COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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SCOTT D. MCGOLPIN Director

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA TRAFFIC ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

Committee Recommendation for Item Number 11-11-01

On Monday, November 14, 2011, the County of Santa Barbara Traffic Engineering Committee convened.

During the meeting the Committee considered Item 11-11-01; Red Flag Days Restrictions in High Fire Areas.

The Committee was presented information from Michael Harris, Emergency Operations Chief for the County's Office of Emergency Services (OES), concerning the proposed program to restrict on-street parking and close recreational trails during days of extreme fire danger in areas sensitive to fire and that have limited access. Mr. Harris presented facts concerning the fire dangers on Red Flag Days in our foothills and the difficulties with evacuation during a fire in areas with limited egress. The Committee reviewed the information presented and then discussed the cost and benefits of the program and the challenges of implementing the program.

The Traffic Engineering Committee Recommends:

- (a) That the Board of Supervisors support the implementation of a pilot program to restrict parking and enact soft trail closures on Red Flag Days beginning with the test area of Tunnel Road north of Montrose Place.
- (b) For the OES to monitor the program and return to the Traffic Engineering Committee to present the results.
- (c) And for the OES to review other locations in the County that may benefit from the program.

Prepared by the County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department

AA /EEO Employer