



Santa Barbara County Fire Department

Overview of Proposed Department-wide Fire Impact Fee Program

County of Santa Barbara
Board of Supervisors Meeting
October 14, 2014

Current Fire Impact Fee Programs

1. Department-wide Fee

- ◆ \$0.10 per building square foot (sprinklered structures)
- ◆ Established in 1996, fee is outdated and insufficient
 - ◆ Current fee includes only fire apparatus and equipment costs
 - ◆ Current fee has never been adjusted

2. Goleta Planning Area Fee

3. Orcutt Planning Area Fee



Current Fire Impact Fees

Land Use Category	Department Service Area				
	Unincorp. Area	City of Buellton	City of Solvang	Goleta Planning Area ^{1,2}	Orcutt Planning Area ²
Residential Development	Per Sq. Ft.				
Single Family Residential	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.56	\$0.56
Other Residential	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.75	\$0.69
Nonresidential Development	Per Sq. Ft.				
Retail Commercial	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.70	\$0.68
Non-Retail Commercial / Industrial	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.94	\$0.92

Notes:

¹The Goleta Planning Area includes the City of Goleta and the surrounding unincorporated area.

²For comparison purposes, the fees shown include the Department-wide service area fee for apparatus and equipment only of \$0.10 per square foot of sprinklered area and reflect average living areas of 1,841 square feet for a single family home and 978 square feet for an other residential unit.

New Fire Impact Fee Program

- ◆ Nexus Study establishes the legal and policy basis for a new Department-wide fire impact fee program to replace the Department's 3 current fee programs
- ◆ As growth occurs, fee revenue will be used to expand the Department's facilities, apparatus and equipment in order to maintain its existing level of service
- ◆ New department-wide fee to be adopted by the County BOS and respective City Councils of Buellton, Goleta and Solvang on behalf of the Department

Nexus Methodology

Existing Fire System Facilities Standard

- ◆ Determine the ratio of **existing development** served by the Department's **existing facilities, apparatus and equipment**
- ◆ Existing development based upon **persons** (residents or employees) and **structural area** (living area or nonresidential building area) in which the persons live or work
- ◆ Applied to **seven land use categories** in proportion to the need they create for the Department's fire protection and emergency response services

Existing Facilities Standard

Existing Fire System Facilities	\$74,499,941
Existing Demand EDUs	68,579
Existing Fire Facilities Standard	\$1,086.35 per Demand EDU

* EDU means “equivalent dwelling unit”

** Fire system facilities include fire stations, engines, special vehicles and equipment

Department-wide Fire Impact Fee

Proposed

Land Use Category	Proposed Department-wide Fire Impact Fees
Residential Development	Per Living Area Square Feet
Single Family Housing	\$0.59
Other Residential Housing	\$0.75
Nonresidential Development	Per Building Square Feet
Retail / Commercial	\$0.77
Office	\$0.94
Industrial	\$0.71
Warehouse / Distribution	\$0.52
Agricultural	\$0.35

Comparison of Fire Impact Fees

Current and Proposed

Land Use Category	Proposed		Current					
	Department-wide	Department-wide ¹	Goleta Fee	Goleta Fees	% Change	Orcutt Fee	Orcutt Fees	% Change
Residential	Per Average Living Area Sq. Ft.							
Single Family Residential	\$0.59	\$0.10	\$0.46	\$0.56	5.4%	\$0.46	\$0.56	5.4%
Other Residential	\$0.75	\$0.10	\$0.65	\$0.75	0.0%	\$0.59	\$0.69	8.7%
Nonresidential	Per Building Sq. Ft.							
Retail / Commercial	\$0.77	\$0.10	\$0.60	\$0.70	10.0%	\$0.58	\$0.68	13.2%
Office	\$0.94	\$0.10	\$0.84	\$0.94	0.0%	\$0.82	\$0.92	2.2%
Industrial	\$0.71	\$0.10	\$0.84	\$0.94	-24.5%	\$0.82	\$0.92	-22.8%
Warehouse / Distribution	\$0.52	\$0.10	\$0.84	\$0.94	-44.7%	\$0.82	\$0.92	-43.5%
Agricultural ²	\$0.35	\$0.10	\$0.84	\$0.94	-62.8%	\$0.82	\$0.92	-62.0%

Notes:

¹For comparison purposes, the department-wide fee is based on \$0.10 per square foot of sprinklered area. The average living area for a single family residential unit and other residential unit is 1,841 square feet and 978 square feet respectively.

²The current Goleta and Orcutt fees provide a fee exemption for specific agricultural buildings defined as 1) structures designed and constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, livestock or other horticultural products; 2) structures that are not be a place of human habitation; 3) structures that are not a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated or packaged; and 4) structures that are not a place used by the public.

Survey of Fire Impact Fees

Other Countywide Fire Agencies

Jurisdiction	Average Single-Family Residential (per sq. ft.)	Nonresidential (per sq. ft.)	Year Effective
Proposed Fees - Santa Barbara County Fire Department	\$0.59	\$0.35 to \$0.94	
Current Fees - Santa Barbara County Fire Department ¹			
Other Unincorporated Area	\$0.10	\$0.10	1996
City of Buellton	\$0.10	\$0.10	1996
City of Solvang	\$0.10	\$0.10	1996
Goleta Planning Area	\$0.56	\$0.70 to \$0.94	FY 2014-15
Orcutt Planning Area	\$0.56	\$0.68 to \$0.92	FY 2014-15
Other Fire Agencies Fees			
Monterey County Regional Fire District	\$0.45	\$0.90 to \$1.35	2014
Orange County Fire Authority ²	\$0.49	\$0.45	2014
San Luis Obispo County Fire Department ²	\$1.083	\$0.902	FY 2013-14
Ventura County Fire Department ²	\$0.49	\$0.45	2013

Notes:

- 1 For comparison purposes, the department-wide fee is based on \$0.10 per square foot of sprinklered area.
- 2 For comparison purposes, the average living area assumption for a single family home 1,841 square feet.

Stakeholder Outreach To Date

August 25, 2014	City of Goleta Meeting
August 28, 2014	City of Buellton Meeting
August 28, 2014	City of Solvang Meeting
September 9, 2014	South County Stakeholders Meeting
September 9, 2014	North County Stakeholders Meeting

Tentative Adoption Timeline

October 14, 2014	BOS Hearing (First Reading)
October 21, 2014	BOS Hearing (Second Reading and Adoption)
Nov. thru Jan. 2015	Council Hearings and Adoption
Early 2015	Implementation of Fee Program

Questions / Comments



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1985-2014

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YEARS

Serving Public Agencies