



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

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA LETTER

**Department Name:**

Fire

**Department Number:**

031

**Agenda Date:**

July 7, 2026

**Placement:**

Administrative Agenda

**Estimated Time:**

N/A

**Continued Item:**

No

**If Yes, date from:**

**Vote Required:**

Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Director(s): Garrett Huff, Fire Chief/Fire Warden GH

**CONTACT:** Patrick Byde, Deputy Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** Agreement with the State of California for Fire Protection to State Responsibility Area (SRA) Lands

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**Concurrences:**

**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

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**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the State of California Standard Agreement (STD 213) (Attachment A) with the State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for fire protection services to State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029 in the amount not to exceed \$91,897,254; and
- b) Determine that the above-recommended action does not constitute a project subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the actions are the creation of a governmental funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This agreement between the County of Santa Barbara (Fire Department) and CAL FIRE provides reimbursement to the County for costs associated with fire protection services to State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) for a three (3) year period (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029). The agreement provides for payment by the State to the Fire Department in accordance with the amounts annually set forth in the State's budget each fiscal year, not to exceed \$91,897,254 for the entire term of this agreement.

This agreement is for three years as negotiated and preferred by the Contract Counties and CAL FIRE.

**Background:**

CAL FIRE is responsible for fire protection within State Responsibility Areas (SRAs). SRAs are found in 56 of California's 58 counties and total more than 31 million acres. In most cases, SRAs are protected directly by CAL FIRE. However, in Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, SRA fire protection is provided by the counties under contract with CAL FIRE. Known as "Contract Counties," they protect 3.4 million acres of SRA, 675,100 of which are in Santa Barbara County.

CAL FIRE provides funding to the six counties for fire prevention activities, pre-suppression force preparedness, and basic initial attack actions to protect SRAs in lieu of CAL FIRE having duplicate services/facilities in a Contract County. The agreement also provides for additional funding related to firefighting needs when fires grow beyond initial attack.

The previous agreement between the Fire Department and CAL FIRE expires on June 30, 2026. Renewal of this agreement will allow continuation of fire protection services to SRA.

**Performance Measure:**

Contain 95% of all wildland fires to 10 acres or less.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes. However, actual reimbursement is contingent upon annual State budget appropriations for each fiscal year.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2026-2027</b>	<b>FY 2027-2028</b>	<b>FY 2028-2029</b>	<b>Total</b>
State	\$28,126,004	\$30,456,190	\$33,315,060	<b>\$91,897,254</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,126,004</b>	<b>\$30,456,190</b>	<b>\$33,315,060</b>	<b>\$91,897,254</b>

**Staffing Impacts:**

This contract establishes new staffing expectations in several key areas. The Fire Department, in coordination with CAL FIRE, is currently assessing operational and resource impacts. A final analysis and any associated recommendations will be presented to the Board upon completion.

**Special Instructions:**

Upon Board approval and execution, the Clerk is asked to provide to the Fire Department, attention Rose Chaparro, the following:

- Copy of the signed STD 213 for Agreement 7CA07779. Upon return from the state, we will return signed agreement to the Clerk.
- One copy of the minute order

**Attachments:**

**Attachment A** – STD 213 Agreement 7CA07779 2026-2029 Santa Barbara County

**Contact Information:**

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