

Santa Barbara County Public Works Department
Flood Control ♪ Water Agency ♪ Project Clean Water

M E M O R A N D U M

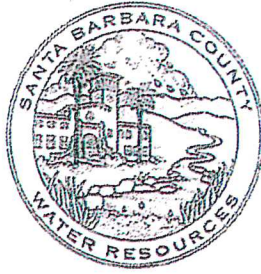
Date: October 7, 2019
TO: Lisa Plowman – Director, Planning and Development
FROM: Tom Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director *TF*
RE: **Emergency Status in Montecito**

On December 10, 2018, I sent to P&D the attached memo regarding the ongoing emergency issues in Montecito below the Thomas Fire. As we enter the third winter following the Thomas Fire, a serious condition still exists in Montecito relating to flooding and risk for debris flows. As evidenced by last winter, a significant amount of debris was transported down from the fire area after each storm.

While this situation still exists, we also note that we are still a few years away for complete regrowth in the Thomas Fire area, and a few years from the construction of capital improvements facilities by the Flood Control District. As such, a continued state of emergency exists and as well as the need for all treatments. The Flood Control District continues to seek long-term projects in Montecito and supports the financial assurance of the Ring Net Project for the next few years.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Enclosure: Letter dated 12/10/18 – Emergency Status in Montecito/Thomas Fire



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DATE: December 10, 2018
TO: Dianne Black, Director Planning and Development
FROM: Tom Fayram, Deputy Director Public Works *TF*
RE: **Emergency Status in Montecito / Thomas Fire**

In response to your request, the Public Works Department is in absolute believe a state of emergency still exists in Montecito. Based on experiences, the threat of increased debris and runoff can last for up to 5 years following a fire. This case was illustrated this past November where we saw a dramatic increase in runoff in creeks below the fire and the deposition of rocks and debris in our basins, which we still are cleaning out as of this week.

We are still in a delicate situation and as such still have an extreme risk below the Thomas Fire area.

You will note also that the County has continued its continuation of an emergency at the Board as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you