



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: May 20, 2014

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TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE REBUILDING OF STRUCTURES DAMAGED OR DESTROYED BY THE MAY 2014 WILDFIRES AND ELIGIBLE FOR PERMIT FEE WAIVERS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OR AREAS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS NEEDING COUNTY APPROVALS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Overview

On March 6, 2002 (18), the Board of Supervisors amended the San Diego County Administrative Code to allow the waiver of plan check review and permit fees for the rebuilding of structures in the unincorporated area or areas in other jurisdictions needing County approvals that were damaged or destroyed by a wildfire or other natural disaster. When this occurs, the Board of Supervisors may adopt a resolution identifying the geographic areas affected by the disaster that are eligible for plan check review and permit fee waivers.

At the time of drafting this Board Letter, up to nine wildfires in the San Diego region have charred more than 18,000 acres, threatening life and property near the cities of Carlsbad, Oceanside, Escondido and San Marcos, and the communities of Lakeside and Fallbrook as well as Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, with thousands of people evacuating these areas.

In an effort to assist property owners who lost legal structures in these fires, and who now must fight through the strenuous pain to rebuild their lives, this Board Letter will formally declare the areas damaged by the May 2014 wildfires and make the property owners affected by this disaster in the unincorporated area, or areas in other jurisdictions needing County approvals, to be eligible for plan check review and permit fee waivers.

Recommendation(s)

CHAIRWOMAN DIANNE JACOB AND VICE-CHAIRMAN BILL HORN

1. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants and Revenue Contracts, Department Responsibility for Full Cost Recovery to eliminate the plan check review and building permit fees related to the rebuilding of legal structures of like size and location in the unincorporated area or areas in other jurisdictions needing County approvals that were damaged or destroyed by the May 2014 wildfires.

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2. Adopt a resolution entitled “A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego Declaring the Rebuilding of Structures Damaged or Destroyed by the May 2014 Wildfires and Eligible for Permit Fee Waivers in the Unincorporated Area or Areas in Other Jurisdictions Needing County Approvals.”
3. Authorize the Director of Planning & Development Services and the San Diego County Fire Authority to work with CAL FIRE and other regional fire entities to finalize a map showing the boundaries of the May 2014 Wildfires and the geographical area eligible for the waivers.

Fiscal Impact

If approved, the waiver of plan check review and permit fees associated with rebuilding damaged or destroyed homes will reduce revenues and increase the net general fund allocation by an unknown amount at this time. There will be no increase in staff years.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

Background

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At the time of drafting this Board Letter, up to nine wildfires in the San Diego region have charred more than 18,000 acres, threatening life and property near the cities of Carlsbad, Oceanside, Escondido and San Marcos, and the communities of Lakeside and Fallbrook as well as Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, with thousands of people evacuating these areas.

On May 14, 2014, the County of San Diego proclaimed a local emergency due to the wildfires burning in the region, and by proclaiming the emergency the County can access more easily state and federal resources as needed. Hours after this declaration, the State of California also declared a state of emergency.

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In an effort to assist property owners who lost structures in these fires, and who now must fight through the strenuous pain to rebuild their lives, this board letter will formally declare the area damaged by the May 2014 wildfires and make the property owners affected by this disaster eligible for plan check review and permit fee waivers set forth in the County Administrative Code, Section 362.1 (d), Item 17, Section 362.2 (c), Item 1 and San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinance Section 65.107(m)(9).

If approved, the proposed fee waivers would apply only to legally built structures of like size and location in the unincorporated area or areas in other jurisdictions needing County approvals which have been damaged or destroyed by the May 2014 wildfires and are located within the boundaries of the geographical area that has been declared by resolution of this Board of Supervisors to be eligible for the fee waivers.

The recent events are yet another reminder of the constant threat and danger this region faces when it comes to major wildfires. In an effort to help minimize the region's threat from future fires, the County of San Diego has invested over \$285 million dollars since 2003 to improve fire protection and emergency medical services.

Today's action will expand on our efforts by helping individual property owners with permit fee waivers in order for them to get their feet back on the ground and back into their homes.

We urge your support!

Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

DIANNE JACOB
Chairwoman, Second District

BILL HORN
Vice-Chairman, Fifth District

ATTACHMENT(S)
Resolution

