

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

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING AND AMENDING ) RESOLUTION NO. 22-\_\_\_\_  
THE 2022 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND MAKING )  
EXPRESS FINDINGS THAT MODIFICATIONS ARE )  
REASONABLY NECESSARY DUE TO LOCAL )  
CONDITIONS FINDINGS SUPPORTING LOCAL )  
AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2022, the Board of Supervisors introduced an Ordinance adopting and amending the 2022 California Fire Code; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of 50022.2 of the Government Code and Sections 17922, 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7 and 18941.5 of California Health and Safety Code, the County may adopt amendments, exceptions, modifications and additions to the provisions of the 2022 California Fire Code which are reasonable and necessary due to the unique characteristics of the local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions; and,

WHEREAS, amendments, exceptions, modifications and additions to the 2022 California Fire Code comprises a portion of the Santa Barbara County Code, specifically Chapter 15, Fire Prevention; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara finds and declares, as required by Sections 1798.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, that there exists in certain areas of Santa Barbara County conditions and situations that require modification of the 2022 California Fire Code for buildings and related construction, vegetation management, events and various activities requiring permits, and enforcement actions; and further, that these conditions and situations require specific legislative action to provide for the safety and health of the populace of the County; and,

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2022, the Board of Supervisors held a hearing to consider the proposed ordinance containing the amendments in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference; and,

WHEREAS, the following unique characteristics of the local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions exist in the County of Santa Barbara:

- a) That Santa Barbara County is prone to extreme weather conditions, from hot, dry winds from the north and the east (Sundowner and Santa Ana winds), to strong westerly (coastal) winds, which greatly enhance the ability for fire to spread as reflected in devastating recent fires. In addition, the topographical layout and features of the county make the area subject to isolation should a flood or earthquake occur, which would prevent or severely limit and delay the north and south entities from giving or receiving mutual aid and emergency assistance;
- b) The present firefighting resources of this county are constrained in their efforts to control fires in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and all buildings outside of the urban limit boundary as designated in the county comprehensive plan;
- c) Geologic and topographic conditions in the county result in extended response times for firefighting resources, which may contribute to greater life and property loss in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and in all structures outside of the urban limit boundary; and

- d) Climatic conditions and flammable vegetation contribute to the extreme high fire hazard severity in the county, resulting in numerous wildland fires, which draw existing fire department resources from their structure protection areas for extended periods of time. This in turn extends response times, which may contribute to greater life and property loss in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and in all structures outside of the urban limit boundary.

WHEREAS, code amendments listed in Exhibit A are necessary and consistent with the intent of the 2022 California Fire Code based on the unique characteristics of the local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions; and

WHEREAS, a modification from the 2022 California Fire Code is reasonably necessary due to local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HERE BY RESOLVED, by the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors:

1. The above recitations are true and correct.
2. The Board of Supervisors makes the findings, attached in Exhibit A, that changes contained in the Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 15, Fire Prevention, 2022 are required in order to provide specific and greater protections to the public health, safety and welfare than are afforded by the California Fire Code. These changes are necessary due to the unique characteristics of the local climatic, geological or topographical conditions.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

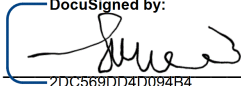
ABSTENTIONS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 JOAN HARTMANN, CHAIR  
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

ATTEST:  
 MONA MIYASATO  
 COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
 CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
 RACHEL VAN MULLEM  
 COUNTY COUNSEL

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy Clerk

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deputy County Counsel

## Exhibit A

## Non-Administrative Code Amendment Justification Matrix.

| <b><i>ARTICLE I — SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CODE</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Section Number                                      | Amendment Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Justification                |
| Section 15.2 (c) – 2 to 10                          | Amending Chapter 15, Rules of construction to redefine projects requiring a Fire Protection Certificate and review by the Fire Department.                                                                                                                          | Footnotes (b), (c) & (d)     |
| Section 103.1                                       | Amended the 2022 CFC by identifying the Santa Barbara County Fire Department as the Code Compliance Agency.                                                                                                                                                         | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 106                                         | Adopt entirety of Construction Documents of the 2022 CFC to define plan submittals, review, retention and approval process.                                                                                                                                         | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 112.4                                       | Amended the 2022 CFC by adding Administrative Fines as an option for enforcement from Chapter 24 of the Santa Barbara County Code.                                                                                                                                  | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 202                                         | Amended the 2022 CFC by adding the definition of “enclosed floor area,” updated the definition of “fire protection certificate” and deleted “fire protection plan.”                                                                                                 | Footnotes (b), (c) & (d)     |
| Section 401.1                                       | Deleted prior addition and amendments of the 2022 CFC regarding fire protection plans                                                                                                                                                                               | Footnotes (a),(b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 404                                         | Adopted the entirety and amended the 2022 CFC section of “fire safety, evacuation and lockdown plan” to replace the previous local definition of “fire protection plans.” Section amended to add mitigation and control strategies to any plan received for review. | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 504.3                                       | Amended the 2022 CFC language for “stairway access” when required by Appendix D105.                                                                                                                                                                                 | Footnotes (b) & (c)          |
| Section 505.1 and 505.2                             | Amended the 2022 CFC by adding language requiring reflectorized address numbers and on street or road signs.                                                                                                                                                        | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                              |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Section 901.4-901.4.2  | Amend the 2022 CFC language in various sections to identify the Santa Barbara County Development Standards.                                              | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 902.1          | Amended the 2022 CFC by adding “enclosed floor area” in definitions.                                                                                     | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 903.1-903.7.2  | Amended the 2022 CFC, Chapter 9 by modifying and/or adding local requirements for automatic fire sprinklers and calculation methods.                     | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 1205.5.1       | Amended the 2022 CFC language for ground-mounted photovoltaic panel systems. Guidance for installation and defensible space requirements.                | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Section 4907-4911      | Amended the 2022 CFC by deleting added language previously not in the California Fire Code and using the current language. Changed numbering throughout. | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |
| Appendix D106.1-D107.1 | Amended the 2022 CFC language to refer to fire hazard severity zones when determining the need for number of access roads.                               | Footnotes (a) (b), (c) & (d) |

## Footnotes:

- (a) That Santa Barbara County is prone to extreme weather conditions, from hot, dry winds from the north and the east (Sundowner and Santa Ana winds), to strong westerly (coastal) winds, which greatly enhance the ability for fire to spread as reflected in devastating recent fires. In addition, the topographical layout and features of the county make the area subject to isolation should a flood or earthquake occur, which would prevent or severely limit and delay the north and south entities from giving or receiving mutual aid and emergency assistance;
- (b) The present firefighting resources of this county are constrained in their efforts to control fires in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and all buildings outside of the urban limit boundary as designated in the county comprehensive plan;
- (c) Geologic and topographic conditions in the county result in extended response times for firefighting resources, which may contribute to greater life and property loss in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and in all structures outside of the urban limit boundary; and
- (d) Climatic conditions and flammable vegetation contribute to the extreme high fire hazard severity in the county, resulting in numerous wildland fires, which draw existing fire department resources from their structure protection areas for extended periods of time. This in turn extends response times, which may contribute to greater life and property loss in large unsprinklered buildings within the urban limit boundary and in all structures outside of the urban limit boundary.