

October 20, 2015

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Watershed Protection District
Tully K. Clifford, Director
Transportation Department
David L. Fleisch, Director

Engineering Services Department
Herbert L. Schwind, Director

Water & Sanitation Department
David J. Sasek, Director

Central Services Department
Janice E. Turner, Director

Subject: Adoption of a Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Agency that Supersedes the Resolution Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Forces adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 21, 1969; All Supervisorial Districts.

Recommendation:

Adopt the attached Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Agency that supersedes the Resolution Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Forces adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 21, 1969.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

There is no additional fiscal impact associated with the adoption of this resolution.

Discussion:

On January 21, 1969, the Board of Supervisors approved and adopted the Resolution Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Forces (Exhibit 1) that applied to General Public Works, Roads/Transportation and General Flood Control (now known as Watershed Protection) operations. The resolution limited Public Work Forces emergency response actions to performing work needed to maintain the integrity of County roads, provide for the safety of the traveling public and provide for the protection of public property. The resolution further stated that public funds are not to be used to defray costs associated with emergency work which has exclusive benefit to private property.

As part of the Public Works Agency's (PWA) overall disaster preparedness, the 46-year old resolution has been reviewed and updated to provide a flexible framework for



emergency response actions. This update recognizes that on any given day, PWA's forces and equipment are spread out in various locations throughout the County. In the event of an accident or other emergency, these resources could be available to assist on the scene until the appropriate public safety forces arrive. Such a response could require the use of PWA resources on private property should there be immediate danger which justified such action. In fact, one such event occurred several years ago involving a work crew that witnessed a small airplane crash in a vacant field that was privately owned. The crew quickly responded to the scene to assist.

This resolution addresses the use of PWA resources during an emergency, recognizing that extraordinary situations could exist where the use of resources on private property may be necessary to protect life or property and provides for the authority to do so within the constraints noted in the resolution.

This item has been reviewed by the Sheriff's Department, Fire Protection District, County Executive's Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please call me at (805) 654-2073.



Jeff Pratt
Agency Director

Resolution - Resolution Establishing Policy for Emergency Actions by Public Works Agency
Exhibit 1 - January 1969 Resolution