

FP-5 passes, the new Fee will be IN ADDITION to what they already pay. One of the answers on the FAQ page says "

Q: How will this expansion affect my current property tax bill?

A: If the property you own is within the proposed expansion territory (Service Zone FP-5, Refer to the Service Zone Map appendix-A) this expansion will result in the levy of your annual property tax bill in the amount of \$157.26, with a maximum 3% increase per year. It's important to note, if you are currently paying a County Fire Protection assessment this new fee schedule will fully replace your existing fee."

Does that mean the FP-5 Fee will replace their 22% fees?

Thanks

John Stevens

Yucca Mesa - Joshua Tree



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To stop receiving messages from **FP5 Expansion** group, **stop following it**.

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Audrey Schuyler [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 2:06 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Is Trona (Searles Valley) included in this expansion? If we are included, why hasn't a community meeting been scheduled in Searles Valley?

Thank you,

Audrey Schuyler

From: Fahey, Brandon <Brandon.Fahey@bos.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 10:01 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Phone Number

Hello,

I am with Supervisor Gonzales's office and I am preparing an info sheet for our constituents for the upcoming Bloomington FP-5 meeting. Can you advise if there is a good contact phone number that residents can call if they concerns regarding FP-5? If so, please let me know. Thank you.



Brandon Fahey

Office of Supervisor Josie Gonzales, 5th District
Communications Specialist

Phone: 909.387.3200 | Fax: 909.387.5392

www.SBCounty.gov/Gonzales

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From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 6:55 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion; Tracy, Steven; Opliger, Kathleen
Subject: The Sun Article

San Bernardino County Fire moves to expand coverage; property owners could pay \$157 a year in new tax

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By **SANDRA EMERSON** | semerson@scng.com | Inland Valley Daily Bulletin
PUBLISHED: August 28, 2018 at 6:01 pm | UPDATED: August 29, 2018 at 12:21 am

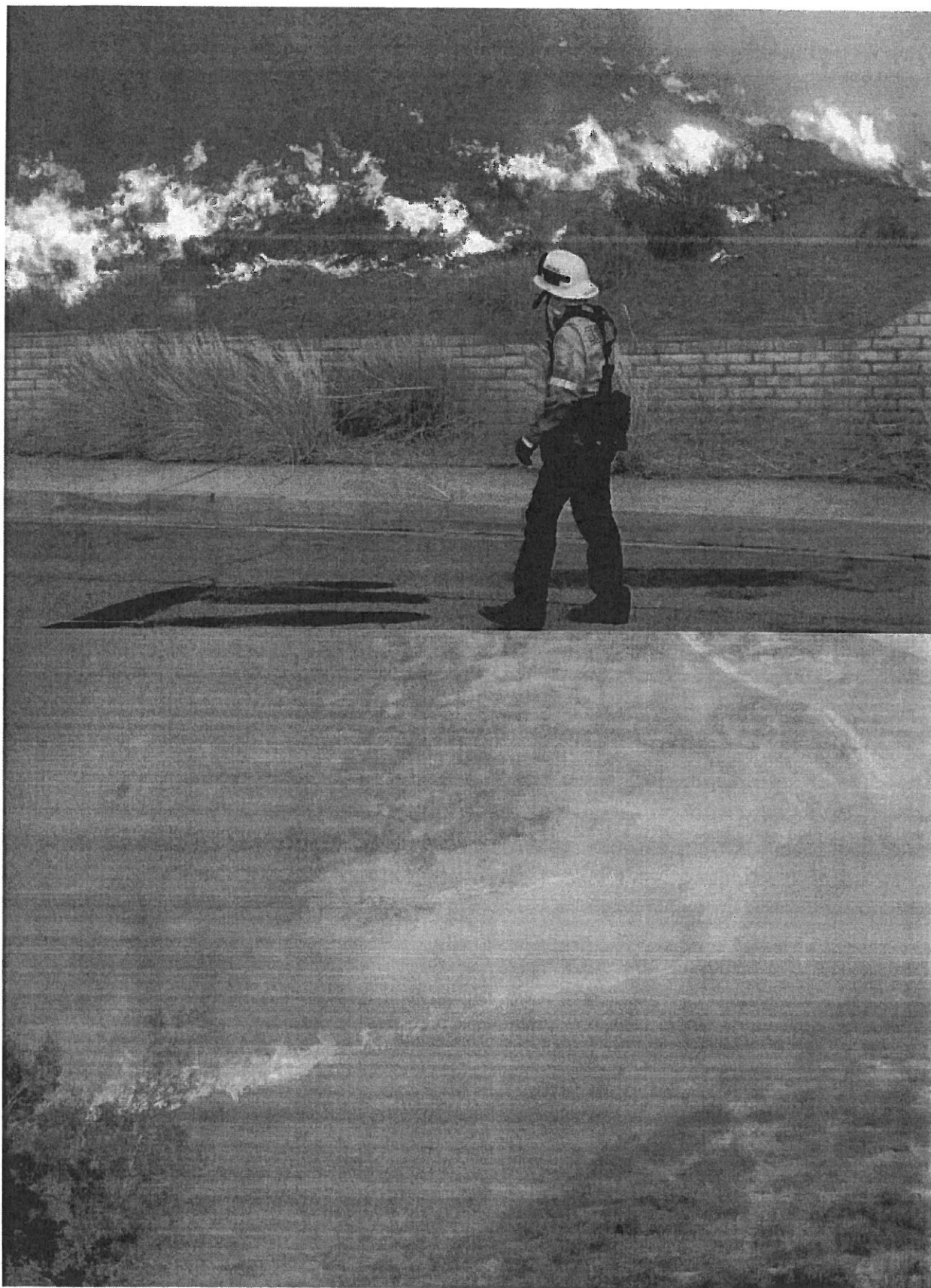
After years of relying on the county's general fund to help cover the cost of its services, the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District is asking property owners in all of the county's unincorporated communities to pay up.

Fire officials want property owners in some parts of the county to pay a parcel tax of up to \$157 a year as part of a proposal to create a steady revenue stream for the district, which this year is facing a budget shortfall of \$29 million.

"For as long as I can remember we've operated at a deficit," said County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig. "As a taxing authority, we should be able to stand on our own."

Previous

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Sound



Next

1 of 2

San Bernardino County Firefighters battle the Little Mountain Fire near the Shandin Hills area of San Bernardino, Ca., Tuesday, December 5, 2017. The brush fire threaten houses and apartment around Little Mountain Drive and Blair Park. (John Valenzuela/The Sun/SCNG)

To get that money, the fire district is hoping to impose the tax without a vote.

Hartwig has been hosting community meetings on the proposal to expand the fire protection service zone known as FP-5 to include all unincorporated areas before mailing out notices on Sept. 15.

"My goal is for everybody to have as much information as I can give them," Hartwig said. "This was my idea to my fire board. I'm taking the opportunity to get out to the community and present it myself."

After the notices are issued, property owners who oppose the tax have until Oct. 16 to submit written protests that could put the tax question to voters. In order to trigger an election, 25 percent of property owners who control at least 25 percent of the assessed land value would need to file written protests. To stop the tax, more than 50 percent would have to oppose it in writing.

The tax process, which follows rules set by the Local Agency Formation Commission, proved controversial a year ago, when Upland moved to join the district.

While some residents support the fire agency's expansion, others question a process that requires property owners to file written opposition to stop it or bring it before all voters.

"When you put a system into place that basically disenfranchises people, which is how I feel this is, I just don't feel it's right," said Laura Dyberg, president of the Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council, who added that she wasn't speaking for her organization.

"That's a whole separate issue from whether or not they need the money, and whether or not they need the \$157 a year."

Upside down

Revenue from property taxes, contracts and fire protection service zones have not been enough to cover the district's rising costs, Hartwig said, and the agency increasingly has relied more on county general funds and its own reserves.

Also, the county's more populous communities, and those already paying a fee for services, are subsidizing communities that are less populated and more remote.

This year, the district is again relying on its reserves and an estimated \$17.4 million through its agreement with the county.

In June, when Hartwig presented his budget to the Board of Supervisors, he offered three options to pay for future operations – continue using general funds, dramatically cut services, or expand the fire protection zone and collect money from property owners.

The board voted 3-2 to initiate the process of expanding the fire coverage zone, with an eye on collecting more money from property owners.

"We cannot continue to subsidize the high quality fire response times and services on the back of the general fund because it means other really important projects that we would have otherwise funded are not being completed and

not being delivered,” said Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales, who joined Supervisors Curt Hagman and James Ramos in voting for the expansion.

Gonzales said it is important to tell property owners how much fire services cost today versus how much those same services cost when their property taxes were set.

The expansion, if approved as proposed, would generate an additional \$26.9 million in revenue for the fire district, leaving it about \$2.4 million short of projected costs. Hartwig said such a budget would leave little room to improve services.

“I think my focus, more than anything, is to maintain the services that we have,” Hartwig said. “That’s the best way for me to look at it. And I’m hopeful that this revenue stream can be used as communities grow, to improve services.”

Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford, who opposed the proposal because the process didn’t include a direct vote, said the fire agency needs to let voters decide on the quality of fire services they are willing to pay for.

“There’s a disconnect, and that disconnect has come about because the fire district and the board of supervisors have assumed that people want a high level of service,” Rutherford said.

“If people still want that level of service, they need to be willing to pay more. If they’re not willing to pay more, they need to understand what the new level of service is going to be.”

Who pays

If protests do not meet the 25 percent threshold, and if the Board of Supervisors gives final approval of the expansion in October, all the county’s unincorporated communities would be brought into the zone.

The proposed expansion has caused some frustration among Grand Terrace officials, who recently pulled a proposed public safety measure from the November ballot that would have charged property owners a parcel tax to pay for sheriff’s services.

RELATED LINKS

- **San Bernardino County supervisors start process to expand tax for fire services**
- **One year after Upland fire annexation, city says it’s saving money, but litigation looms**
- **Upland gets OK to disband fire department, annex to San Bernardino County Fire Department**
- **Fire annexation: Upland follows San Bernardino a year later**

- **Upland fire annexation continues; so does court battle to stop it**

Several unincorporated communities in the county, including Helendale and San Antonio Heights, and cities of San Bernardino, Needles, Twentynine Palms and Upland, are already covered by the fire district.

Communities not in the zone that pay a fee for fire services would have to start paying the \$157 parcel tax. That tax, which would be paid by property owners, could go up by as much as 3 percent a year.

For some property owners in the communities in question, the new tax could represent a big change from what they currently pay for fire protection.

In Red Mountain, the \$157 a year tax would mean a drop from their current bill, which is \$192.47. But in Havasu Lake, where property owners currently pay \$139.59 a year, and in El Mirage, they pay \$9, the new rate would be higher.

In Mentone, property owners currently don’t pay any fee. But Leonette DiMuro, a member of the Mentone Area Community Association who attended a recent community meeting on the issue, was more concerned to hear about the repairs needed at their local fire station than the fee.

"If they can give us an idea of what they need, maybe we can do a fundraiser just for that," she said, adding that she is comfortable paying the fee and supports the community's firefighters.

"I think they need the expansion," DiMuro said. "I'm just talking about the local community doing something for the local firefighters that we love and care about."

Mountain Rim's Dyberg, who has worked with fire agencies for 20 years, said she has supported previous increases for fire agencies. But the question now is about fiscal responsibility, she said. The fire district, in her view, needs to do a better job of showing why it needs the money.

"Just because someone's a firefighter or a police officer, you don't turn the other way and give them whatever they want."

A controversial process

When Upland became part of the county fire zone a year ago, as a way to save money, a decision by LAFCO to also include the unincorporated community of San Antonio Heights as part of that change led to contentious public meetings and court challenges that have yet to be resolved.

Heights residents went to court, describing the annexation — which included an annual \$150-plus parcel tax — as taxation without representation. A hearing on the issue is set for Nov. 9 in San Bernardino County Superior Court.

"I cautioned my colleagues on the board when we debated this that they should learn that lesson from the (San Antonio) Heights experience as well," Rutherford said.

State law allows the expansion of the fire zone through a public hearing process. Hartwig, however, asked the board to also hold a written protest process as a way to better measure the opposition.

Here's how that process works:

Every property owner can submit a written protest. If two people own a property, and both are opposed to the expansion, each would need to submit a protest to reflect their views.

If 25 percent of all property owners protest, their collective vote would also need to represent 25 percent of the assessed value of the area in question.

For example, if a 10 percent owner of a \$100,000 parcel submits a valid protest to the expansion, it would be counted as one protest with \$10,000 assessed value. If a husband and wife co-own a \$500,000 house, but only the husband submits a protest, it would count as a single protest with \$250,000 assessed value, according to County Fire Cpt. Steven Tracy.

Validation and tabulation of the protest forms will be done by a third-party contractor and calculation of the assessed value will take place during tabulation, Tracy added.

The Board of Supervisors, however, retains the option to call for an election even if the hard numbers fall short of the 25 percent opposition, said David Wert, county spokesman, via email.

What's next?

Notices will be mailed to property owners Sept. 15.

Property owners against the expansion must mail in their written opposition by the close of business Oct. 15, or submit a written form, in person, by the end of the public hearing Oct. 16.

The public hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. Oct. 16 at the government center, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., San Bernardino.

If approved, the tax would start generating revenue for the district in 2019.

For more information visit county fire's website.

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950

M: 909-936-5511

tmartinez@sbcfire.org

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www.SBCFire.org

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Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Grand Terrace Comm Mtg
Location: Grand Terrace High School 21810 W Main St Grand Terrace, CA 92313

Start: Tue 8/28/2018 6:30 PM
End: Tue 8/28/2018 8:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Hauducoeur, Kyle; FP5 Expansion; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Horton, Michael
Optional Attendees: Chamberlin, John

Anderson and Gorman Confirmed

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 2:25 PM
To: Vanhorne, Scott
Subject: FP-Expansion

Good Afternoon Mr. Vanhorne,

Thank you for your question and interest in the process to expand FP-5. If the County receives protest letters from land owners within the expanded territory meeting the 25% threshold, then there will be a vote of the landowners only that are effected by the FP-5 expansion. I hope this information was helpful in answering your question. Please feel free to visit www.sbcfire.org should you have any additional questions regarding the FP-5 expansion.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: John Stevens [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 1:21 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Hi

First I want to thank the Chief and!!! ALL the Fire Personnel that were at the Community Meeting last night in Joshua Tree.

Question.

Yucca Valley Residents are saying they already pay a 22% Fee on their Property Tax for Fire Services. They also say that if FP-5 passes, the new Fee will be IN ADDITION to what they already pay. One of the answers on the FAQ page says "

Q: How will this expansion affect my current property tax bill?

A: If the property you own is within the proposed expansion territory (Service Zone FP-5, Refer to the Service Zone Map appendix-A) this expansion will result in the levy of your annual property tax bill in the amount of \$157.26, with a maximum 3% increase per year. It's important to note, if you are currently paying a County Fire Protection assessment this new fee schedule will fully replace your existing fee."

Does that mean the FP-5 Fee will replace their 22% fees?

Thanks

John Stevens

Yucca Mesa - Joshua Tree



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 12:36 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-Expansion

Good Afternoon Terri,

The FP-5 service zone assessment was previously approved by voters when it was created. Therefore, Prop 218 does not apply with the approved resolution to expand the Service Zone FP-5. Health and Safety code 13800 gives the governing board of a Fire District the authority to expand an existing Service Zone to maintain or improve services within the Fire District. The Government code stipulates all that's required to expand the Service Zone is a majority vote of the Districts Board, notification to the property owners, and a public hearing. The Protest period was proposed by the Fire Chief to the Board as a means for the Fire Board to gauge public opinion regarding the expansion of Service Zone FP-5. The Fire Board approved the Chiefs proposal and adopted the LAFCO protest process in the resolution.

I hope this information was helpful in answering your question. Please feel free to visit www.sbcfire.org for any additional information you may have regarding FP-5.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org

Steve Tracy-Captain
Special Operations-Training Officer
San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Office (909) 382-5602
Cell-(909) 646-2616
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Chamberlin, John
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 10:20 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: FP 5 - who gets the vote?

Here you go

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vanhorne, Scott" <svanhorne@sbccounty.gov>
Date: August 28, 2018 at 12:36:31 PM EDT
To: "Chamberlin, John" <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FP 5 - who gets the vote?

John

Got a question from a constituent about FP-5 that I'm not sure about.

If the 25% threshold is reached will there be a public vote (i.e. everyone in the County regardless of where they live gets to vote on it) or will only those who would be affected get to vote?

Thanks

Scott

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Terri Hill [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 5:32 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Clarification of protest requirements

Hello,
As I understand, if 25% of property owners submit written objections on time, the fee issue must go to a vote. How does this satisfy Prop 218 requirement to:
Hold an election on any property-related fee, other than a fee for water, sewer, or refuse collection.?
Thank you,
Terri Hill

Terri Hill

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

KM6DHV

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Hartwig, Mark
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2018 11:01 AM
To: Vote Drozd
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: Yucca Valley Fire Tax

Good morning Mr. Drozd.

The Town of Yucca Valley and the County Fire District have had a long and fruitful relationship for many years. I certainly understand your concern and would love an opportunity to discuss the FP-5 expansion process with you. You might know, we will be having another Community Meeting in Joshua Tree this coming Monday at the Community Center from 6-7:30pm. I hope you are able to attend. If we don't have an opportunity to connect there, perhaps we could talk over the phone.

I would also like to assure you that I have not indicated support nor opposition by any community to any other community. As a matter of fact, I haven't made a presentation in Needles. In addition, I made the Wonder Valley presentation prior to the presentation in Yucca Valley. In other words, I wouldn't have known Yucca Valley's reaction to the presentation at the time of the Wonder Valley Community Meeting. I am concerned that some of the information and figures that you have received are incorrect.

I have personally conducted roughly 15 community meetings over the past 3 weeks and plan to hold about 15 more. I have had the opportunity to layout the Fire District's current situation and candidly discuss potential paths forward for the District and the Communities that we serve. That has been my goal. You might also find valuable information on our website www.sbcfire.org. Thank you for your email and I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark A. Hartwig
Fire Chief / Fire Warden
San Bernardino County Fire District

On Aug 25, 2018, at 7:29 AM, Vote Drozd [REDACTED] wrote:

Chief Hartwig,
I hope you are well and I appreciate your service.

I am a member of the Yucca Valley Town Council but I write this to you as a private concerned citizen of Yucca Valley.

I am not sure what you guys are thinking, your proposal is driving a wedge between our Citizens and SBCFPD and this unfairness is making the SBCFPD look bad. Speaking rather bluntly and I always defend paying taxes as we should, taxes are necessary but this is the most unfair proposal I have seen. Some current areas pay nothing, some pay little, some moderate and some pay high as Yucca Valley does, 22% of property taxes.

Below is my example for the land and house I own, keep in mind my family income is no more than \$80,000, I have paid your tax as long as I have lived here, since 1976 and always felt comfortable doing so. I might add I fall into the top 75% of income for our area so how are people in our low income area that happily give 22% of their property taxes and already paying their fair share going to pay for a raise in fees when they already pay more than most other areas.

	Current 22% Tax	Proposed Addition
Home:	321.75	157.26
Parcel 1:	136.60	157.26
Parcel 2:	194.28	157.26
	652.63	471.78 = 1124.41, a 72% tax raise

I have friends all over Southern California and because of being a Council Member I am getting calls from many of those that attended your meetings asking if your comment is true. At the Wonder Valley and Needles meetings you said Yucca Valley is 100% on board with your plan? NOT TRUE, to the contrary I have talked to dozens if not over one hundred unhappy people and only one in support of your tax. We need a change, not a vague answer or to blend a blanket tax into this group that pays so much already. If I lived in 29 Palms sure, I would love to pay my fair share but not those already paying 22% as Yucca Valley is.

So my two questions are:

Why is yucca valley being penalized by paying more than anyone else?

How is this blanket taxation plan where some pay much more than others considered fair?

Thanks for your time and your answers.

Jeff Drozd

[REDACTED]



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www.avast.com

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Vote Drozd [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2018 7:29 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Yucca Valley Fire Tax

Chief Hartwig,
I hope you are well and I appreciate your service.

I am a member of the Yucca Valley Town Council but I write this to you as a private concerned citizen of Yucca Valley.

I am not sure what you guys are thinking, your proposal is driving a wedge between our Citizens and SBCFPD and this unfairness is making the SBCFPD look bad. Speaking rather bluntly and I always defend paying taxes as we should, taxes are necessary but this is the most unfair proposal I have seen. Some current areas pay nothing, some pay little, some moderate and some pay high as Yucca Valley does, 22% of property taxes.

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Thanks for your time and your answers.

Jeff Drozd
[REDACTED]



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www.avast.com

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Astran, Tara
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 4:05 PM
To: Evans, Robert; Tracy, Steven; FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

If this was the language that LAFCO uses in their resolutions, would it be beneficial to reach out to Kathy McDonald and get her opinion of how she handled it as well?

Tara

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>; FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: RE: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

OK this seems to be stuck on the spin cycle. Yes we need legal to look at it and bless it. WE, the team, believe the resolution language is clear and the intent is accurate but we could be off, so it needs to just be reviewed by legal. My hope is that Carol says yes it is being interpreted correctly.

Kyle, please run this through legal as soon as possible.

For the rest of us, Kyle and I discussed this earlier. The thought is we get it blessed and it gets pushed out to the BOS staff so everyone clearly understands so that they may answer questions directly to their constituents.

Thanks all,

Bob

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 3:51 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

Good Afternoon Team,

The following e-mail chain was forwarded to me by Chris. This is just FYI for the team. My recommendation is we don't have any of the team address this directly until we get County Legal to give us their interpretation of the 25% as stated in the Resolution. The other questions asked within the e-mail chain are already being addressed by the Planning Section Chief. Please feel free to interject for the good of the order if you have other thoughts.

Respectfully,

Steve

From: Gorman, Chris
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 7:40 AM
To: Evans, Robert <revans@sbcfire.org>

Cc: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>

Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

Hey Guys,

The below email was forwarded from Laurie (Lovingood's COS) yesterday at the Phelan community meeting. She wanted some clarification reference the 25% assessed land values for the protest process.

Can you send me something, so I can pass it along...

From: Marsden, Laurie [mailto:Laurie.Marsden@bos.sbcounty.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 7:02 PM

To: Gorman, Chris <CGorman@sbcfire.org>

Subject: Fw: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

From: Lovingood, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 2:27:11 PM

To: Marsden, Laurie

Subject: RE: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

We'll talk

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Droid

On Aug 21, 2018 2:25 PM, "Drake, Susan" <Susan.Drake@bos.sbcounty.gov> wrote:

I spoke with Tom. He would be grateful if we could get an interpretation (from County Counsel) of the following statement from the resolution:

"If at least 25% of the number of landowners within the affected territory, who own at least 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory affected submit a protest..."

He reads this as if the votes were weighted by the voter's property values but would like clarification. It seems to him that the vote counting would certainly get complicated if votes were weighted.

We had a good conversation. He's just seeking clarity and a good understanding of the procedures.

He told me to thank you.



Susan Drake

Board of Supervisors – First District
Constituent Services Director
Office of Robert A. Lovingood, Chairman

Phone: (760) 995-8100
12474-A Cottonwood Avenue
Victorville, CA 92395

*Our job is to create a county in
which those who reside and
invest can prosper and achieve
well-being.*

From: Thomas Pinard [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 1:45 PM

To: Drake, Susan; [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

We citizens are left doing yeoman work to find out the why's and for's of legislation/laws/rules/policies passed by legislative bodies. The swamps are not just in Washington. --- Tom

From: WWPOA from Lynn W. Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 1:26 PM
To: WWPOA discussion list [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

Sure.

I finally found a list of special districts within the SBFPD (like PM-2 and FP-6) but I'd love to know the areas involved.

It appears that all of these had to go through LAFCO to be formed, and I'd love to know the rationale for each. That appears to be missing from the LAFCO web site, at least for FP-5.

I'd also like to know how big each of the special districts is now. The post-expansion FP-5 is going to be orders of magnitude bigger.

The document on the FP-5 expansion website from the County Surveyor says the expansion is 11,000 acres -- and that just isn't possible given that most of the county is being added to FP-5. I'd love to hear comments on that.

-- Lynn

On 8/21/2018 12:34 PM, WWPOA from Tom Pinard [REDACTED] wrote:

Lynn,
I want to forward these two missives to Lovingood's office....
Tom

From: WWPOA from Lynn W. Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:21 AM
To: WWPOA discussion list [REDACTED]
Subject: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

Some of us remember Proposition 13 and why it came about. The year was 1978.

Each entity that was funded by property taxes (Cities, counties, schools, etc.) set their own tax rates, and the economy and property values were soaring.

The California Constitution (still) requires a single tax rate, the same for every parcel. Tax rate multiplied by value is what showed on your tax bill.

... and some people were forced out of homes because rising property values and fixed incomes made it impossible to pay.

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Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 9:30 AM
To: WWPOA discussion list [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Daily Press article on fire plea....: [WWPOA] FP-5 call to action

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 4:03 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FP-5 Expansion

Mr. Murphy,

The answer to your question is Yes, Each owner of each parcel within the Service Zone expansion territory will have the ability to submit a protest letter. So if a person owns multiple parcels they will have the ability to submit a protest letter for each of the parcels they own.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office



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www.SBCounty.gov

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Tracy, Steven; FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

OK this seems to be stuck on the spin cycle. Yes we need legal to look at it and bless it. WE, the team, believe the resolution language is clear and the intent is accurate but we could be off, so it needs to just be reviewed by legal. My hope is that Carol says yes it is being interpreted correctly.

Kyle, please run this through legal as soon as possible.

For the rest of us, Kyle and I discussed this earlier. The thought is we get it blessed and it gets pushed out to the BOS staff so everyone clearly understands so that they may answer questions directly to their constituents.

Thanks all,

Bob

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 3:51 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

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Cc: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
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To: Marsden, Laurie
Subject: RE: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

We'll talk

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Droid

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To: Drake, Susan; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

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From: WWPOA from Lynn W. Taylor <Lynn@ColdRocksHotBrooms.comDiscuss@WWPOA.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:21 AM

To: WWPOA discussion list <Discuss@WWPOA.org>

Subject: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 1:58 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Greetings.

With respect to the FP-5 protest process? If a person owns more than one parcel, and therefore has multiple Assessor Parcel Numbers associated with their name, is that person allotted multiple votes? Or a single vote?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas O. Murphy, MBA, PMP[®]

[REDACTED]

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 1:22 PM
To: Hauducœur, Kyle
Cc: Gorman, Chris;FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: [WWPOA] Taxes and Fees in California, a history
Attachments: image001.gif

Kyle, here is the whole e-mail string....and here is the 11,000 acre comment/question we knew would be coming. I want to confirm we did get that handled.

In addition, as we spoke about, it appears if we can just get county council to re-interpret or state the intent is how it is written then Chris can get that answer back to Lovinggood's office.

Thanks,
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From: Chamberlin, John
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 1:01 PM
To: Tracy, Steven
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: Press Release for the Week of August 27th, 2018

I think that's the wrong one...

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2018, at 2:49 PM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:

Good afternoon team,

The following is the approved Press release for the week of August 27. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Captain
Special Operations-Training Officer
San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Office (909) 382-5602
Cell-(909) 646-2616
Stracy@sbcfire.org

<image001.png>

<image002.png>

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<image003.png>

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<FP-5 Press Release Week of Aug 20th.pdf>

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 11:49 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Press Release for the Week of August 27th, 2018
Attachments: FP-5 Press Release Week of Aug 20th.pdf

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 9:30 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark;Chamberlin, John;Opliger, Kathleen;Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: [REDACTED]: To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

Sorry, that was an article from June

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
tmartinez@sbcfire.org

Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services
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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Watts, Tracey" <twatts@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 23, 2018 at 9:25:19 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>

Subject: WrightwoodCalif.com: To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

Posted: June 18, 2018

An annual parcel tax used to fund San Bernardino County Fire services could be broadened to include property owners in all unincorporated communities as the department seeks to stabilize its financial operations.

County Supervisors voted 3-2 last week to initiate proceedings to expand the boundaries of the FP-5 Service Zone, with notices set to be delivered to affected parties in August, the same month the first of two public hearings will occur.

Inclusion in the service zone means a \$157.26 yearly parcel tax for property owners, which can rise up to 3 percent annually.

The move toward an expanded tax plan comes as County Fire's budget continues to devour cash reserves and investments from the county general fund to offset revenue deficits, according to Fire Chief Mark Hartwig, who presented a shaky spending plan to the Board of Supervisors on June 12.

The budget is projected to increase \$18 million this coming fiscal year, to \$276.6 million. But excluding contracts and ambulance services, \$12 million in reserves and another \$17 million from the county will be used to bankroll a \$29 million shortfall.

The ongoing gap steadily exists throughout a 10-year projection, according to documents provided by County Fire.

"As your fire chief of seven years, and somebody who's responsible as a taxing authority to provide services to the communities that we protect," Hartwig told the board, "I would recommend that we do something, that we don't continue to rely on reserves or one-time money essentially annually from the county Board of Supervisors."

The FP-5 expansion is expected to generate \$27 million yearly — a figure that on its own would nearly eliminate the funding gap. The correlation between projected income and the existing shortfall was expected.

There's a suggestion that county areas that don't generate enough property taxes to fund their levels of service have been subsidized by others that do. Hartwig said "it's not a secret or a shock."

For those who already pay a parcel tax, the expansion won't act as an additional cost, but as a replacement, according to County Fire spokeswoman Tracey Martinez. The expansion would also encompass incorporated cities serviced by County Fire that don't already pay.

Majority Supervisors have opted to enable a protest vote that could kill the plan if enough oppose it, but if it survives and is adopted in October, then new revenue is

expected to begin collection in August 2019.

Without a bold injection of revenue, County Fire would be facing service cuts or continued and likely bigger investments from the county since the department's reserves can't satisfy another \$12 million withdrawal moving forward.

Supervisors Chairman Robert Lovingood, whose 1st District represents several unincorporated communities, rejected the plan because he couldn't square putting a burden solely on residents when travelers use a fair amount of fire services.

"I think there's an opportunity to examine other things," he said Monday.

Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford also voted against the idea due to the protest vote procedure, saying she would only support an affirmative vote.

But for others, County Fire's financial situation was unsustainable and such a decision had been staring officials in the face for at least a year.

"The important thing is that we begin to move in the right direction," 5th District Supervisor Josie Gonzales said, "and the right direction is for us to work toward creating a solvency within County Fire."

Aside from potential property owner opposition, the expansion could face a hurdle by a proposed ballot initiative in November to challenge protest vote procedures, county officials say.

The board also unanimously agreed to hire a consultant to review a potential special tax for fire services that would be tested during an election in March 2020, but the parameters of that tax, including how much revenue would be made and who might be affected won't be known until a roughly three-month analysis is completed.

The special tax would not be supplementary to an FP-5 expansion; instead one or the other would be preferred in the coming months.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180618/to-rectify-county-fire-budget-supervisors-eye-parcel-tax-in-unincorporated-communities>

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 9:29 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; Opliger, Kathleen; Tracy, Steven; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: WrightwoodCalif.com: To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Watts, Tracey" <twatts@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 23, 2018 at 9:25:19 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: WrightwoodCalif.com: To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

To rectify County Fire budget, supervisors eye parcel tax – FP5

Posted: June 18, 2018

An annual parcel tax used to fund San Bernardino County Fire services could be broadened to include property owners in all unincorporated communities as the department seeks to stabilize its financial operations.

County Supervisors voted 3-2 last week to initiate proceedings to expand the boundaries of the FP-5 Service Zone, with notices set to be delivered to affected parties in August, the same month the first of two public hearings will occur.

Inclusion in the service zone means a \$157.26 yearly parcel tax for property owners, which can rise up to 3 percent annually.

The move toward an expanded tax plan comes as County Fire's budget continues to devour cash reserves and investments from the county general fund to offset revenue deficits, according to Fire Chief Mark Hartwig, who presented a shaky spending plan to the Board of Supervisors on June 12.

The budget is projected to increase \$18 million this coming fiscal year, to \$276.6 million. But excluding contracts and ambulance services, \$12 million in reserves and another \$17 million from the county will be used to bankroll a \$29 million shortfall.

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From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 9:26 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; Tracy, Steven; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Opinion in Hi-Desert Star: Everyone's got to give

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

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From: "Watts, Tracey" <twatts@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 23, 2018 at 8:46:43 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Opinion in Hi-Desert Star: Everyone's got to give

Everyone's got to give

There are no easy answers in the question of whether property owners should agree to pay a new yearly assessment for fire services. But a couple of things are clear: The fire department is more important than ever, and money is tighter than ever.

We appreciate the fire service and understand why they need more money. The cost of doing business is higher than ever. Raises in minimum wage and fuel costs alone make it more expensive to run any operation, much less something as complex as the fire service.

We all understand that.

And in exchange, the people of the Morongo Basin need the leaders in San Bernardino County to understand that in this area, there are people who simply cannot afford to pay another \$157 a year.

The fees and taxes that landowners pay already amount to quite a lot. It's their hard-earned money, and it's even harder when you think about how slowly, if at all, this area is recovering from the recession.

But the sad fact is it's also not enough to meet all the expenses of a modern firefighting, medical response and rescue operation.

Look at what the fire department is expected to do in 2018. No longer is it firefighting only. It's running medical calls 24 hours a day, pumping blood and breath into people who are dying in their homes. It's tearing the roofs off of crushed vehicles to rescue people from collisions and keep them alive on the way to the hospital. It's stabilizing people overdosing on opiates. And yes, it's strapping on oxygen tanks and 40 pounds of turnout gear and striding into burning buildings to save people and animals and extinguish the flames.

In the post-9-11 world, it also includes preparing and possibly responding to terrorist attacks.

It's no surprise that the costs in manpower, equipment, training and supplies are more than they were decades ago when the fees and taxes were set.

But it should also come as no surprise to county leaders that many of the people scrabbling out a living in the desert simply do not have any extra dollars to give.

The fire department has shut down paid-call stations in the Homestead Valley communities and Pioneertown, the Wonder Valley station is closed at least temporarily and the Desert Heights station has been closed for years. This month, Hartwig said he'd like to move the Yucca Mesa station closer to Yucca Valley. In the face of all these shuttered stations, proposing a new \$157 fee is going to feel like a punch in the face to rural residents.

The people of the Morongo Basin want to commit to the fire service, but what commitment can the fire service make to rural residents who have seen their fire stations disappear one by one? Property owners will have the chance to vote against the fee proposal. If it fails, we hope the fire service will come back with a more progressive tax plan that won't hit low-income homeowners as hard, and with a plan to provide closer services to remote areas.

Whether this proposal succeeds or fails, what is clear is that the fire department has to do something to better serve the remote areas, and the people of those areas have to accept that at some point, the rest of the county may stop subsidizing their fire services.

Something has to give.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/opinion/editorials/article_aa72d03e-a66b-11e8-8b36-4b7a13b380ae.html

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 8:18 AM
To: FP5 Expansion;Hartwig, Mark;Chamberlin, John
Subject: Website

The assessor question and answer has been fixed. We linked form to the assessors office and added a button to directly download the form. Thanks Ben.

Tracey Martinez

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San Bernardino County Fire

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M: 909-936-5511

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Astran, Tara
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 9:18 AM
To: Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Expansion Polling Results

That's a pretty interesting report. The last question is a little misleading, though. It basically asked, "If FP5 is not expanded to cover the budget shortfall, then the county will be forced to cut services in a variety of other areas in order to make up the difference" and then it asked what county services would the respondents would like to see cut. It guess that's kind of a scare tactic, but not really a fair burden to put on us. Just my opinion.....

Tara

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:33 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Fwd: FP-5 Expansion Polling Results

Good Evening Team,

I wanted to share this information we received today from the 935 PR firm. The results of their polling are to say the least very positive. I would say at this point things are looking good so far in this process. Please review the information they have provided and we can discuss these results at our next team meeting. Have a good night!

Stay the course!

Steve Tracy
Sent from my iPhone

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Chris Mann [REDACTED]
Date: August 21, 2018 at 7:34:08 PM PDT
To: Captain Jim Grigoli [REDACTED] "Chamberlin, John" <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>, "Tracy, Steven" <stracy@sbcfire.org>, "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>, [REDACTED]
Subject: FP-5 Expansion Polling Results

Team,

Attached are the results of our polling.

Based on this, we can be confident that a majority (62%) of County residents are in favor of the FP-5 expansion. That number goes up to 64% after people have heard some of our messaging.

It also seems that we are on the right track with our messaging.

Keep in mind that we surveyed a random sampling of residents (as opposed to targeting property owners).

In addition, we wanted to address the claims made in the Mountain News article which touted a poll that they conducted. Their poll was not conducted scientifically, but rather they simply placed the question on their website. We have no idea what (if any) controls were put in place. For instance, it's entirely possible that one person could submit multiple entries. In addition, the survey question was completely focused on the parcel tax aspect of the issue with little additional background information. Because they did not use random sampling, their results are not statistically valid.

To give us a true gauge of public sentiment on the issue in the mountain communities, we broke out the responses to our survey from the communities of Lake Arrowhead, Blue Jay, Crestline, Rimforest, Twin Peaks, Cedar Glen, Crest Park, Skyforest, and Green Valley Lake. In those communities, 81.1% of residents are in favor of the FP-5 expansion (see attached).

Please let me know if you have any questions after you've had a chance to read through the results.

Thank you.

Chris Mann

Principal

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:33 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: FP-5 Expansion Polling Results
Attachments: 180821 County of San Bernardino Fire Protection Survey Results.pdf; ATT00001.htm; 180821 County of San Bernardino Mountain Communities Fire Protection Survey Analysis.pdf; ATT00002.htm

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Thank you.

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Astran, Tara
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 1:37 PM
To: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Evans, Robert; Tracy, Steven; FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: Additional Q and A to be added to the Fact sheet on the website and Hand outs

See my grammatical and small other corrections below. 😊

Tara

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 12:02 PM
To: Evans, Robert <revans@sbcfire.org>; Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>; FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: RE: Additional Q and A to be added to the Fact sheet on the website and Hand outs

I have changes. Will send today.

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:54 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>; FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: Additional Q and A to be added to the Fact sheet on the website and Hand outs

Steve, I'm good with all of them outside of the pension question. We can address that one as a group when we meet, unless the boss has a difference of opinion.

Job well done!

Bob

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From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 2:48:42 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Additional Q and A to be added to the Fact sheet on the website and Hand outs

Good afternoon Team,

I have reviewed all the question cards from the last two weeks Outreach meetings. The following are some Q and A's I would like to have added to our website factsheet as well as the handouts based on the most frequent questions being asked by the public.. Please review these for accuracy and content and get back to me. I would like to have these added as soon as possible. Thank you!

Additional Q and A to be added to the web-site and Hand-outs

Q: Is there an exact breakdown where this assessment money will go? How can I see what you're spending our money on today?

A: All special service assessments are restricted funds by State Law and can only ~~to~~ be spent within the named Service Zone they were collected for. A full disclosure of the Fire District's budget can be found on our website at www.sbcfire.org under the "About" tab.

Q: The resolution to expand the Service Zone FP-5 states the assessment increases up to 3% each year. Is there a total cap on how much the assessment can go up to?

A: No, the assessment can be increased up to 3% a year based on the recommendation of the District's Fire Chief. This recommendation would be based on current operating budget short falls, increases in daily and yearly operating cost, cost of living increases (CPI), and MOU contracts. Any recommendation made by the Fire Chief to increase the Service Zone fee must be approved by the District's Board of Directors. The Service Zone FP-5 assessment does NOT automatically increase every year.

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Q: The area I live in has minimal service needs. However, my nearest fire station sometimes responds to other areas of the County. Why should I pay for services in someone else's community?

A: The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District covers an area of over 19,000 square miles, and resources are shared throughout the County when needed. If there is an incident in your area that requires more resources than are available at your station, engines from other stations around the District will respond. This is one of the benefits of the County Fire Department protecting your area, we can pull resources as needed to mitigate any emergency. It would be impossible to provide a dedicated station in every single community throughout the entire County.

Q: I own unimproved parcels of land in the middle of nowhere. If my empty field catches on fire, just let it burn.

A: Fires can grow and destroy up to hundreds and even thousands of acres. We cannot simply allow a fire to burn out of control and potentially spread to an area where it might threaten lives, property, or the environment. In addition, the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District provides fire and emergency medical services that people often need beyond the boundaries of their properties, such as citizens travelling on local freeways or highways.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Opliger, Erin <Erin.Opliger@sdd.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 4:29 PM
To: Tracy, Steven
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

A preliminary search for a "Chris Nichols" in the Yucca Valley area rendered one match. I have provided his information below:

Christopher Nichols

APN:

This property is currently located within the boundaries of FP-5 - Twentynine Palms, which is already paying the assessment proposed by the expansion plan that will result in all non-district areas paying an equal assessment to him. He will not receive any mail notification from this process, as there is no proposed change to his specific district.

Erin

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Nichols [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 4:11 PM
To: FP5Expansion@sbcfire.org
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

I am a property owner in the county area of Yucca Valley. Will County Fire continue to receive money from my general tax levy? Your site says my current fire tax will be fully replaced. Does this include what I pay county fire out of the general tax levy?

Chris Nichols

1

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Chris Nichols [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 4:11 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

I am a property owner in the county area of Yucca Valley. Will County Fire continue to receive money from my general tax levy? Your site says my current fire tax will be fully replaced. Does this include what I pay county fire out of the general tax levy?

Chris Nichols
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 2:49 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Additional Q and A to be added to the Fact sheet on the website and Hand outs

Good afternoon Team,

I have reviewed all the question cards from the last two weeks Outreach meetings. The following are some Q and A's I would like to have added to our website factsheet as well as the handouts based on the most frequent questions being asked by the public.. Please review these for accuracy and content and get back to me. I would like to have these added as soon as possible. Thank you!

Additional Q and A to be added to the web-site and Hand-outs

Q: Is there an exact breakdown where this assessment money will go? How can I see what your spending our money on today?

A: All special service assessments are restricted funds by State Law and can only to be spent within the named Service Zone they were collected for. A full disclosure of the Fire Districts budget can be found on our website at www.sbcfire.org under the "About" tab.

Q: The resolution to expand the Service Zone FP-5 states the assessment increases up to 3% each year. Is there a total cap on how much the assessment can go up to?

A: No, the assessment can be increased up to 3% a year based on the recommendation of the districts Fire Chief. This recommendation would be based on current operating budget short falls, increases in daily and yearly operating cost, cost of living increases (CPI), and MOU contracts. Any recommendation made by the Fire Chief to increase the Service Zone fee must be approved by the District's Board of Directors. The Service Zone FP-5 assessment does NOT automatically increase every year.

Q: Is this expansion and the FP-5 property assessment due to rising pension cost?

A: No, this is about the total cost of providing fire and emergency medical services. Those costs include facilities, vehicle replacement, equipment, salaries, pensions, etc. It's also important to remember that SBCERA, the County's retirement system, is in much better shape than other public retirement systems like CAL PERS, which has received a lot of attention over the past few years for its unfortunate financial difficulties.

Q: The area I live in has minimal service needs. However, my nearest fire station sometimes responds to other areas of the County. Why should I pay for services in someone else's community?

A: The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District covers an area of over 19, 000 square miles, resources are shared throughout the County when needed. If there is an incident in your area that requires more resources than are available at your station, engines from other stations around the district will respond. This is one of the benefits of the County Fire Department protecting your area, we can pull resources as needed to mitigate any emergency. It would be impossible to provide a dedicated station in every single community throughout the entire County.

Q: I own unimproved parcels of land in the middle of nowhere. If my empty field catches on fire, just let it burn.

A: Fires can grow and destroy up to hundreds and even thousands of acres. We cannot simply allow a fire to burn out of control and potentially spread to an area where it might threaten lives, property, or the environment. In addition, the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District provides fire and emergency

medical services that people often need beyond the boundaries of their properties, such as citizens travelling on local freeways or highways.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 1:37 PM
To: Hartwig, Mark;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Homestead Meeting

Just FYI, homestead valley community meeting this afternoon was cancelled.

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950

M: 909-936-5511

tmartinez@sbcfire.org

Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services

www.SBCFire.org

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From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 11:30 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Homestead Valley Community Council to discuss Fire Fee today

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
tmartinez@sbcfire.org

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 20, 2018 at 10:54:18 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Homestead Valley Community Council to discuss Fire Fee today

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS FIRE FEE TODAY

Staff Writer, **z1077news**
Posted: August 20, 2018

The new county-wide fire fee will be the topic of discussion at the Homestead Valley Community Council meeting Monday, August 20. The **county fire** department plans to expand Fire Protection District 5 to include all unincorporated areas of the county, as well as the Town of Yucca Valley. A \$157 annual fee will be added to every property owner's tax bill to cover the costs of fire protection. The meeting is set for 3 p.m. at the Yucca Mesa Community Center on Balsa Avenue in Yucca Mesa.

<http://z1077fm.com/homestead-valley-community-council-to-discuss-fire-fee-today/>

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 11:30 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: ROTW Article: San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig Discusses Proposed Fire tax at a Community Meeting.

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 20, 2018 at 10:38:20 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: ROTW Article: San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig Discusses Proposed Fire tax at a Community Meeting.

San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig Discusses Proposed Fire Tax at a Community Meeting.

Susan A. Neufeld, ROTW News
Posted: August, 20, 2018

Lake Arrowhead, CA – At a community meeting held Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at Rim of the World High School, San Bernardino County Fire Chief, Mark Hartwig discussed the proposal of a new fire tax for Service Zone FP-5. The tax will include all of the Service Zones in the County Fire area. These are all unincorporated areas of the County.

Chief Hartwig explained the the tax is expected to increase revenue for the San Bernardino County Fire District by about \$27 million. A \$29 million deficit is expected in 2019 and this tax is aimed at relieving that.

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, who operate as the board for the county's fire district, were approached by Chief Hardwick who gave then 3 options to relieve the deficite.

First option is to operate within their current revenue, which is at a deficit. Second option to have the board guarantee \$17 million from the general fund, which the county has no legal obligation to provide. His third option is to expand FP-5 costing taxpayers more money.

After Hartwig's recommendations, the board decided in a 3-2 vote to pursue the expansion of FP-5.

Supervisor Janice Rutherford — one of the supervisors who voted against the proposal — had this to say in a statement.

"I believe voters should have the right to affirmatively decide whether this tax should apply to their property, and the process the Board adopted does not guarantee voters will have that opportunity. I also believe it is appropriate to have a public conversation about what level of fire (and) emergency services can be provided with the Fire District's existing tax revenue, so voters fully understand how funding shortfalls would impact staffing levels, response time, etc."

Chief Hartwig said they do have an algorithm which can predict response times, should a fire station close due to lack of funding. In our mountain communities they expect an increase of 36 minutes.

"I believe this is our best option", Hartwig said, "I'm asking a lot of every community".

If the proposal passes, it is important to note the tax is per parcel. So homeowners that have more than one parcel will pay more than the \$157.26 proposed tax.

For homeowners that also own parcels that are contiguous, there's a form online which can be filled out and taken to the county assessor. After submitting the form and paying a one-time fee of \$108, the county treats the property as a single parcel for the purpose of this tax. The form can be found at: <http://www.sbcounty.gov/uploads/arc/Forms/aoso47.pdf>

<https://rotwnnews.com/2018/08/20/san-bernardino-county-fire-chief-mark-hartwig-discusses-proposed-fire-tax-at-a-community-meeting/>

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Mentone Comm Mtg
Location: Millcreek Cattle Company 1874 Mentone Blvd Mentone, CA 92359

Start: Tue 8/21/2018 6:00 PM
End: Tue 8/21/2018 7:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Anderson, Kelly; Gorman, Chris; Opliger, Erin; Evans, Robert; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE
Optional Attendees: Chamberlin, John; Astran, Tara

Third Supervisor District

Confirmed by Gorman / Anderson

*James Williams, Captain
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
Yucaipa Police Department
(909) 918-2320
jwilliams@sbcasd.org*

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 4:35 PM
To: Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: Update on Media

Stay the course brother! Thanks for the update!
Bob

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 12:36:40 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Update on Media

Good Afternoon Team,

FYI,

In following up on the article published yesterday in the Mountain News, regarding the poll they conducted showing 71% of those polled were against the expansion. I reached out to the 935 PR firm and asked them to look at the article and do their own analytics. As all of you are aware they have also been doing some of their own polling. Their analysis of the Mountain News polling is in their words, "interesting". However, they concluded the "poll" they conducted was hardly scientific, and thus the results cannot really be considered valid. Chris Mann and I agree that we shouldn't worry too much about an article like this, unless it starts to generate a significant number of complaints, which I'm assuming it will not. The additional commentary has been light and nothing to be concerned about. Additionally, Chris is going to have his people look at conducting their own poll up on the Mountain top so we can get a good outlook of the support we have up there moving forward.

Stay the Course!

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 12:37 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Update on Media

Good Afternoon Team,

FYI,

In following up on the article published yesterday in the Mountain News, regarding the poll they conducted showing 71% of those polled were against the expansion. I reached out to the 935 PR firm and asked them to look at the article and do their own analytics. As all of you are aware they have also been doing some of their own polling. Their analysis of the Mountain News polling is in their words, "interesting". However, they concluded the "poll" they conducted was hardly scientific, and thus the results cannot really be considered valid. Chris Mann and I agree that we shouldn't worry too much about an article like this, unless it starts to generate a significant number of complaints, which I'm assuming it will not. The additional commentary has been light and nothing to be concerned about. Additionally, Chris is going to have his people look at conducting their own poll up on the Mountain top so we can get a good outlook of the support we have up there moving forward.

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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 12:14 PM
To: Thompson2, Wayne;FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

Mr. Thompson,

First off, we thank you for your many years of support towards the County Fire Protection District. We strive every day to provide the best all risk, EMS, and Fire/Rescue service delivery to all the citizens throughout the County of San Bernardino. We are sorry you were not able to attend the community meeting, many of your concerns were addressed by the Fire Chief at the meeting. However, we do have several other community meetings scheduled. Including one in Joshua Tree on the 27th of August. For a list of scheduled meetings please go to our website at www.sbcfire.org (FP-Expansion).

The County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tab on the left side of the page. The site will be updated frequently with the most up to date information as we move forward through this process.

Should you have any additional questions not answered on the website please feel free to e-mail us again.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office

From: Wayne Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 9:29 AM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

To begin with, I am extremely supportive of this fire department. After nearly 30 years of service, I don't believe you will find a more staunch proponent but with that being said, this tax infuriates me in a number of ways.

1. What do our communities get in exchange? From what I am seeing nothing. My current town, Yucca Valley, has the same terrible fire stations and staffing for as long as I can remember with no promises given by County Fire.
2. My new community, Lake Arrowhead, which I am moving to in September, has the same number of firefighters and same number of stations since the 1970's. Actually, you can say it is worse due to the PCF program was abolished. Lake Arrowhead is your highest tax dollar and biggest fire threat in the entire county but yet nothing is going to change in Lake Arrowhead except higher taxes.
3. Why does the board of supervisors want to tax the land owners instead of implementing the programs that Chief Hartwig came up with years ago that would have made the county money, ie.. ambulance service, air ambulance service county wide? The tax payers are the scape goat instead of the AMR monopoly!
4. A few years ago, County Fire opposed the tax that the state placed on residents in the SRA land. How is this tax any different than what the state did?

I am unable to attend any of the community meetings due to my move and childcare issues but I would certainly enjoy a conversation.

Wayne Thompson

951-318-6450

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Wayne Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 9:29 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

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I am unable to attend any of the community meetings due to my move and childcare issues but I would certainly enjoy a conversation.

Wayne Thompson
[REDACTED]

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 1:26 PM
To: Tracy, Steven
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: mountain news top story

http://www.mountain-news.com/news/article_790f00a0-9a66-11e8-a1db-eb1a7696ce.html

Bob Evans, BC 132
Division 3, Battalion 5, B shift
909-665-0484 cell
revans@sbcfire.org

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 9:29 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to your previous question.

Mr. Babcock,

The County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tab on the left side of the page. The site will be updated frequently with the most up to date information as we move forward through this process.

Answer: The Assessor's office records indicate you pay \$76.82 towards the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, the dollar amount is broken down as follows:

- The Assessor's Office values each property in the county by its Land Value and Improvement Value, discounted by any relevant exemptions. Property taxes are then generated at 1% of the total net value of the property, which funnels into a General Levy account held by the County of San Bernardino; known as an Ad Valorem Assessment.

- The 1% paid by the property owner is then divided up to many County organizations that provide services to all residents (such as: education/schools, flood control, library, hospital, land conservation, water service, fire/ems, etc.). The percentage received by each organization varies all throughout the County based on the Tax Rate Area (TRA) assigned to the parcel. There are thousands of TRAs throughout the County, but for example, Joshua Tree alone has 20 different assigned TRAs. Your TRA is 94042 and a breakdown of the tax share can be found on the Assessor's website. The percentage received by the Fire Protection District varies from 0% - 30% depending on the area of the County and assigned service share by the Assessor.

- For your specific TRA, the Fire Protection District received 12.4% of the general levy to cover direct fire/ems service under the South Desert Service Zone and an additional 2.7% to cover the administration of the District. Since your net property value in 2017 was determined to be \$50,865, a property tax of \$508.65 was paid to the General Levy account, of which \$62.92 went to the Fire South Desert Service Zone and \$13.90 went towards Administration; totaling the \$76.82 that your property contributed to the district. ** My apologies for the prior \$76.86 that was reported. That was an error in typing on my part.

2. The expansion of FP-5 would apply a new assessment for areas not directly paying for service from the Fire Protection District, which would supplement the percentage received Ad Valorem Assessment discussed above. Though Joshua Tree does not currently pay a special assessment to receive Fire or EMS service, the neighboring communities of Wonder Valley and Twenty-nine Palms do (among several others in the County). For those communities paying a special assessment already, the expansion of FP-5 would replace those fees with a uniform and equalized service rate all residents of the expanded FP-5 would contribute to the Fire Protection District.

I hope this information was helpful and what you were looking for. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer

All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org



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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 9:21 AM
To: Opliger, Erin
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

Thank you Erin, this is great. You're the Best. 😊

-----Original Message-----

From: Opliger, Erin [mailto:Erin.Opliger@sdd.sbcounty.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 8:52 AM
To: Tracy, Steven
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

Apologies for the delay on this Steve. Feel free to use all or none of this, but here is my take on the response needed.

1. The amount of \$76.82 that Mr. Babcock's property attributed to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District is as follows:

-The Assessor's Office values each property in the county by its Land Value and Improvement Value, discounted by any relevant exemptions. Property taxes are then generated at 1% of the total net value of the property, which funnels into a General Levy account held by the County of San Bernardino; known as an Ad Valorem Assessment.

-The 1% paid by the property owner is then divided up to a number of organizations that provide services to all residents (such as: education/schools, flood control, library, hospital, land conservation, water service, fire/ems, etc.). The percentage received by each organization varies all throughout the County based on the Tax Rate Area (TRA) assigned to the parcel. There are thousands of TRAs throughout the County, but for example, Joshua Tree alone has 20 different assigned TRAs. Your TRA is 94042 and a breakdown of the tax share can be found on the Assessor's website. The percentage received by the Fire Protection District varies from 0% - 30% depending on the area of the County and assigned service share by the Assessor.

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Let me know if you need any more info.

Erin

-----Original Message-----

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:25 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: FP-5 Information Request

Erin,

When you get a chance could you help me answer Mr. Babcocks follow up question please when you have a moment.

Thank You Steve

-----Original Message-----

From: Jay W Babcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Thank you. A little further clarity would be helpful here.

1. How is the amount (\$76.86) calculated? As simple percentage (15.1%), or via some other formula...? Is this how it is calculated for everyone in the "South Desert Service Zone", or in Joshua Tree...?

2. Will the new proposed tax replace this amount (\$76.86) or be on top of it?

best,
Jay Babcock

> On Aug 13, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:

>

> Dear Mr. Babcock,

>

> Thank you for your interest in the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. The
> County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the
> public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions
> can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this
> site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tab should you have any
> additional questions in the future. The site will be updated
> frequently with the most up to date information as we move through
> this process

>

> Sir you are listed as the 100% owner of parcel [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED]
> This property is not located in a current County Fire Protection District special assessment area, therefore the revenue
for fire protection is derived from the General Tax Levy based on his property value.
> For 2017, your property tax totaled \$508.65 and paid another \$561.27 to other special assessments not related to fire
protection (see attached).
> Of the \$508.65 paid to the county's general fund, County Fire received

> \$76.86 (\$13.90 to Admin @2.7% and \$62.92 to the South Desert Service Zone @12.4% of the general levy) In summary for 2017, your general taxes, \$76.86 went to County Fire Protection Services. We hope this information was helpful to answer your question.

>

> Respectfully,

>

> Public Information Office

> 2824 E. W Street Bldg-302

> San Bernardino, CA 92408

> Cell-(909) 665-0763

> Stracy@sbcfire.org

>

>

>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jay W Babcock [REDACTED]

> Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 10:58 AM

> To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>

> Subject: FP-5 Information Request

>

> I own property in Joshua Tree. How much am I currently paying towards County fire protection?

>

>

>

>

> -----

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>

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> -----

>

>

You're receiving this message because you're a member of the FP5 Expansion group from Confire.

Leave group:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/fp5expansion@sbcfire.org/groupssubscription.ashx?source=EscalatedMessage&action=leave&GuestId=f40eae21-8390-41ea-bdf2-5715d9a0280f>

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 9:07 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Approved Press Release for the week of August 20th
Attachments: FP-5 Press Release Week of Aug 20th.pdf

FYI,

For the Team!

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
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Opliger, Kathleen

From: Opliger, Erin <Erin.Opliger@sdd.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 8:52 AM
To: Tracy, Steven
Cc: FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

Apologies for the delay on this Steve. Feel free to use all or none of this, but here is my take on the response needed.

1. The amount of \$76.82 that Mr. Babcock's property attributed to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District is as follows:

-The Assessor's Office values each property in the county by its Land Value and Improvement Value, discounted by any relevant exemptions. Property taxes are then generated at 1% of the total net value of the property, which funnels into a General Levy account held by the County of San Bernardino; known as an Ad Valorem Assessment.

-The 1% paid by the property owner is then divided up to a number of organizations that provide services to all residents (such as: education/schools, flood control, library, hospital, land conservation, water service, fire/ems, etc.). The percentage received by each organization varies all throughout the County based on the Tax Rate Area (TRA) assigned to the parcel. There are thousands of TRAs throughout the County, but for example, Joshua Tree alone has 20 different assigned TRAs. Your TRA is 94042 and a breakdown of the tax share can be found on the Assessor's website. The percentage received by the Fire Protection District varies from 0% - 30% depending on the area of the County and assigned service share by the Assessor.

-For your specific TRA, the Fire Protection District received 12.4% of the general levy to cover direct fire/ems service under the South Desert Service Zone and an additional 2.7% to cover the administration of the District. Since your net property value in 2017 was determined to be \$50,865, a property tax of \$508.65 was paid to the General Levy account, of which \$62.92 went to the Fire South Desert Service Zone and \$13.90 went towards Administration; totaling the \$76.82 that your property contributed to the district. ** My apologies for the prior \$76.86 that was reported. That was an error in typing on my part.

2. The expansion of FP-5 would apply a new assessment for areas not directly paying for service from the Fire Protection District, which would supplement the percentage received Ad Valorem Assessment discussed above. Though Joshua Tree does not currently pay a special assessment to receive Fire or EMS service, the neighboring communities of Wonder Valley and Twenty-nine Palms do (among several others in the County). For those communities paying a special assessment already, the expansion of FP-5 would replace those fees with a uniform and equalized service rate all residents of the expanded FP-5 would contribute to the Fire Protection District.

Let me know if you need any more info.

Erin

-----Original Message-----

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:25 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: FP-5 Information Request

Erin,

When you get a chance could you help me answer Mr. Babcock's follow up question please when you have a moment.

Thank You Steve

-----Original Message-----

From: Jay W Babcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Thank you. A little further clarity would be helpful here.

1. How is the amount (\$76.86) calculated? As simple percentage (15.1%), or via some other formula...? Is this how it is calculated for everyone in the "South Desert Service Zone", or in Joshua Tree...?
2. Will the new proposed tax replace this amount (\$76.86) or be on top of it?

best,
Jay Babcock

> On Aug 13, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:
>
> Dear Mr. Babcock,
>
> Thank you for your interest in the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. The
> County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the
> public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions
> can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this
> site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tap should you have any
> additional questions in the future. The site will be updated
> frequently with the most up to date information as we move through
> this process
>
> Sir you are listed as the 100% owner of parcel [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED]
> This property is not located in a current County Fire Protection District special assessment area, therefore the revenue for fire protection is derived from the General Tax Levy based on his property value.
> For 2017, your property tax totaled \$508.65 and paid another \$561.27 to other special assessments not related to fire protection (see attached).
> Of the \$508.65 paid to the county's general fund, County Fire received
> \$76.86 (\$13.90 to Admin @2.7% and \$62.92 to the South Desert Service Zone @12.4% of the general levy) In
summary for 2017, your general taxes, \$76.86 went to County Fire Protection Services. We hope this information was helpful to answer your question.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Public Information Office
> 2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
> San Bernardino, CA 92408
> Cell-(909) 665-0763

> Stracy@sbcfire.org

>

>

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>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jay W Babcock [mailto:jay@babcockfire.com]

> Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 10:58 AM

> To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>

> Subject: FP-5 Information Request

>

> I own property in Joshua Tree. How much am I currently paying towards County fire protection?

>

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You're receiving this message because you're a member of the FP5 Expansion group from Confire.

Leave group:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/fp5expansion@sbcfire.org/groupsubscription.ashx?source=EscalatedMessage&action=leave&GuestId=f40eae21-8390-41ea-bdf2-5715d9a0280f>

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Confire ID005 <sbcfdip5@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 1:26 PM
To: Hartwig, Mark;Chamberlin, John;Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: San Bernardino County Fire Discusses Service Zone Expansion

<http://mountainreporter.com/2018/08/14/san-bernardino-county-fire-discusses-service-zone-expansion/>

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
tmartinez@sbcfire.org

Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services
www.SBCFire.org

County of San Bernardino Confidentiality Notice: This communication contains confidential information sent solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient of this communication, you are not authorized to use it in any manner, except to immediately destroy it and notify the sender.

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 1:24 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Outreach flyers for the rest of the tour. Excluding Grand Terrace until location is confirmed.
Attachments: 08.16.18 - Wrightwood - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Fawnskin - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Phelan - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Joshua Tree - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Oak Hills - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Bloomington - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Spring Valley - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Angelus Oaks - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf; 08.16.18 - Mentone - FP-5 Outreach Flyer - Portrait.pdf

The following attachments are the outreach flyers for the remaining meetings we have scheduled. The only one missing is Grand Terrace. Still waiting for confirmation of the location. Please review them for accuracy before distributing them to the public.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Captain
Special Operations-Training Officer
San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Office (909) 382-5602
Cell-(909) 646-2616
Stracy@sbcfire.org



Our job is to create a county in which those who reside and invest can prosper and achieve well-being.

www.SBCounty.gov

www.sbcfire.org

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 9:07 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark;Chamberlin, John;Opliger, Kathleen;Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Daily Press Article: Water, fire major issues in Lucerne Valley

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950

M: 909-936-5511

tmartinez@sbcfire.org

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 15, 2018 at 8:28:47 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Daily Press Article: Water, fire major issues in Lucerne Valley

Water, fire major issues in Lucerne Valley

Martin Estacio / For the Leader
Posted: August 15, 2018, 12:01 a.m.

Water and fire issues in LV

The Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association meeting last Tuesday focused on several agenda items, major ones relating to two of Earth's basic elements: Fire and water. Here's a recap of the discussions on both.

Water

The Mojave Water Agency has created an ad hoc well committee to form a link between the agency that doles out water/pumping rights and San Bernardino County, which issues the well permits.

Creation of the committee was borne of concern that some residents may be pumping and exceeding their allowable annual water usage of 10 acre-feet per year, and not paying for the overage (adjudicated water rights) as required, said Richard Selby, vice president of LVEDA and California Rural Water Association field specialist for the agency.

Conservation of water is especially important when it is not replenished adequately by natural sources.

“Let’s face it, water is getting very precious. We go into droughts,” Selby said. “We don’t have magic rainfall. We don’t even have enough snow on the mountains to give us much recharge of the water we use. So we have to be concerned about how we use it.”

The committee is intended to more closely scrutinize the reasons for a well being constructed in the first place.

Prohibition of hauled water also has been contentious for this rural community.

Even though Sacramento enacted the prohibition state-wide only recently, at the beginning of 2018, it had been an unwritten “internal policy” of the county for several years prior, said LVEDA President Chuck Bell said in an email response.

The law states that no building permits will be issued for construction of a new residential development where the source of water is hauled.

Bell sees this as a “property right taking” because in many rural desert and mountain communities, hauled water may be the only option.

Wells are expensive to build and operate and the probability of even tapping into usable groundwater is marginal, he said in the email.

LVEDA is working with a legal foundation to provide a test case that will challenge the prohibition.

Fire

The San Bernardino County Fire Department is proposing to levy an annual parcel tax of \$157.26, with a possible 3 percent increase annually, on all property owners within unincorporated areas of the county. Vacant parcels are not excluded.

Expanding the department’s Service Zone FP-5, additional revenues would be used to help offset a \$29 million deficit, officials say.

This is not set in stone however, said Mark Lundquist, field representative for Third District Supervisor James Ramos.

Public notices will be sent out to property owners Sept. 14, and if at least 25 percent protest, the proposal would be placed on ballot and require a 50-plus one majority to approve it, he told attendees.

A majority of protest votes would terminate it outright also.

The Lucerne Valley/Johnson Valley Municipal Advisory Council meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday will host county Fire Chief Mark Hartwig, who will talk and answer questions about the proposed parcel tax expansion.

Roger Peterson, MAC chairperson, encouraged residents to bring their friends and family members to pack the Community Center and let their voices and feedback be heard.

Another group is also hoping that voices and feedback will be heard.

Representatives for the California Opportunity Study are conducting research by interviewing 40 randomly selected families in the area.

Their mission is to understand how people make ends meet in America, listen to their stories, and lend some context to dehumanized data points and figures, hopefully influencing decision makers of public policy, they said.

The comprehensive study, sponsored by the Stanford Center on Poverty & Inequality and Princeton University, will sample a broad range of socioeconomic households.

It will also seek to understand the “challenges of raising children, finding unemployment and juggling work and home responsibilities, as well as what it’s like to live in California these days,” according to the website.

The representatives, who are also college students, have only received about six to seven responses from the sample size in Lucerne Valley so far.

This has not affected their enthusiasm, however.

In response to one attendee’s conjecture that the limited response from the selected residents might be all they receive, one of the women replied: “We are not giving up.”

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180815/water-fire-major-issues-in-lucerne-valley>

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:45 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Parker Pioneer: San Bernardino County Fire Chief says changes needed to meet budget shortfall

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950

M: 909-936-5511

tmartinez@sbcfire.org

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 14, 2018 at 10:44:09 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Parker Pioneer: San Bernardino County Fire Chief says changes needed to meet budget shortfall

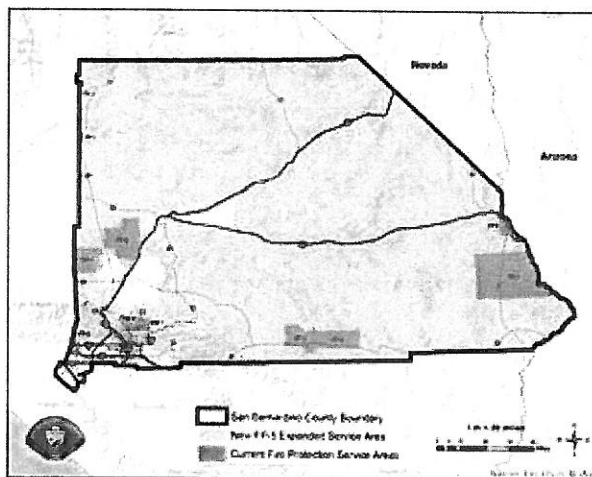
San Bernardino County Fire Chief says changes needed to meet budget shortfall

John Gutekunst, Parker Pioneer

Aug 14, 2018 Updated 23 min ago



San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig makes his pitch to Big River residents to expand a service zone within the county to include almost the entire county. He said this was needed to increase revenue to meet a budget shortfall.



Under the proposal, the current FP-5 service zone will be expanded from several small areas in the southern part of the county to all the shaded areas.

the FP-5 service zone within the county fire district to cover almost the entire county. Hartwig said the department is currently looking at a \$29 million shortfall, and expanding the FP-5 zone would increase revenue while spreading the tax burden more evenly. He said it would allow the department to keep services at their current levels.

The current FP-5 consists of small, unconnected areas located mostly in the southern part of the county. The expanded FP-5 would include all unincorporated areas of the county, except those already receiving fire and emergency medical service from other districts. It would also include the cities of Grand Terrace and Upland, and the town of Yucca Valley.

Hartwig told the attendees at the Big River Community Services District office that this was one of about 25 meetings they have scheduled between July and mid-October.

San Bernardino County is the largest county in the nation, covering 19,000 square miles. With a population of 2.4 million, it is the 12th most populated county. Approximately half the residents are served by the county fire district. The others are served by municipalities that have their own fire departments, communities that contract for fire services, and those that are served by special districts.

The county fire district is a separate entity from the county, but the county supervisors serve as the fire board. The district currently has three revenue sources: property taxes, service zones where residents pay extra for fire or paramedic service, and Memorandum of Understanding with San Bernardino County for service enhancements.

Hartwig said the property tax revenue is insufficient for the department, and they have been spending their reserves, up to \$11.9 million in the FY 2018-19 budget.

“We can’t live off our reserves anymore,” he said.

He said the County Supervisors are under no obligation to provide funding, but they have done so every year. For the current fiscal year, that’s \$17.4 million. Hartwig said this is a year-to-year arrangement, and it’s dependent on the county having the funds to provide to the department.

“We’re at the mercy of the general fund,” he said.

Hartwig acknowledged many areas of the county are underserved, including the Colorado River Corridor. Among other things, he said Big River needs a full-time engine at their station. They are currently staffed by volunteers, or “Paid Call Firefighters.” He added the county supervisors agree with him.

“They haven’t disagreed with me on the need,” he said. “They tell me there’s no money.”

The department’s administration concluded expanding FP-5 would be the best way to increase revenue.

According to information provided by the department, the benefits of FP-5 expansion include establishing sustainable capital improvement funds, eliminating the special fees for fire and paramedic service, establish a consistent tax rate throughout the county, and allow the department to maintain the current level of services.

“I’m asking people to allow me to generate revenue so we can keep up services,” Hartwig said. “I’m asking for your support so I can provide a sustainable fire district.”

Hartwig said notices would be sent out to all property owners on Sept. 14. Letters protesting the proposed FP-5 expansion will be accepted until the close of business Oct. 15. A public hearing and possible adoption of the proposed expansion will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 16 at the San Bernardino County Government Center.

Additional information on the proposed FP-5 expansion, including the answers to Frequently Asked Questions, can be found on the department’s website, www.sbcfire.org.

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Hauducoeur, Kyle
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:12 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion
Attachments: FP5 REORGANIZATION (Rvised1).pdf

DOCUMENTATION ONLY

From: Ryan Hunsicker <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at 10:05 AM
To: "Hauducoeur, Kyle" <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>
Subject: RE: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

Kyle,

Attached is the pdf copy of the revised legal description. This legal description was revised to show the total area of FP 5 by acres and square miles.

To calculate the total area of FP 5 the area of the following LAFCO actions were summed together:

Yucca Valley Fire Protection District per the City limits
County Fire reorganization per LAFCO 3000
City of San Bernardino per LAFCO 3198
City of Needles per LAFCO 3206
City of Upland per LAFCO 3216
Helendale Community Service District per LAFCO 3175
City of Twentynine Palms Water District Per LAFCO 3200
Thanks,

Ryan Hunsicker PLS,GISP
Department of Public Works
Survey Division Chief
Phone: 909-387-8279

From: Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Hunsicker, Ryan <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

Thank you consider my request, I will be at your office around 8:15...Kyle

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Hunsicker, Ryan <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:45:52 AM
To: Hauducoeur, Kyle
Subject: RE: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

Hi Kyle,

No problem, I'll be in the office all morning. I will be leaving around 12:00 for the day.

Thanks,

Ryan Hunsicker PLS,GISP

Department of Public Works

Survey Division Chief

Phone: 909-387-8279

From: Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:38 AM

To: Hunsicker, Ryan <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>

Subject: Re: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

Ryan do you have a 15 minutes to meet today, my team feels it is important to correct the final acreage number to more accurately portray the size of the FP-5 Expansion.

Our process will be subject to legal challenge and it would be hard to say all of the unincorporated area in San Bernardino County is "...11,251 acres more or less, more or less." The number should be more or less 11,000 square miles. We have a place holder on the Sept 11 Board Consent Calendar, but will need a document correcting this oversight as soon as possible to move forward.

Kyle Hauducoeur

PSC3 – SBCoFD

909-215-9965

From: Ryan Hunsicker <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>

Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 at 1:20 PM

To: "Hauducoeur, Kyle" <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>

Subject: RE: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

Hi Kyle,

Here are the two documents I described to you in our phone conversation.

Thanks,

Ryan Hunsicker PLS,GISP

Department of Public Works

Survey Division Chief

Phone: 909-387-8279

From: Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>

Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 12:24 PM

To: Hunsicker, Ryan <rhunsicker@dpw.sbcounty.gov>

Subject: Clarification on FP-5 Expansion

We had a question from the public regarding a document you prepared on Service Zone FP-5 Expansion dated 6/8/2018.

"The total annexation area to the Service Zone FP-5 of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District contains 11,215 acres more or less, more or less."

We cannot make sense of that number? It is likely a typo and if so how do we correct it?

Kyle Hauducoeur
PSC3 – FP5 Expansion Team
909-215-9965

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Astran, Tara
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Luna, Jennifer
Cc: Segura, Edward; Chamberlin, John; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Mellinger, Jessica
Subject: RE: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion NEWSPAPER publishing ISSUE

Hi Jennifer,

Yes, please make the changes. Will we not be publishing in the Daily Journal as recommended a few days ago below?

Tara Astran

Budget Officer

San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

tastran@sbcfire.org

Direct Line: 909-387-9605



From: Luna, Jennifer [mailto:jluna@cob.sbcounty.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:33 AM
To: Astran, Tara <tastran@sbcfire.org>
Cc: Segura, Edward <esegura@sbcfire.org>; Chamberlin, John <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>; Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>; Mellinger, Jessica <jessica.mellinger@cob.sbcounty.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion NEWSPAPER publishing ISSUE

Good Morning,

I am checking status on the publication newspapers. Will you be changing Ridgecrest Daily Independent (Kern Co) paper to the Kern Valley Sun and would you like me to publish in La Prensa Hispana?

From: Luna, Jennifer
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 8:27 AM
To: 'Astran, Tara' <tastran@sbcfire.org>
Cc: Segura, Edward <esegura@sbcfire.org>; Chamberlin, John <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>; Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>; Mellinger, Jessica <Jessica.Mellinger@cob.sbcounty.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion NEWSPAPER publishing ISSUE

Good Morning Tara,

Please see attached email regarding Ridgecrest Daily Independent (Kern Co) paper. They no longer publish in the Ridgecrest Daily Independent (Kern Co) paper but they can publish in the Kern Valley Sun. The Daily Journal is the company that we use to publish in the newspapers it is not a newspaper. So, you would like to publish the Spanish version in La Prensa Hispana?

From: Astran, Tara <tastran@sbcfire.org>
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 8:26 PM

To: Luna, Jennifer <jluna@cob.sbcounty.gov>

Cc: Segura, Edward <esegura@sbcfire.org>; Chamberlin, John <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>; Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>

Subject: RE: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion NEWSPAPER publishing ISSUE

Hi Jennifer,

Thank you for your advice on this. We would like to follow your recommendation to publish in the Daily Journal (if possible after you find out) and not in the Ridgecrest Daily Independent, as well as La Prensa Hispana. We would like both English and Spanish versions for all papers.

Thank you and please let me know if there is anything further you need.

Tara Astran

Budget Officer

San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

tastran@sbcfire.org

Direct Line: 909-387-9605



From: "Luna, Jennifer" <jluna@cob.sbcounty.gov>

Date: Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 1:50 PM

To: "Segura, Edward" <esegura@sbcfire.org>, "Chamberlin, John" <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>, "Hauducoeur, Kyle" <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>

Subject: FW: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion

Good Afternoon,

I am working on the publications for this hearing and noticed the Ridgecrest Daily Independent (Kern Co) paper is marked for publication. It is not an approved paper for general circulation and I am waiting to hear back from Daily Journal to see if it is possible to publish to the paper. Also, are you requesting English and Spanish in all papers? I noticed La Prensa Hispana is not marked for publication and that is the paper that most Spanish translation notices are published in. Please let me know what you would like to do.

Thank you.

From: Michl, Susan (CAO)

Sent: Thursday, August 9, 2018 9:38 AM

To: Hauducoeur, Kyle <khauducoeur@sbcfire.org>; Segura, Edward <esegura@sbcfire.org>; Chamberlin, John <jchamberlin@sbcfire.org>; COB - Schedule Hearings <COBSchedule@cob.sbcounty.gov>

Cc: CAO-Special Projects Team <CAO-SpecialProjectsTeam@cao.sbcounty.gov>; Loper, Laura <Laura.Loper@pur.sbcounty.gov>

Subject: Public Hearing - 10/16/18 - FP-5 Expansion

This PUBLIC HEARING is approved for 10/16/18.

Susan

*Susan Michl, Executive Assistant
to Gary McBride, Chief Executive Officer
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 5th Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0120
Susan.Michl@cao.sbcounty.gov
(909) 387-5417*



Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:25 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: FP-5 Information Request

Erin,

When you get a chance could you help me answer Mr. Babcocks follow up question please when you have a moment.

Thank You Steve

-----Original Message-----

From: Jay W Babcock [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Thank you. A little further clarity would be helpful here.

1. How is the amount (\$76.86) calculated? As simple percentage (15.1%), or via some other formula...? Is this how it is calculated for everyone in the "South Desert Service Zone", or in Joshua Tree...?

2. Will the new proposed tax replace this amount (\$76.86) or be on top of it?

best,
Jay Babcock

> On Aug 13, 2018, at 8:09 AM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:

>

> Dear Mr. Babcock,

>

> Thank you for your interest in the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. The
> County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the
> public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions
> can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this
> site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tap should you have any
> additional questions in the future. The site will be updated
> frequently with the most up to date information as we move through
> this process

>

> Sir you are listed as the 100% owner of parcel [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED]
> This property is not located in a current County Fire Protection District special assessment area, therefore the revenue for fire protection is derived from the General Tax Levy based on his property value.

> For 2017, your property tax totaled \$508.65 and paid another \$561.27 to other special assessments not related to fire protection (see attached).

> Of the \$508.65 paid to the county's general fund, County Fire received

> \$76.86 (\$13.90 to Admin @2.7% and \$62.92 to the South Desert Service Zone @12.4% of the general levy) In summary for 2017, your general taxes, \$76.86 went to County Fire Protection Services. We hope this information was helpful to answer your question.

>

> Respectfully,

>

> Public Information Office

> 2824 E. W Street Bldg-302

> San Bernardino, CA 92408

> Cell-(909) 665-0763

> Stracy@sbcfire.org

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jay W Babcock [REDACTED]

> Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 10:58 AM

> To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>

> Subject: FP-5 Information Request

>

> I own property in Joshua Tree. How much am I currently paying towards County fire protection?

>

>

>

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>

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> -----

>

> You're receiving this message because you're a member of the FP5 Expansion group.

> <2017_Tax_Information_0632272010000_Babcock_080918.JPG>

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:04 AM
To: Barb Flint;FP5 Expansion
Cc: Chris Nichols
Subject: RE: Sch meeting for Yucca Mesa/LandersCommunity/Flamingo Heights

Ms. Flint,

We will have a representative contact you directly regarding your request.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office

From: Barb Flint [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:44 AM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Cc: Chris Nichols [REDACTED]
Subject: Sch meeting for Yucca Mesa/LandersCommunity/Flamingo Heights

San Bernardino County Fire:

It appears that you failed to include the communities of Yucca Mesa, Landers, and Flamingo Heights. I am requesting you to contact Chris Nichols to schedule a meeting for at the Yucca Mesa Community Center for these three communities. You may call him at [REDACTED]

Thank you

Bobbie Flint

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Barb Flint [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:44 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Cc: Chris Nichols
Subject: Sch meeting for Yucca Mesa/LandersCommunity/Flamingo Heights

San Bernardino County Fire:

It appears that you failed to include the communities of Yucca Mesa, Landers, and Flamingo Heights. I am requesting you to contact Chris Nichols to schedule a meeting for at the Yucca Mesa Community Center for these three communities. You may call him at [REDACTED]

Thank you

Bobbie Flint

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:10 AM
To: Teresa Sitz;FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: Fire protest

Dear Ms. Sitz,

The County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tab on the left side of the page. The site will be updated frequently with the most up to date information as we move forward through this process.

Thank you!

From: Teresa Sitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:05 AM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Fire protest

Hi,

Thank you for coming and speaking to our community of Wonder Valley regarding the proposed expansion of FP 5. We were pleased to be one of the communities that you addressed.

How will protests be taken? Is there a form? Petitions? We would like to have whatever format is needed ready for September 15. Please advise.

Teresa Sitz

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Teresa Sitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:05 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fire protest

Hi,

Thank you for coming and speaking to our community of Wonder Valley regarding the proposed expansion of FP 5. We were pleased to be one of the communities that you addressed.

How will protests be taken? Is there a form? Petitions? We would like to have whatever format is needed ready for September 15. Please advise.

Teresa Sitz

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 5:42 PM
To: Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Seems to me that would be appropriate.
Bob

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 4:24:26 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: FP-5 Information Request

Just FYI,

I received this e-mail this afternoon. I believe we should stick with referring this group to the assessor's office for this information. What are the teams thoughts?

Steve

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 2:43 PM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Steve,

First, I apologize for misreading your name.

Second, Government Code 6254.21 appears to apply to posting information on the internet. I would be more than happy to retrieve this information directly by visiting county facilities.

The assessor's office seemed somewhat confused by my request. The best they could offer was a download of all property parcels in the county, but with no method to differentiate between incorporated and unincorporated properties.

If visiting the county is an acceptable solution, please let me know when and where to visit to retrieve the information.

Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

On Aug 13, 2018, at 1:22 PM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:

Mr. Murphy,

I am sorry but we are not authorized and unable to provide this information to you per Government Code section 6254.21. Please contact the County assessor's office for any additional information pertaining to this request.

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org

From: Red Brennan Group [<mailto:tmurphy@redbrennan.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:34 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Ms. Steven,

Thank you for your response. As a follow up question, the website indicates "... September 14, 2018: Public Notices mailed to all parcel owners." How can I obtain a copy of the mailing list the county will use to contact parcel owners?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

On Aug 13, 2018, at 11:03 AM, Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org> wrote:

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for your interest in the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. The County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tap should you have any additional questions in the future. The site will be updated frequently with the most up to date information as we move through this process.

- On October 16, 2018 the County Fire Board of Directors will host a public hearing regarding the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. During this hearing the Board will listen to any speakers that wish to address the board in favor or against the expansion, and be given results of the protest period. Based on comments and the results of the protest period the Board can take the following action; Pass the FP-5 expansion as per the resolution, send the decision to the voters in an election, or take the FP-5 expansion off the table completely based on the results of the protest submitted by the people.

- The implantation of the expansion can take effect immediately after the Boards approval. The assessment will be reflected on the 2019 property tax bill.

I hope the information provided in this e-mail was helpful and answered your questions. Again please visit www.sbcfire.org should you have a need for additional information.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:12 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Greetings.

I have some questions with respect to the "Important Dates" section of your Service Zone FP-5 website. Specifically, what is the process after the October 16, 2018 Public Hearing. Essentially, I am trying to understand both the process and timeline from approval until the assessment appears on a parcel owner's tax bill.

Please answer the following questions under the assumption that fewer than 25% of number of landowners owning less than 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory submit a protest.

- What happens after the October 16th public hearing?
- When and how is the implementing ordinance drafted and approved?
- What date does the implementing ordinance go into effect?
- When should a parcel owner expect to see the parcel fee reflected on their property tax bill?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

To stop receiving messages from **FP5 Expansion** group, **stop following it**.

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 5:16 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: The Red Brennan Group and its founder (Mr. Thomas Murphy)

Just FYI,

The recent e-mails we have received have been from a Political watch dog group called The Red Brennan Group [REDACTED] Their last request has been sent to legal and they will address their request from this point forward. If we receive any further request or e-mails from this group I will be consulting with Kyle and our County legal team. I am also in conversation with our 935 partners regarding these issues. Stay tuned I will advise as the need arises. Stay the course!

Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Captain
Special Operations-Training Officer
San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Office (909) 382-5602
Cell-(909) 646-2616
Stracy@sbcfire.org



Our job is to create a county in which those who reside and invest can prosper and achieve well-being.
www.SBCounty.gov
www.sbcfire.org

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Astran, Tara
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 5:02 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Bids for RFP

FYI:

The RFP ends at the end of August and if we are going to get any bids they will be mailed close to the last day to us at HQ. It's a wait and see game.....

Tara Astran

Budget Officer

San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

tastran@sbcfire.org

Direct Line: 909-387-9605



Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 4:24 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FW: FP-5 Information Request

Just FYI,

I received this e-mail this afternoon. I believe we should stick with referring this group to the assessor's office for this information. What are the teams thoughts?

Steve

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 2:43 PM
To: Tracy, Steven <stracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Steve,

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The assessor's office seemed somewhat confused by my request. The best they could offer was a download of all property parcels in the county, but with no method to differentiate between incorporated and unincorporated properties.

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Sincerely,

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Respectfully,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team

San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:34 AM
To: Tracy, Steven <tracy@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: FP-5 Information Request

Ms. Steven,

Thank you for your response. As a follow up question, the website indicates "... September 14, 2018: Public Notices mailed to all parcel owners." How can I obtain a copy of the mailing list the county will use to contact parcel owners?

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I hope the information provided in this e-mail was helpful and answered your questions. Again please visit www.sbcfire.org should you have a need for additional information.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:12 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Greetings.

I have some questions with respect to the "Important Dates" section of your Service Zone FP-5 website. Specifically, what is the process after the October 16, 2018 Public Hearing. Essentially, I am trying to understand both the process and timeline from approval until the assessment appears on a parcel owner's tax bill.

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- What date does the implementing ordinance go into effect?
- When should a parcel owner expect to see the parcel fee reflected on their property tax bill?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:27 AM
To: Tracy, Steven;FP5 Expansion
Subject: Re: Responding to information request via e-mail

Excellent, thank you Steve and grab another cup of coffee.
Bob

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:18:50 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Responding to information request via e-mail

Good Morning All,

Just FYI, I have responded to all but one request for information from the FP-5 expansion web site. I am working on gathering some additional information before I respond to the last request. I will continue to be the point of contact in responding to these request as they come in. If there is information I cannot answer I will forward a request to the appropriate team member to help gather the information. You don't see all the responses I have sent because I responded from my regular work e-mail. From this point forward I will respond to these e-mails from our FP-5 mail chain so we have them documented properly through this process. My mistake on that I was not thinking clearly this morning (its Monday)☺. There may be times depending on the request from the individual where we just send back a generic response directing them to go back to the website. This is not to be dismissive of their request but if the answer is in the facts on the website I don't want to spend time drafting an e-mail if I don't need to. As you all can imagine, after we send out 300k plus mailers the potential for thousands of e-mails coming in is real. We may have to stream line the responses. Thank you all for your hard work and thanks for reading my e-mail. Stay the course!

Yours in Service,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org

To stop receiving messages from **FP5 Expansion** group, **stop following it**.

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Lynn W. Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:23 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

I have a question:

I've read through the information on the FP-5 expansion web page, and I've read Appendix A, and I've looked at the map.

The Surveyors certification says the expansion is 11,215 acres (more or less).

The grey area on the map looks like it's far larger, given that the County is more like 12,867,200 acres, and most of the map is Grey.

Thanks -- Lynn

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:19 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Responding to information request via e-mail

Good Morning All,

Just FYI, I have responded to all but one request for information from the FP-5 expansion web site. I am working on gathering some additional information before I respond to the last request. I will continue to be the point of contact in responding to these request as they come in. If there is information I cannot answer I will forward a request to the appropriate team member to help gather the information. You don't see all the responses I have sent because I responded from my regular work e-mail. From this point forward I will respond to these e-mails from our FP-5 mail chain so we have them documented properly through this process. My mistake on that I was not thinking clearly this morning (its Monday)☺. There may be times depending on the request from the individual where we just send back a generic response directing them to go back to the website. This is not to be dismissive of their request but if the answer is in the facts on the website I don't want to spend time drafting an e-mail if I don't need to. As you all can imagine, after we send out 300k plus mailers the potential for thousands of e-mails coming in is real. We may have to stream line the responses. Thank you all for your hard work and thanks for reading my e-mail. Stay the course!

Yours in Service,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:04 AM
To: Red Brennan Group;FP5 Expansion
Subject: RE: FP-5 Information Request

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for your interest in the Service Zone FP-5 expansion. The County Fire Protection District wants to ensure we are providing the public with the most up to date accurate information. Most questions can be answered on our website at www.sbcfire.org. Please visit this site and navigate to the FP-5 expansion tab should you have any additional questions in the future. The site will be updated frequently with the most up to date information as we move through this process.

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I hope the information provided in this e-mail was helpful and answered your questions. Again please visit www.sbcfire.org should you have a need for additional information.

Respectfully,

Public Information Office

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:12 PM
To: FP5 Expansion <fp5expansion@sbcfire.org>
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Greetings.

I have some questions with respect to the "Important Dates" section of your Service Zone FP-5 website. Specifically, what is the process after the October 16, 2018 Public Hearing. Essentially, I am trying to understand both the process and timeline from approval until the assessment appears on a parcel owner's tax bill.

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- When and how is the implementing ordinance drafted and approved?

- What date does the implementing ordinance go into effect?
- When should a parcel owner expect to see the parcel fee reflected on their property tax bill?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

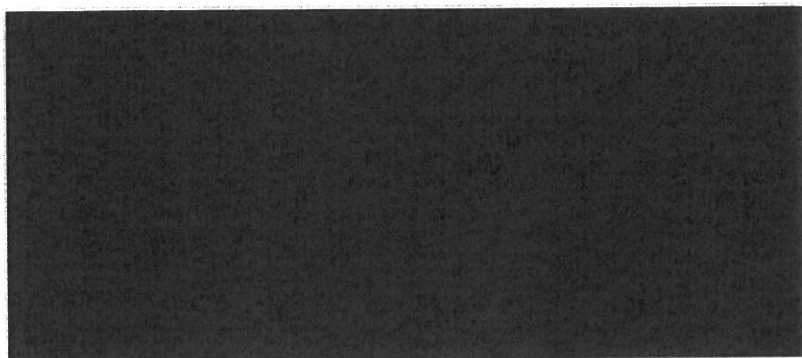
Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

Opliger, Kathleen

From: rehtul4 [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 8:46 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: protest form

i have seached the website for a protest form at SBCFire.org > Home and as near as i can tell there is not one...please give me direction on how to find this protest form and instructions that pertain to it so i can meet the deadlines you are demanding....thank you....



SBCFire.org > Home

SBCFire.org



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 7:42 PM
To: Anderson, Kelly;Gorman, Chris;Tracy, Steven;Hauducoeur, Kyle
Cc: Opliger, Kathleen;Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Subject: GT #2 for FP-5

All, just to put on your radar:

Chris will be working with Aurora for some dates that work for our Chief for a second, true community meeting. Chris will then reach out to Kelly to do her magic and find a venue, maybe the high school? Kelly, let us know and let Steve build out the flyer and Kyle can place on the calendar.

(This request is per Chief Chamberlin)

Thanks,
Bob

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Evans, Robert
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 7:36 PM
To: Chamberlin, John
Cc: Opliger, Kathleen; Gorman, Chris
Subject: Re: GT and another meeting

Understood and thank you!

Chris, can you advise Aurora and secure some dates that Kelly can do her magic at securing a venue.

Thank you,
Bob

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Chamberlin, John
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 7:33:18 PM
To: Evans, Robert
Cc: Opliger, Kathleen; Gorman, Chris
Subject: Re: GT and another meeting

Hi Bob,

Yes, members of staff and council requested a community meeting. They want it off campus from City Hall.

Since we've already presented to them, I have no interest in working through them for another meeting, other than notification.

Please feel free to work within the team and Chief Hartwig's schedule.

Let's book something at the local High School or the lot and it will be a true "community meeting".

Thanks,

John

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 12, 2018, at 7:21 PM, Evans, Robert <revans@sbcfire.org> wrote:

Chief Chamberlin, can you please advise us if we are to hold an additional Grand Terrace meeting? If so please reply to all and Gorman will get started in working with Aurora on a date that is suitable for all. Next we will have Steve build out the flyer and get it going once Kelly secures a venue.

Please advise if we have agreed to an additional meeting.

Thanks,
Bob

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Gorman, Chris
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 7:04:26 PM
To: Evans, Robert
Subject: GT and another meeting

Hey Bob,

See highlighted below. Sent from Molly...

Thanks

From: Wiltshire, Molly [<mailto:Molly.Wiltshire@bos.sbcounty.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 1:35 PM
To: Gorman, Chris <CGorman@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: First week of meetings

I haven't heard any dates yet. Because there wasn't a good turnout from the community and it was a council meeting.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 10, 2018, at 1:12 PM, Gorman, Chris <CGorman@sbcfire.org> wrote:

No, I have not heard that. Any dates in mind? Also, what was the reason behind another meeting?

Thanks

From: Wiltshire, Molly [<mailto:Molly.Wiltshire@bos.sbcounty.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 1:11 PM
To: Gorman, Chris <CGorman@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Re: First week of meetings

Thanks for the update. Not sure if John told you but Grand Terrace wants another meeting at a community center or another place other than City Hall.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 10, 2018, at 12:53 PM, Gorman, Chris <CGorman@sbcfire.org> wrote:

Hi Molly,

Well, the first week of town hall meetings is finished and I believe overall most people understand, but obviously don't agree. The Grand Terrance meeting was pretty much empty with the Fire Dept. staff out numbering the residents that actually attended. There were a couple speakers that opposed the assessment, but all-in-all very tame.

The Wonder Valley folks on the other hand were very upset and out spoken , as you can imagine. Chief Hartwig delivered the presentation and message in a very clear and transparent format, which eased the folks just a bit. Lol

There were about 50 or so people that attended. They were engaged and asked a lot of questions.

The meeting in Yucca Valley was standing room only with about 100 residents that attended. Again, the folks asked a lot of questions and didn't agree with the process and assessment, but I feel they walked away understanding the need.

Lucerne Valley is the next meeting for District 3 on Friday 16th @ 5pm

I will keep you posted.

Thanks,

Chris Gorman

SBCo Fire Dept

Battalion Chief

Division 1, Batt.1

909-665-0085

CGorman@sbcfire.org

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Hi desert star article : Fire Chief says department needs more money

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
tmartinez@sbcfire.org

Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services
www.SBCFire.org

County of San Bernardino Confidentiality Notice: This communication contains confidential information sent solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient of this communication, you are not authorized to use it in any manner, except to immediately destroy it and notify the sender.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 10, 2018 at 2:59:05 PM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Hi desert star article : Fire Chief says department needs more money

Fire chief says department needs more money

Jené Estrada Hi-Desert Star
Posted: August 10, 2018

YUCCA VALLEY — Fire Chief Mark Hartwig visited the Yucca Valley Community Center Wednesday night to discuss the possibility of expanding Fire Protection Service Zone 5 to cover every community in the county that is not served by its own private fire department, like Victorville or Morongo Valley, or cities that already fall under FP5 like Twentynine Palms, Needles and Upland.

The purpose of the expansion is to increase revenue to the county fire department, which has been operating over budget for the past few years and has had to ask the county board of supervisors to fill the gap using money from the general fund. Last year the deficit was \$11.9 million.

“We have two problems currently in the fire district,” Hartwig said. “We survive off of revenue that we don’t generate within the fire district and when we do have areas that generate enough money, like Yucca Valley, they require better services and better facilities.”

If the service zone is expanded, property owners will be charged \$157.26 per year regardless of the value of their property. This will be in addition to the current amount of property taxes that are already allocated to the fire department in some parts of the county.

“You pay me a part of your property tax,” Hartwig said. “Here in Yucca Valley that’s 22 percent of your property taxes and in Joshua Tree it’s 10 percent.”

The new fee, however, will replace fire protection assessments charged in some parts of the county. For example, Wonder Valley property owners pay \$35 a year, while others pay \$100 more than that.

The projected revenue from this charge, if passed, is about \$27 million per year. The fee could be increased by as much as 3 percent each year by a vote of the board of supervisors.

“If FP5 were to go through, that would only generate \$26.9 million, which is still a \$2.4 million deficit,” Hartwig said. “If it does not go through, then the projected 2019-2020 shortfall would be \$32.3 million.”

Hartwig said his first priority for Yucca Valley if the expansion passes is to move the Yucca Mesa station closer to Twentynine Palms Highway.

“Right now the response times to areas like Landers are almost exactly the same between the Yucca Valley and the Yucca Mesa stations,” said Hartwig. “However, there is a greater need in the city and fire stations on the highway can come to the aid of the surrounding towns much more quickly.”

Hartwig said when the stations were originally built, the mesa station was considered to be at the edge of town and at the time that was a useful placement, but now, with the town’s expansion, it is ineffective.

“I’m committed to improving services here,” Hartwig said. “I believe that the way to build the fire station here we’ve needed for a long time is through a revenue source like this.”

The revenue collected through FP5 will not necessarily stay in the town in which it was collected, but it will stay within the service region — which would be the South Desert Division, which includes Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Landers and Twentynine Palms.

After Hartwig’s presentation, members of the audience spoke. Some were concerned about the lack of uniformity in the amount of property taxes going to the fire department between different communities. Others were asking the fire chief to provide more of an assurance that the money from this tax will benefit the town — something more concrete than a verbal promise.

Hartwig informed the public that while property taxes and their exact use are not completely under his command, he will do whatever he can to work toward increasing services to the area.

The fire department and board of supervisors will hold a 30-day protest process for the proposed tax. If 25 percent of property owners within the service area submit protest letters to the county, the fee will have to be voted on in a public election. If 50 percent or more submit letters of protest, then the expansion will be terminated.

Public notices will be mailed to all parcel owners on Sept. 14 and protests are due by the end of a public hearing to begin at 10 a.m. Oct. 16 at the county government center in San Bernardino. The latest information on how to submit a protest form will be posted through a link at sbcfire.org

http://www.hidesertstar.com/news/article_496c6108-9ce6-11e8-88cd-f3a0de8101b7.html

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Red Brennan Group [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:12 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Greetings.

I have some questions with respect to the "Important Dates" section of your Service Zone FP-5 website. Specifically, what is the process after the October 16, 2018 Public Hearing. Essentially, I am trying to understand both the process and timeline from approval until the assessment appears on a parcel owner's tax bill.

Please answer the following questions under the assumption that fewer than 25% of number of landowners owning less than 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory submit a protest.

- What happens after the October 16th public hearing?
- When and how is the implementing ordinance drafted and approved?
- What date does the implementing ordinance go into effect?
- When should a parcel owner expect to see the parcel fee reflected on their property tax bill?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Tom Murphy

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Lynn W. Taylor [mailto:lynn@buscom.net]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:11 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

I have three questions:

How big is FP-5 now?

Why was FP-5 established originally?

How big will FP-5 be if the new boundaries are adopted?

Thank you

Lynn W. Taylor
Wrightwood, CA

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Gary Webster [mailto:garywebster@qwest.com]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:08 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

Is there a protest form?
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Angelus Oaks/Forest Falls Comm Mtg
Location: SBCoFD Station 98 5766 Frontage Rd, Angelus Oaks, CA 92305

Start: Mon 9/10/2018 6:00 PM
End: Mon 9/10/2018 7:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

Third Supervisor District

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

*James Williams, Captain
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
Yucaipa Police Department
(909) 918-2320
jwilliams@sbcasd.org*

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Spring Valley Lake Comm Mtg
Location: SVL Association Community Center 12975 Rolling Ridge Dr. Victorville, CA 92392

Start: Wed 9/5/2018 6:00 PM
End: Wed 9/5/2018 7:30 PM
Show Time As: Free

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

First Supervisor District

Al Logan alogan@svla.com

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Bloomington Comm Mtg
Location: Ayala Park Community Center 18313 Valley Blvd. Bloomington, CA
Start: Tue 9/4/2018 7:00 PM
End: Tue 9/4/2018 8:30 PM
Show Time As: Free
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

Second Supervisor District

Aaron Speer

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Oak Hills Comm Mtg
Location: FORMER SBCoFD Station 40 6584 Caliente Rd, Hesperia, California 92344
Start: Thu 8/30/2018 6:00 PM
End: Thu 8/30/2018 7:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Accepted
Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

First Supervisor District

OAK HILLS MAC

Susan Drake
susan.drake@bos.sbcounty.gov

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Joshua Tree Comm Mtg
Location: Community Center 6171 Sunburst Ave., Joshua Tree, CA

Start: Mon 8/27/2018 6:00 PM
End: Mon 8/27/2018 7:30 PM
Show Time As: Free

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven;
Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin;
Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

Third Supervisor District

Frank Haggard

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Fawnskin Comm Mtg
Location: SBCoFD Station 96 39188 Rim of the World Drive Fawnskin CA 92333

Start: Thu 8/23/2018 2:00 PM
End: Thu 8/23/2018 3:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

Exchange Server re-created a meeting that was missing from your calendar.

Sent by Microsoft Exchange Server

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Mentone Comm Mtg
Location: Senior Center and Library 1331 Opal Ave, Mentone, CA 92359

Start: Wed 8/22/2018 6:00 PM
End: Wed 8/22/2018 7:30 PM
Show Time As: Free

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Hartwig, Mark; Trapp, Don; Chamberlin, John; Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Munsey, Dan; FP5 Expansion

Third Supervisor District

Gabe and Angie (MAC)

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Wrightwood Comm Mtg
Location: Wrightwood Community Center 1275 Highway 2, Wrightwood CA 92397
Start: Wed 8/22/2018 7:00 PM
End: Wed 8/22/2018 8:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Accepted
Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducœur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

First Supervisor District

CSD - Al or Michele 760-249-3205

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Phelan/Pinon Hills/El Mirage Comm Mtg
Location: Pinon Mesa Middle School 9298 Sheep Creek Rd Phelan, CA 92371
Start: Thu 8/23/2018 6:00 PM
End: Thu 8/23/2018 7:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Accepted
Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Walls, Ron; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

First Supervisor District

Susan Drake
susan.drake@bos.sbcounty.gov

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Lucerne Valley Comm Mtg
Location: LV MAC - Community Center 33187 Hwy 247, Lucerne Valley, CA
Start: Thu 8/16/2018 5:00 PM
End: Thu 8/16/2018 6:30 PM
Show Time As: Free
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Opliger, Erin; Walls, Ron; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE

Third Supervisor District

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Hartwig, Mark; Chamberlin, John; FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Daily Press article: County Fire tax topic of MAC meeting

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950

M: 909-936-5511

tmartinez@sbcfire.org



Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services
www.SBCFire.org

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 10, 2018 at 9:32:57 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Daily Press article: County Fire tax topic of MAC meeting

County fire tax topic of MAC meeting

Staff Writer, Daily Press

Posted: August 10, 2018. 9:06 p.m.

Next week's meeting of the Lucerne Valley/Johnson Valley Municipal Advisory Council will feature an extended discussion of the proposed San Bernardino County fire tax.

The MAC meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Lucerne Valley Community Center, 33187 Highway 247 East, Lucerne Valley.

San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig and Deputy Chief John Chamberlin will be on hand to explain this FP-5 Service Area assessment of all parcels in unincorporated areas of the county. The cost would be \$157.26 per year and can increase by 3 percent annually.

The proposed tax can be defeated if more than 50 percent of affected property owners protest when notices are mailed out. If at least 25 percent of affected property owners protest, the tax will have to be placed on the ballot.

There will be at least 15 minutes set aside for questions from the MAC board and at least 30 minutes set aside for questions from residents. The meeting also will feature the swearing in of new MAC member Harriet Brashear.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180810/county-fire-tax-topic-of-mac-meeting>

Opliger, Kathleen

Subject: Canceled: Crestline/Lake Arrowhead Comm Mtg
Location: Rim of the World High School 27400 Highway 18 Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352

Start: Tue 8/14/2018 6:30 PM
End: Tue 8/14/2018 8:00 PM
Show Time As: Free

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: FP5 Expansion
Required Attendees: Horton, Michael; Opliger, Kathleen; Evans, Robert; Gorman, Chris; Tracy, Steven; Martinez, Tracey - FIRE; Hauducoeur, Kyle; Anderson, Kelly; Astran, Tara; Hernandez, Aurora - FIRE; Opliger, Erin

Second Supervisor District

CONFIRMED BY GORMAN

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 8:34 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: Hi desert Star FP5 Article

Tracey Martinez

Public Information Officer
San Bernardino County Fire

O: 909-387-5950
M: 909-936-5511
tmartinez@sbcfire.org

Providing Premier Regional Fire, Rescue & EMS Services
www.SBCFire.org

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mendoza, Joseph" <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Date: August 10, 2018 at 8:28:22 AM PDT
To: "Martinez, Tracey - FIRE" <tmartinez@sbcfire.org>
Subject: Hi desert Star FP5 Article

County fire faces financial Hobson's choice

Kurt Schauppner The Desert Trail
Posted: Thursday, August 9, 2018 9:51 am

WONDER VALLEY — After burning through most of a \$43 million reserve fund in four years, county fire officials have found themselves faced with a financial Hobson's choice, raise revenue by increasing fire assessments or cut costs by closing stations.

This has left property owners in Wonder Valley with a similarly difficult set of alternatives, see their annual fire protection assessment rise from \$35 to \$157.26 or lose the fire protection services, which currently consist of a fire crew stationed in Twentynine Palms, they still have.

At stake is a proposed expansion of Service Zone FP-5, which would take Wonder Valley out of Service Zone FP-4 and create a uniform annual \$157.26 per parcel assessment to pay for county fire services.

Fire Chief Mark Hartwig and several other county fire officials faced a room full of unhappy Wonder Valley residents at a community meeting at the Wonder Valley Community Center on Wednesday, Aug. 8.

Hartwig wanted to discuss the need for more county fire revenue to close a large and continuing budget gap which forced him to spend down his reserve or cut services for the past four years.

Though he was asked several times how this happened, Hartwig only replied that he was given the choice of spending down the reserve or cutting services.

“That is the urgency with which I come to you today,” he said, adding that he will not have enough left in reserves next year unless he sees a large increase in revenue.

“If I can’t fund services, the only other option is to cut services,” he said. “That is the urgency I come to you with today.”

He suggested that the Wonder Valley fire crew, now housed in Twentynine Palms, might be lost if the new assessment is not approved.

Many in the audience, which numbered between 50 and 60, wanted to find out if and when the Wonder Valley fire station, closed because of concerns about water quality, would reopen.

When fire officials said they did not know if they would be able to reopen the station, many in the crowd took this to mean no, the station would not reopen.

The Wonder Valley fire station closed in 2017 after some firefighters assigned to the station complained about being exposed to unsafe water there. The water was reportedly found to be contaminated by more than a dozen substances, including arsenic, Chromium 6 and fluoride levels thousands of times too high. It was evacuated, and firefighters moved to the downtown Twentynine Palms station, on Sept. 22, 2017.

Hartwig also described a process by which property owners can protest the proposed new fire assessment and possibly force the issue to a vote.

If at least 25 percent of affected property owners submit protests, the issue will go to a vote and if more than 50 percent submit protests the proposal will be killed outright.

Public notices will be mailed to parcel owners on Sept. 14. They will have until Oct. 16 to walk in protest letters or until the close of business Oct. 15 to have their protest letters received in the mail.

The county board of supervisors will hold a public hearing on the matter at 10 a.m. Oct. 16 in the San Bernardino County Government Center, in the First Flood Covington Chamber.

http://www.hidesertstar.com/the_desert_trail/news/article_6ba1debc-9bf4-11e8-b3b7-6b90d7425723.html

Opliger, Kathleen

From: Jay W Babcock <babcock.jay@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 10:58 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: FP-5 Information Request

I own property in Joshua Tree. How much am I currently paying towards County fire protection?

From: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 9:59 AM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: Fwd: 1077 FP5 Article

[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Mendoza, Joseph <joemendoza@sbcfire.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 9, 2018 9:19 AM
To: Martinez, Tracey - FIRE
Subject: 1077 FP5 Article

FIRE TAX ASSESSMENT MEETINGS IN WONDER VALLEY AND YUCCA VALLEY

Posted on August 9, 2018 by z1077news

San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig presided over two Town Hall meetings in the Morongo Basin yesterday. The first, at 4:00 p.m., was at the Wonder Valley Community Center; the second was at 6:30 in the Yucca Valley Community Center. Hartwig was here to try to sell a proposed property tax increase of about \$157 a month to backfill budget shortfalls for the County Fire Department.

County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig warned the residents who turned out that the annual assessment was necessary for the continued survival of county fire services. "We must look at service cuts or raise revenue throughout the (fire protection) district," he said. Reporter Mike Lipsitz reports on the Wonder Valley meeting...

About 60 people turned out yesterday to hear from county fire personnel about the proposed expansion and per parcel tax. The expansion would bring almost all of the county's unincorporated communities as well as Yucca Valley into Fire Protection District 5, a total of 19,000 square miles. The proposal comes in response to a \$29.3 million budget shortfall that county fire is grappling to manage. The shortfall is not new. In recent years the department has relied on bailouts from the board of supervisors and has spent down reserves from \$43 million to less than \$4 million in as many years.

The future of the now closed Wonder Valley Fire Station was a chief concern for many at yesterday's meeting. That station was closed more than a year ago because, according to county fire, of contaminated water there. Hartwig said dealing with the water issue and reopening the station was something the department wants to see, but the current climate doesn't allow any guarantees. Property owners can protest and theoretically kill the plan in an upcoming special protest vote.

After visiting Wonder Valley Wednesday to explain the proposed expansion into the county's Fire Protection District 5, County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig went to Yucca Valley where his message was the same. Managing editor Tami Roleff attended the Yucca Valley meeting, where Hartwig said Yucca Valley residents would benefit from the proposed expansion...

The county fire department is funded through property taxes, contracts with other cities for fire protection, and \$17 million from the county's general fund. (The amount of property taxes collected for the fire department varies by city; 22 percent of Yucca Valley property taxes go to the fire department, while it's only 10 percent

from Joshua Tree property taxes, and 3 percent from Wonder Valley property taxes.) That's not enough though; the county fire department has had to spend \$12 million from its reserve fund for the past several years to meet expenses. County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig said last night that if the proposed expansion is not approved by property owners, services will be cut, although specific cuts were not mentioned at this time.

But if the expansion into Fire Protection District 5 is approved, Hartwig said it is his priority—and that of County Supervisor James Ramos—to have two new fire stations built in Yucca Valley, which would include relocating Station 42 from the Mesa to the center of Yucca Valley. The fire department would still request the \$17 million from the county even after the expansion, but instead of using it for expenses, the fire department would go toward the cost of Yucca Valley's new fire stations.

The expansion plan is structured so that it will automatically go into effect unless 25 percent of affected property owners throughout the county submit a protest form. If they do, the proposal will go on the ballot as a voter initiative. If 50 percent submit the forms, the measure will be killed altogether. Protest forms will be mailed to eligible property owners September 14 and must be submitted by October 16.

<http://www.sbcfire.org/ServiceZoneFP-5.aspx>

<http://z1077fm.com/fire-tax-assessment-meetings-in-wonder-valley-and-yucca-valley/>

From: Tracy, Steven
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2018 3:14 PM
To: FP5 Expansion
Subject: PIO Brief

PIO BRIEF FOR August 7, 2018
SERVICE ZONE FP-5 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Good Afternoon team,

The following is short PIO Brief regarding what we have done so far for public outreach regarding media releases and there alike for the Outreach meetings.

All this week's meetings have been posted on the department Facebook site under the events section. We have targeted a certain market group that encompasses the high percentage of home owners in each area with an age group of 25 to 65 years of age. In addition to the posting of the flyers we have also distributed the flyers via e-mail to different community groups and community leaders, for them to distribute the flyers as they see necessary.

The following is some basic numbers of analytics for the last two days for what we have posted. I will forward a more detailed report at the end of the week when I receive the report from Ben.

Facebook meeting event flyer:

Grand Terrace-22 shares, 30 interested, 4 attending.

Wonder Valley-6 shares, 3 interested, 0 attending.

Yucca Valley-16 shares, 23 interested, 1 attending.

Big River- 8 shares, 8 interested, 4 attending.

Havasu Landing- 7 shares, 5 interested, 4 attending.

Additionally, in preparing for potential community concerns that may become media stories. The PIO shop has been gathering information from previous issues from different communities as it relates to Fire Services. I wanted to share this link from Wonder Valley with you, it has a list of questions they asked from the fire department back in 2015. Some of these may be asked in tomorrow's meeting and I wanted to give you a chance to look at these so we have time to prepare if in fact they do ask any of these questions. Some are out of reach at this point but others may have some validity. I have also forwarded this link to the Chiefs office as well. The link is:
<http://wondervalleycsa.blogspot.com/2015/12/questions-asked-of-county-fire-and.html>

The following comments were posted on the Desert Star website after they ran the story on tomorrows meetings. These were the only two comments as of noon today.

PLEASE have another meeting in Wonder Valley on Saturday morning for those of us who must work to earn a living! We were given less than a week's notice of this meeting, and the meeting is scheduled during usual working hours. I resent having to drive all the way

to Yucca Valley - 45 minutes each way, and \$11 in gas - to get the information needed. Kindly schedule another meeting, and schedule all future community meetings on Saturday mornings, when the community is able to attend. Thank you.

In JT we pay all kinds of taxes, but the quality of service is questionable. Taxing is one thing, but can you justify your response to emergency. How quickly can you get to an emergency on roads that are not paved and have no street signs. That's my question. Can you breakdown the annual cost to homeowners i.e. Truck, building maintenance, staff training and pay(if any). Etc.
Time for change

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Also if you see or hear about any negative commentary through social media or the press, please forward me the link or screen shot so I can document and if needed investigate the source. This is very important so we can evaluate the risk and if the story or comments will generate a greater concern to our objectives.

Yours in service,

Steve Tracy-Public Information Officer
All Risk Incident Management Team
San Bernardino County Team-1
2824 E. W Street Bldg-302
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Cell-(909) 665-0763
Stracy@sbcfire.org