



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 No.:** 31  
**For Agenda Of:** November 15, 2016  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimated Time:** 15 minutes  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Fire Chief Eric Peterson x5507  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Fire Marshal Steve Oaks x5554

**SUBJECT:** Hearing for Amending Chapter 15 of the Santa Barbara County Code with the Adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code.

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) On November 15<sup>th</sup>, consider the introduction (first reading) of an ordinance amending Chapter 15 of the Santa Barbara County Code to adopt the 2016 California Fire Code with amendments replacing the amended 2013 California Fire Code as the enforcement Code in all areas within the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District and all other unincorporated areas of the County where the Santa Barbara County Fire Department is the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), unless otherwise specified by this ordinance;
- b) Continue to December 6, 2016 on the Administrative Agenda to consider recommendations, as follows:
  - i) On December 6, 2016, Consider the adoption (second reading) of an ordinance amending Chapter 15 of the Santa Barbara County Code as set forth above; and
  - ii) Determine that the adoption of this ordinance is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act in compliance with Section 15061 (b), (3), (No possibility of impact on the environment).

**Summary Text:**

In July 2016, the State of California adopted the 2016 California Fire Code, which incorporates the 2015 edition of the International Fire Code of the International Code Council with California amendments. On January 1, 2017, the 2016 California Fire Code becomes effective and pursuant to Section 13146 of the Health and Safety Code, the Fire Chief of Santa Barbara County shall enforce within its jurisdiction the building standards and other regulations of the State Fire Marshal, namely the 2016 California Fire Code. In addition, Section 13869.7 of the Health and Safety Code states that a fire protection district “may adopt building standards relating to fire and panic safety that are more stringent than those building standards adopted by the State Fire Marshal and contained in the California Building Standards Code.” The 2016 updates to Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 15, require modification to 5 sections. The 2016 California Fire Code is adopted in Sec. 15-1. Minor substantive changes in fire code requirements and amendments, which are more stringent than State law, are addressed in Sec. 15-3. Sec. 15-2 fixes a typographical error. Sec. 15-101 is reformatted to be consistent with the 2016 California Fire Code, and Sec. 15-125 is amended to reference the 2016 California Fire Code.

There are **no** fee increases associated with this adoption of the 2016 California Fire Code.

Copies of the proposed ordinance have been distributed for review and comment to the cities of Buellton, Goleta and Solvang, which are located in the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District. In addition, copies have been sent to various industry groups and the other fire districts and departments in the county for their review and comment.

**Special Instructions:**

- Clerk of the Board shall complete noticing for the ordinance in the Santa Barbara News Press, Lompoc Record, and Santa Maria Times within 15 days of its passing.
- Please send a copy of the adopted ordinance and a certified copy of the minute order to Santa Barbara County Fire Department, attention Courtney Stockton.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Proposed Ordinance (clean copy)  
Attachment B: Proposed Ordinance (red strikethrough)  
Attachment C: CEQA Exemption  
Attachment D: PowerPoint Presentation

**Authored by:**

Steve Oaks, Division Chief/Fire Marshal x5554