

RESOLUTION NO. 22-146

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING EXPRESS FINDINGS REGARDING
AMENDMENT AND ADOPTION OF 2022 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE

WHEREAS, the state has adopted the 2022 California Fire Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9, contained in the California Building Standards Code, which becomes effective on January 1, 2023;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7, the Ventura County Fire Protection District ("Fire District") may establish more stringent building standards than those adopted by the State Fire Marshal and contained in the California Building Standards Code that are reasonably necessary to provide fire protection for life and property because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions;

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2022, the Fire District intends to adopt certain more stringent building standards, identified herein, in the 2022 Ventura County Fire Code, Fire District Ordinance No. 32 ("2022 VCFC"); and

WHEREAS, the remainder of the proposed modifications to the 2022 California Fire Code in the attached proposed 2022 VCFC are administrative and do not modify building standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby finds that the following local climactic, geological or topographical conditions exist in Ventura County:

- A. Ventura County experiences periods of high temperatures accompanied by low humidity and high winds each year as well as periods of limited rainfall and droughts. These conditions create an environment in which the Fire District commits large numbers of firefighting resources to the control and extinguishment of wildland fires. Additionally, wildland fires may impact emergency response routes throughout the county, creating delays in response times. Built in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies heighten levels of protection for structures and assist the limited firefighting resources in extinguishing or controlling of fires within structures and/or the wildland.
- B. Ventura County is in a potential high activity seismic zone. After a large seismic event, the potential for multiple fires occurring simultaneously will tax the available firefighting resources. Additionally, seismic activity may impact emergency response routes throughout the county, creating delays in response times. Built in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies will assist in extinguishment or controlling of fires within structures and thus increase the availability of firefighting resources after seismic activity.
- C. Ventura County has areas that are in wildland and wildland-urban interface

areas. Due to topography, access to structures in these areas may be impacted causing delays in response time and delays in fire suppression efforts. An extended response time will allow fires to grow beyond the control of initial attack fire suppression resources. Structure fires in the hillside areas will have a greater likelihood of starting a wildland fire, which may expose additional structures to fire. As well, extended response times will delay structure defense operations during a wildland fire. Built in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies will assist in the extinguishment or controlling of fires within structures and/or the wildland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is reasonably necessary because of these local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions to modify sections 507, 903, and Appendix B of the California Fire Code and adopt the 2022 California Fire Code with those amendments as shown in the proposed 2022 VCFC, attached hereto, as follows:

- Add sections 507.6 and 507.6.1
- Add sections 903.1.2, 903.1.3, and 903.1.4,
- Amend sections 903.2 and 903.3.1.2.3
- Amend section B103.3
- Add section B103.4

Upon motion of Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor Parks, and duly carried, the Board hereby adopts the following resolution on this 13th day of September 2022.

Matt J. [Signature]
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura

ATTEST:

Sevet Johnson,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura, State of California.

By: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk of the Board



FINDINGS

For revision of the Ventura County Fire Protection District Amendments to the 2022 California Fire Code of the California Code of Regulations Title 24 Part 9 and 2021 International Fire Code.

As required by the Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7, 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5, the Ventura County Fire Protection District does herewith make express findings that amendments to the 2022 California Fire Code and 2021 International Fire Code are necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare due to certain climatic, topographical, or geological features existing in the Ventura County.

Key to findings for amendments to Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and International Fire Code.

- 1. Climatic.** Ventura County experiences periods of high temperatures accompanied by low humidity and high winds each year as well as periods of limited rainfall and droughts. These conditions create an environment in which the Fire District commits large numbers of firefighting resources to the control and extinguishment of wildland fires. Additionally, wildland fires may impact emergency response routes throughout the county, creating delays in response times. Built-in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies heighten levels of protection for structures and assist the limited firefighting resources in extinguishing or controlling of fires within structures and/or the wildland.
- 2. Geological.** Ventura County is in a potential high activity seismic zone. After a large seismic event, the potential for multiple fires occurring simultaneously will tax the available firefighting resources. Additionally, seismic activity may impact emergency response routes throughout the county, creating delays in response times. Built-in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies will assist in extinguishment or controlling of fires within structures and thus increase the availability of firefighting resources after seismic activity.
- 3. Topographical.** Ventura County has areas that are in wildland and wildland-urban interface areas. Due to topography, access to structures in these areas may be impacted causing delays in response time and delays in fire suppression efforts. An extended response time will allow fires to grow beyond the control of initial attack fire suppression resources. Structure fires in the hillside areas will have a greater likelihood of starting a wildland fire, which may expose additional structures to fire. As well, extended response times will delay structure defense operations during a wildland fire. Built-in fire protection and reliable fire protection water supplies will assist in the extinguishment or controlling of fires within structures and/or the wildland.
- 4. Administrative.** This amendment is necessary for administrative clarification or to provide a greater level of fire and life safety. This amendment does not modify a Building Standard pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 13869.7, 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7 and 18941.5.

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

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15	3	1	104.7	Liability	4
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23	3	1	107.2	Schedule of fees	4
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50	3	3	307.2	Permit required	4
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59	3	3	317.1	General	4
60	3	3	322.1	General	4
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