

# VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**BOB ROPER**  
County Fire Chief



165 Durley Avenue  
Camarillo, CA 93010-8586  
(805) 389-9710  
FAX (805) 388-4364

August 4, 2009

Board of Directors  
Ventura County Fire Protection District  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Subject:** Approval of Ventura County Fire Protection District's Fire Hazard Reduction Program Account of Expenses for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

**Recommendation:**

Receive, consider and confirm the attached 2008-09 Fire Hazard Reduction Program (FHRP) Account of Expenses pursuant to Ventura County Fire Protection District (Fire District) Ordinance No. 26, Appendix H, and the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 14875 through 14931, and direct the Fire Chief to deliver the Account of Expenses, as confirmed, to the Auditor of Ventura County.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Mandated:	No
Source of funding:	Non-compliant Property Owners, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the Fire District (Budget Unit 7500, Account 9421, Weed Abatement)
Funding Match Required:	None
Impact on Other Departments:	None

	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
Summary of Revenue and Total Cost:	Actual	
Revenue:	\$ 214,943	* unknown
Cost:		
Direct	\$ 414,812	
Indirect – Department	\$ 71,638	
Indirect – County CAP	\$ 3,879	
Total Cost:	\$ 490,329	
Net District Cost Including Indirect:	\$ 275,386	

*Committed to Excellence . . . Delivered with Pride*

\* The revenue and expenditures for fiscal year 2009-10 are unknown at this time. It is anticipated that the costs and revenue will be similar to fiscal year 2008-09 but are dependent upon the number of lots cleared.

Current FY 2009-2010 Budget Projection for the Fire District				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated (Savings/Deficit)
Appropriations	\$137,249,206	\$137,249,206	\$137,249,206	\$0
Revenue	\$125,741,488	\$125,741,488	\$125,741,488	\$0
Net Cost	\$11,507,718	\$11,507,718	\$11,507,718	\$0

Pursuant to your Board's objective for the Fire District to recoup its enforcement costs for abating fire nuisances on non-compliant parcels, property owners are billed both an administrative fee and the actual cost of abating the weeds on their property. The \$1,050 fee per parcel covered the cost of coordination of code enforcement in the first half of fiscal year 2008-09, July 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008. A new fee of \$1,058, approved by your Board, was instituted on January 1, 2009, and remains in effect.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

State law and Fire District Ordinance No. 26 require that an annual account of expenses of the FHRP be filed with your Board for review, consideration and, after hearing any objections, confirmation and that your Board deliver the account, as confirmed, to the County Auditor on or before August 10. The fiscal year 2008-09 FHRP Account of Expenses is attached for your Board's review, consideration and confirmation.

As part of the 2008 FHRP, after notice to the affected property owners, the Fire District's contractor cleared 34 parcels during fiscal year 2008-09 that were not in compliance with the FHRP requirements. As part of the 2009 FHRP, on April 20, 2009, the Fire District notified approximately 14,000 owners of properties in the urban/wildland interface of seasonal and recurrent fire hazards existing on their properties. Your Board approved this list of properties on May 5, 2009. The cooperation of the citizens of Ventura County has been outstanding. The number of non-compliant parcels during the 2009 FHRP will be reported in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Account of Expenses.

Board of Directors  
August 4, 2009  
Page 3

The County Executive Office, County Counsel, and the Auditor-Controller's Office have reviewed this letter. If you have any questions concerning this item, please contact me at 389-9700 or Fire Prevention Officer Craig Morgan at 389-9749.

  
BOB ROPER  
Fire Chief

Attachment: 2008-09 FHRP Account of Expenses

BR/CM:dh/ca