

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 3/13/06
Department Name: County Executive Office
Department No.: 012
Agenda Date: 4/11/06
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: 60 minutes on 4/18/06 (Dept.)
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer
568-3400

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Laponis, Deputy County Executive Officer
Sharon Friedrichsen, Administrative Analyst 568-3400

SUBJECT: Management Study of the County Fire Department

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors set a hearing for April 18, 2006, for one hour to consider the following recommendations:

- A) Receive and file the Management Services Study of the County's Fire Department entitled the "Organizational Review of the County Fire Department;" and,
- B) Direct the County Executive Officer and the Fire Chief to address the study's 47 recommendations as outlined in the attached "Fire Management Study Implementation Matrix" and report back to the Board of Supervisors on any relevant policy-related recommendations as appropriate.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan: The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion: On November 9, 2004, the Board of Supervisors directed the County Executive Officer to select one department for a Management Services Study (MSS) pilot project. It was determined that the pilot MSS would be of the Fire Department. Accordingly, the County Executive Office formed a project team and contracted with Management Partners, Inc., an outside consulting firm, to produce the aforementioned study (copy attached). The study took place over 8 months, covered all aspects of Fire Department operations and contains 47 recommendations many of which have already been implemented. The attached "Fire Management Study Implementation Matrix" contains each of the recommendations as well as relevant implementation action items, timeframes, departments involved and the current status of each recommendation. A presentation summarizing the recommendations and the status of implementing them will be provided to the Board on April 18.

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Mandates and Service Levels: Management studies are not mandated. As indicated in the attached “Implementation Matrix,” implementation of some of the recommendations would result in enhancements to existing service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: There are no fiscal and facilities impacts with setting the hearing. The “Fire Management Study Implementation Matrix,” (attached) contains the fiscal and/or financial implications of implementing the study’s 47 recommendations.

CC: John Scherrei, Fire Chief
Jim Anderson, Sheriff
Dr. Elliot Schulman, Public Health Director/ Health Officer
Bob Nisbet, Director of General Services
John Baker, Senior Partner, Management Partners, Inc.

Attachments:

“Organizational Review of the County Fire Department” – Management Services Study of the Fire Department
Fire Management Study Implementation Matrix
Management Partners’ PowerPoint presentation