT

To: Montecito Fire Protection District Board of Directors

From: Kevin Taylor, Fire Chief

Date: February 27, 2023

Topic: Budget Allocation – Anticipated Legal Fees

Summary

Staff anticipates legal fees related to the Ground Ambulance Request for Proposals (RFP) process not previously identified in the approved Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022/23.

Discussion

The District supports the ground ambulance bid proposal of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department because it will result in a greater level of ambulance service to our community.

The County RFP process has presented unique challenges to our District that may result in legal fees. These legal fees will likely be part of a larger effort by the California Fire Chief's Association and the Santa Barbara County Fire Chief's Association and involve outside counsel. This effort will be coordinated by our consultant, AP Triton and will not exceed \$50,000.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that Board authorize the Fire Chief to allocate up to \$50,000 for legal fees to AP Triton.

Attachments

1. None.

Strategic Plan Reference

Strategic Plan Goal #3, Achieve Excellence in Community Service

Agenda Item #8

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held at Montecito Fire Protection District, 595 San Ysidro Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108 on January 23, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Director van Duinwyk called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Present: Director van Duinwyk, Director Lee, Director Easton, Director Powell, Director Dougherty. 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.)

There were no public comments at this meeting.

2. That the Board of Directors authorize the Fire Chief to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Resolute Associates. (Strategic Plan Goal 2)

Chief Taylor provided a report regarding an agreement for professional services with Resolute Associates. Motion to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with Resolute Associates made by Director Powell, seconded by Director Lee and motion carried. Director Dougherty voted nay.

- 3. Annual Review of the Financial Policy Updates of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (Strategic Plan Goal 8)
 - a. Staff report presented by Fire Chief Taylor.

District Accountant Nahas provided a report regarding the Annual Review of the Financial Policies.

- 4. Report from the Finance Committee. (Strategic Plan Goal 8)
 - a. Consider recommendation to approve November and December 2022 financial statements.

Director Lee provided a report regarding the November and December 2022 financial statements. Motion made by Director Easton, seconded by Director Powell, and unanimously passed to approve the November and December 2022 financial statements.

b. Review PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statements for November 2022.

Director Lee provided a report regarding the PARS Post-Employment Benefits Trust statement for November 2022.

5. Approval of Minutes of the December 20, 2022 Special Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022 Special meeting made by Director Lee, seconded by Director Powell, and unanimously passed.

6. Fire Chief's report.

Chief Taylor stated that because of staff's heavy workload during the previous two weeks, items were deferred to the February agenda and will include: Annual Report, Strategic Plan Progress Update, Operations Division Annual Report, Prevention Division Annual Report, ISO Public Protection Classification Report, Fair Market Value Assessment of the rental properties and potentially the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Chief Taylor provided a report regarding the January 9 storm event. Division Chief Neels highlighted the recent wind event. He also provided an overview regarding the Department's upstaffing as well as the County Incident Management Team's response during the recent events.

7. Board of Director's report.

There were no items to report at this meeting.

8. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the February 27, 2023 Regular Board meeting.

There were no additional suggestions from the Directors.

9. CLOSED SESSION:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (One potential case)

The Board reported out of closed session at 3:10 p.m. with no reportable action.

Montecito Fire Protection District Minutes for Regular Meeting, January 23, 2023 Page 3

Meeting Adjourned at 3:11 p.m.	
	
President Peter van Duinwyk	Secretary Sylvia Easton

Agenda Item #9



December 14, 2022

Montecito Fire Protection District Roland J. Jensen 595 San Ysidro Rd Santa Barbara CA 93108

Re: Compensation Disclosure Statement

Dear Roland J. Jensen:

Delta Dental recognizes the important role health coverage brokers or consultants play in advising public agency groups about appropriate health plan options.

In compliance with California Health & Safety Code § 1367.08 (AB 2589), Delta Dental is committed to disclosing to each Governing Board of applicable public agencies information about fees and compensation paid to an agent, broker, or individual relative to any public agency contract with Delta Dental. The applicable definition (California Government Code § 6500) of a public agency is:

"Public agency includes, but is not limited to, the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or any state department or agency, a county, county board of education, county superintendent of schools, city, public corporation, public district, regional transportation commission of this state or another state, or any joint powers authority formed pursuant to this article by any of these agencies."

The Compensation Disclosure information below lists the compensation Delta Dental paid during the 2021 plan year to a broker or consultant in relation to your public agency group dental plan.

Compensation Disclosure Statement

Public Agency Name: Montecito Fire Protection District

Group Number: 11916

Broker/Consultant Name: Hub International Ins Services Inc

Address: PO Box 2158

City/State/Zip: Riverside CA 92516

Calendar Year 2021 Total Compensation Paid: \$16,955.91

Thank you for doing business with Delta Dental.

Sincerely,

Mohammad Navid

Group Vice President Sales Delta Dental of California

Delta Dental of California

Headquarters:

560 Mission Street

Suite 1300

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-972-8300

Claims Processing, Customer Service:

P.O. Box 997330

Sacramento, CA 95899-7330

Offices in:

Cerritos, Fresno, Oakland, Rancho Cordova, San

Diego,

San Francisco

Dear Firefighters,

Thank you so much for being there when I got in that car accident. I was panicked and so so scared, and you all

calmed me down and helped me think logically. Your efforts were extremely helpful and appreciated and without them I don't know what I would have done.

Sincerely, Waverly