



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

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

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: January 10, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5th

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s) Contact Info: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Terri Maus Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer
SUBJECT: **Ratification of Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by the January 2023 Storm, All Supervisorial Districts**

DocuSigned by:
Mona Miyasato
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County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Find that due to the storm that began on January 9, 2023 (“January 2023 Storm”), an emergency situation exists pursuant to Government Code sections 54954.2 and 54956.5 that requires immediate action, which need for action arose after the agenda for this meeting was posted (4/5 vote required); and
- b) Receive an update on the January 2023 Storm and its potential impacts on the Thomas Fire, Cave, and Alisal Fire Burn Scars; and
- c) Adopt a Resolution ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency declared by the Director of Emergency Services on January 9, 2023 when the Board of Supervisors was not in session, pursuant to Government Code Section 8550 et. seq. and Chapter 12, Section 12-5(a) of the Santa Barbara County Code; and
- d) Direct the Office of Emergency Management to return every sixty (60) days for ratification of the Emergency until such a time that conditions dictate otherwise; and
- e) Determine that these actions are exempt from the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15269.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Board of Supervisor's Agenda in order to receive an update and adopt a Resolution ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency related to the January 2023 Storm declared by the Director of Emergency Services on January 9, 2023. Because this requires immediate action and arose after the agenda was posted, a 4/5 vote is required to hear the item.

Heavy rainstorms fell January 4 and 5, 2023, and began again countywide Monday, January 9, and are expected to continue Tuesday, January 10, 2023, with the heaviest rainfall expected on the South Coast. These rainstorms have resulted in heavy rain, flooding, high winds, and the potential for debris flows especially in existing fire burn scar areas as a result of the storms and saturation of soils.

- Beginning on January 3, 2023, the National Weather Service issued wind and coastal flood advisories, as well as a high wind warning advising of the potential for damaging winds that may potentially impact trees, other large objects, and power lines.
- On January 4 and 5, 2023, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Watch due to heavy rainstorms. On January 4, 2023, an evacuation order was issued by the County for vulnerable sections of the Thomas Fire and Cave fire burn scar areas and the entire Alisal Fire burn scar area.
- On January 8, 2023, an evacuation warning was issued for impacted areas of the Thomas and Cave burn scar areas and all of the Alisal burn scar area; and
- On January 9, 2023, an evacuation order was issued for all of the Montecito community; residents of Toro Canyon, Padaro Lane from Calle Real to Santa Claus Lane in Carpinteria and Summerland areas; Serena Park in Carpinteria; all residents of Sycamore Canyon in the City of Santa Barbara and community of Montecito; and all campgrounds from Rincon to Gaviota. Shelter-in-place orders were in place for Alisal and Cave fire burn areas following a National Weather Service flash-flood watch.
- The actions were issued as a result of immediate threats for flooding and debris flow and a Flash Flood Warning issued for a significant portion of the County.
- In addition, on January 4, 2023, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout California.

This storm is predicted to cause conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Santa Barbara. These conditions are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the combined forces of Santa Barbara County Operational Area to combat. These conditions warranted and necessitated that the County proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency in order to utilize all resources necessary to respond to the damage that will likely be caused by this storm, and receive assistance from the State and Federal governments.

Background:

The Director of Emergency Services issued a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to the conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Santa Barbara, as evidenced by a Flash Flood Watch and Warning by the National Weather Service and the protective actions by the Sheriff's Office. Government Code section 8630(b) requires the Board of Supervisors to ratify a local emergency within seven days. Section 8630(c) requires the Board to review the need for the continued existence of the local emergency at least every 60 days, and Section 8630(d) requires termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused for the January 2023 Storm

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Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

The fiscal impact of efforts in support of this incident are ongoing and being evaluated at this time and will be reported to the Board at a future meeting.

Staffing Impacts:

To be determined.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the following:

Office of Emergency Management, Attn: Sonia Thompson

Attachments:

Attachment A: Proclamation of Local Emergency for the January 2023 Storm

Attachment B: Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency for the January 2023 Storm

Authored by:

Terri Maus Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer