



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

**Department Name:** Fire Department  
**Department No.:** 031  
**For Agenda Of:** 6-28-22  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** N/A  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, 805-681-5500  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Shawna Jorgensen, Chief Financial Officer, 805-681-5506

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance of Two Non-Cash Donations from the Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance to the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the County of Santa Barbara Fire Protection District to accept two (2) non-cash donations in the amount of \$35,299 and \$17,207 from the Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance, a non-profit organization; and
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request #BJE-0008139 (Attachment B); and
- c) 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:**

The recommended action by the Board of Supervisors to accept the referenced non-cash donations is in accordance with California Government Code Section 25355, and Policies & Procedures for the

Acceptance of Donations and Gifts to the County. The donations referenced in this board letter provide an important resource to the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District.

The first donation is a utility task vehicle (UTV) with trailer for Fire Station 38, valued at \$35,299, which the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District will use on various incidents, including wildland, cliff, trail, and beach rescues.

The second donation consists of 12 “initial attack” kits, valued at \$17,207, with flares, flare launchers, and related equipment for use in prescribed fire operations. The Santa Barbara Fire Protection District will use the kits to safely conduct remote ignition burnout and backfire operations in areas where it would be inappropriate or too dangerous to place personnel.

**Background:**

In November 2021, the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District submitted a donation request to the Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance for the purchase of a UTV with trailer, valued at \$35,299, for County Fire Station 38 in Gaviota. In December 2021, the Alliance generously approved the request. The UTV with trailer was purchased by the Alliance and accepted by the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District in January 2022.

Local residents and visitors to Santa Barbara County will benefit from the UTV and trailer at Station 38. Station 38’s district (Gaviota) contains steep, challenging terrain with few paved roads. Hiking, biking, and jeep trails traverse the area and are oftentimes the best and/or only access in the event of an emergency. Additionally, Hollister Ranch will open to the public this year, which may lead to an increase in incidents in locations that are difficult to access using the current equipment at Station 38. The UTV is an excellent piece of equipment to access remote areas in an emergency. Currently, the closest UTV to Station 38 is more than 20 minutes away.

In November 2021, the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District submitted a donation request to the Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance for the purchase of 12 Firequick Products, Inc. Initial Attack Kits with Launchers. In December 2021, the Firefighters Alliance generously approved the request in the amount of \$17,207. The equipment was purchased by the Alliance and accepted by the District in February 2022.

The initial attack kits allow firefighters to engage in critical firing operations from a safe location. As wildfires affect everyone in the local community, all communities in Santa Barbara County will benefit from the equipment. The Alisal Fire, where tall brush and steep canyons made access an issue, is a recent example of an incident in which the kits would have been utilized for remote ignition burnout and backfire operations.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
Other: Donation & Grant			\$ 52,506.00
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,506.00

**Narrative:**

The Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, has purchased the UTV, trailer, and Firequick equipment for donation to the Fire Protection District. The referenced donation is not budgeted and will be an increase in appropriations. The associated Budget Revision is attached. The donation of \$52,506 will be accounted for as a one-time appropriation of Miscellaneous Revenue-Other Capital Donations.

**Attachments:**

- A. Santa Barbara Firefighters Alliance Support Proposals
- B. Budget Revision Request #BJE-0008139

**Authored by:**

Shawna Jorgensen, Chief Financial Officer

**CC:**

Rob Heckman, Deputy Fire Chief of Administration  
Sergio Sanchez, Division Chief of Support Services  
Anthony Stornetta, Interim Chief of Operations