

A-13



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

LATE
DIST

Department Name: Executive Office / OES
Department No.: 990
For Agenda Of: July 15, 2008
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

REVISED
7/10/08

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Michael F. Brown, County Executive Officer
Contact Info: Michael D. Harris, Emergency Operations Chief
681-5526
SUBJECT: Continuing Proclamation of Emergency Associated with Gap Fire

County Counsel Concurrence
As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence
As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors reaffirms the ongoing existence of local emergency due to environmental impacts, response and recovery costs from the Gap Fire.

Summary Text:

Government Code Section 8630(c)(2) mandates the Board review the need for continuing a local emergency at least every 14 days, until the local emergency is terminated.

Background:

On July 1, 2008, a fire ("Gap Fire") was ignited north of the Goleta area in the Los Padres National Forest, along West Camino Cielo. The Gap Fire has not been fully contained and continues to pose a threat to the residents and visitors within Santa Barbara County. This continued burning, and the approximately 10,000 acres (at the time of this authoring) of burn area in watershed areas have created conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property in Santa Barbara County.

Fire History

On July 1, 2008, because a fire in the West Camino Cielo area appeared to pose threat to persons and property in the area, the Office of Emergency Services (OES) staffed and prepared the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

After activation of the EOC, the fire grew in intensity and size. On July 2, 2008, because of down sloping winds, the fire moved towards populated areas and impacted Southern California Edison power transmission lines serving the south coast area, causing widespread power outages. Because of a growing fire moving towards populated areas of the county and because of widespread power outages, the Acting Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed that a State of Emergency existed within the Operational Area at 9:55 PM (Pacific Time).

Ratification of Proclamation of a State of Emergency

On July 3, 2008, the Day Fire had grown to almost 4,700 acres and continued to threaten populated areas, which necessitated mandatory evacuations. At the direction of Chair Salud Carbajal, an emergency meeting of the Board of Supervisors was convened at 11:30 AM, at the Santa Barbara County Administrative Building, to consider ratification of the local emergency. The proclamation of the local emergency was ratified by the Board and memorialized in Resolution 08-258.

The Emergency Operations Chief and OES staff continue to work with various agencies to act on recovery issues such as watershed impacts and ongoing support of fire operations.

Because of the potential serious impact to watersheds and because of the serious potential of the Gap Fire to pose a threat to persons and property within Santa Barbara County, staff recommends that a local emergency shall continue in effect until the Board of Supervisors proclaims its termination.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: Estimates of the fiscal impact to the County are being conducted at this time and will be reported to the Board at future meetings.

Special Instructions:

The Clerk of the Board should agendize this item every 14 days for Board review, until the local emergency is terminated. A copy of the executed resolution should be forwarded to the Office of Emergency Services, Attention: Michael D. Harris.

Attachments:

Board Resolution 08-_____

Copies:

Dan Singer, City Manager, City of Goleta

James Armstrong, City Administrator, City of Santa Barbara

Jeri Siegel, Territory Representative, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Southern Region

Authored by:

Michael D. Harris

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF REAFFIRMING
ONGOING EXISTENCE OF LOCAL
EMERGENCY DUE TO THE GAP FIRE

RESOLUTION NO. 08 – _____

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2008, at an emergency meeting, this Board adopted Resolution 08-258 which ratified the proclaimed an existence of a local emergency due to the Gap Fire which has created a condition of extreme peril to life and property in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, Section 8630 of the Government Code provides in part, that the body declaring a local emergency shall review, at least every fourteen (14) days until such local emergency is terminated, the need for continuing the local emergency and shall proclaim the termination of such local emergency at the earliest date that conditions warrant; and

WHEREAS, the County and other entities within the county have expended significant resources to respond to and recover from the Gap Fire, and conditions of extreme peril to life and property still exists in this County due to damages, known and unknown created by the Gap Fire, and the need for the local emergency and waiver of the competitive bid process continues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, that there is a need to continue the proclamation of the local emergency that was made by this Board by Resolution 08-258. The local emergency will continue in place until terminated by action of this Board.

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PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this _____ day of _____, 2008, by the following
vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

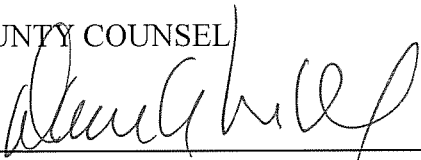
SALUD CARBAJAL
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara

ATTEST:
MICHAEL F. BROWN
CLERK OF THE BOARD

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DENNIS MARSHALL
COUNTY COUNSEL

By  _____
Deputy