



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

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

Agenda Number:

Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Department Name: Fire BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Department No.: 031  
Agenda Date: November 18, 2025  
Placement: Administrative Agenda  
Estimated Time:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director(s): Mark Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden  
Contact: Anthony Stornetta, Deputy Chief of Operations  
**SUBJECT:** Amendment to the Agreement between the Santa Barbara County Fire Department and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for fire protection services to State Responsibility Areas (SRA).

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the State of California Standard Agreement (STD 213A) between the Santa Barbara County Fire Department and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for fire protection services to State Responsibility Areas (SRA) for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026, increasing the agreement by \$4,676,496, for a revised total amount not to exceed \$69,018,207; and
- b) Determine that the above-recommended actions do 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 amendment to the agreement between the County of Santa Barbara (Fire Department) and CAL FIRE solely increases the amount of the agreement by \$4,676,496 to a total of \$69,018,207. The agreement provides reimbursement to the County for costs associated with fire protection services to State Responsibility Areas (SRA) for a three (3) year period (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026). 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. The actual amount of funding received by the Fire Department over the three-year period is anticipated to exceed the original agreement estimates, primarily due to increases in salaries and staffing at the State level, thus requiring an amendment to increase the total amount of the agreement.

**Background:**

CAL FIRE is responsible for fire protection within State Responsibility Areas (SRA). SRA is found in 56 of California’s 58 counties and totals more than 31 million acres. In most cases, SRA is 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, 675,000 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 SRA 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.

**Performance Measure:**

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

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 23/24</b>	<b>FY 24/25</b>	<b>FY 25/26</b>	<b>Total</b>
General Fund				
State	\$21,890,593	\$21,837,459	\$25,290,155	\$69,018,207
Federal				
Fees				
Fire District				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,890,593</b>	<b>\$21,837,459</b>	<b>\$25,290,155</b>	<b>\$69,018,207</b>

**Budgeted:**

Yes.

**Special Instructions:**

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

- Two copies of the STD 213A for Agreement 7CA06181 with original signatures
- One copy of the minute order

Attention: Rose Chaparro

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - STD 213A Agreement Number 7CA06181

**Contact Information:**

Anthony Stornetta, Deputy Chief of Operations  
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