



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

August 11, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF TAX RATE LEVY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-16
VOTER-APPROVED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the attached resolution will authorize the Fiscal Year 2015-16 levy of the voter-approved Consolidated Fire Protection District's (Fire District's) special tax generating an estimated \$79 million for fire protection and emergency medical services throughout the Fire District. The rates would remain the same as the 2014-15 levy.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

1. Adopt the attached resolution setting the Fiscal Year 2015-16 tax rate for the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County voter-approved special tax at the same rates as the 2014-15 special tax levy.
2. Instruct the Fire Chief and the Auditor-Controller to take all actions necessary to implement the special tax levy at the rates specified in the attached resolution for Fiscal Year 2015 16.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended special tax rates for Fiscal Year 2015-16 will generate approximately \$79 million in special tax revenue necessary for the provision of fire protection and emergency medical services. The recommended rates are the same rates as those levied in Fiscal Year 2014-

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

41 August 11, 2015


PATRICK OGAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

15. The rate for a single family home would remain \$64.78, with various rates for other property use types, as specified in the attached resolution.

Special tax revenue is an essential component in funding fire protection and emergency medical services. Of the Fire District's \$1.06 billion Final Adopted Budget for 2014-15, the special tax funded 7% of the Fire District's overall expenditures.

The District continues our commitment to manage our budget prudently with sensible business practices in providing essential fire prevention and emergency services. Increases in property tax revenues in recent years have helped fund the rising budgetary needs of the District. We are projecting a 6% increase in property tax revenue in Fiscal Year 2015-16, which will help fund the increase in the District's normal operating expenses.

Critical infrastructure needs continue to be a concern for the District. A two-year, multiphase needs assessment is underway of District facilities. As assessments are completed, a plan will be developed to fund the extraordinary liabilities identified. The plan may include increases in the special tax in future years. When completed, the District will report to your Board on the findings and recommendations for your Board's future consideration.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (ICOC) met on June 18, 2015, and made the required annual finding that the Fire District is using the special tax funds only for providing fire protection and emergency medical services. Their report is attached.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action is consistent with the Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1), as the special tax provides revenue essential for maintaining fire protection and emergency medical services. It also satisfies the Strategic Plan Goal of Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2), as approving this action will provide funding for continuous, quality fire protection and emergency medical services throughout the Fire District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The District's adopted Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget reflects \$79 million in special tax revenue, which is the estimated revenue of the special tax when levied at the existing Fiscal Year 2014-15 rates.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

California Health and Safety Code Section 13911 and California Government Code Section 50075 et seq. authorize the levying of the special tax. Your Board may levy the rate at any amount up to the maximum rates as indicated on Exhibit I of the attached resolution. Approval of the resolution will levy the special tax at a rate of \$64.78 per single family home, with rates for other property use types as specified in the resolution.

County Counsel has approved the resolution as to form.

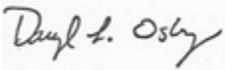
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Levying the special tax rate at \$64.78 per single family home, with rates for other property use types as specified in the resolution, will generate essential funding to continue providing fire protection and emergency medical services to the residents of Los Angeles County protected by the Fire District.

CONCLUSION

Upon adoption by your Honorable Board, please instruct the Acting Executive Officer, Clerk of the Board to return two (2) copies of the Minute Order and/or this approved letter and resolution, as applicable, to this office.

Respectfully submitted,



DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF, FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

DLO:kc

Enclosures

c: Interim Chief Executive Officer
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
FIXING THE SPECIAL TAX RATE FOR THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
AND LEVYING THE SPECIAL TAX UPON THE
TAXABLE PROPERTY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

WHEREAS, on June 3, 1997, the voters within the cities of Agoura Hills, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Bradbury, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, Irwindale, La Canada Flintridge, Lakewood, La Mirada, Lancaster, La Puente, Lawndale, Lomita, Malibu, Maywood, Norwalk, Palmdale, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, Santa Clarita, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, Temple City, Walnut, West Hollywood, Westlake Village and Whittier, and within the unincorporated area of the County of Los Angeles (the "County"), approved a special tax for fire protection and paramedic services (the "special tax"); and

WHEREAS, certain special tax rates were approved, based upon property use type and size of improvements, to be annually adjusted by a maximum of the lesser of (i) 2 percent or (ii) the California Consumer Price Index, which maximum special tax

rates are herein specified in Exhibit 1 attached to this Resolution, hereinafter referred to as "maximum rates"; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors may annually levy an amount up to the maximum rates for the special tax as approved by the voters; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to levy the special tax at rates less than the maximum rates allowed, as specified and fixed in Exhibit 2 attached to this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 13911 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California and Section 50075 *et seq.* of the Government Code of the State of California, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, acting as the governing body of the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County, does hereby levy the special tax upon the taxable property of the County within the cities of Agoura Hills, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Bradbury, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, Irwindale, La Canada Flintridge, Lakewood, La Mirada, Lancaster, La Puente, Lawndale, Lomita, Malibu, Maywood, Norwalk, Palmdale, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, Santa Clarita, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, Temple City, Walnut, West Hollywood, Westlake Village and Whittier, and within the unincorporated area of the County, at rates less than the maximum rates allowed, as specified and fixed in Exhibit 2 attached to this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on the 11th day of August, 2015,
adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and *ex-officio* the
governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and
authorities for which said Board so acts.



PATRICK OGAWA, Acting Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County
of Los Angeles

By Lachelle Amitheman
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY C. WICKHAM
Interim County Counsel

By Scott Kuhn
Scott Kuhn, Principal Deputy

SUMMARY OF MAXIMUM RATES FOR PROPOSITION E
VOTER-APPROVED SPECIAL TAX FOR THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

LAND USE	MAXIMUM RATES*	
	<i>(1.998% Increase)</i>	
	2014-15	2015-16
Single Family Residential	\$64.78	\$66.07
Mobile Home in Park	32.39	33.04
Multiple Family Residential	81.82	83.46
+ Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)	0.0084	0.0086
+ Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)	0.0079	0.0081
Non-Residential	78.40	79.97
+ Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0528	0.0539
+ Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0508	0.0518
High Rise	95.43	97.34
+ Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0645	0.0658
+ Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0616	0.0628
Special Use	119.30	121.68
+ Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0805	0.0821
+ Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	0.0769	0.0784
Vacant-2 acres or less	16.20	16.52
Vacant-2+ acres to 10 acres	21.37	21.80
Vacant-10+ acres to 50 acres	42.77	43.63
Vacant-50+ acres	64.78	66.07

* Maximum rates may not necessarily be the actual rates imposed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

** Capped at 100,000 square feet.

See Appendix A to the Amended and Restated Resolution of the Board of Supervisors March 4, 1997 for a full explanation of land use categories and the application of the special tax rates.

**PROPOSITION E — VOTER-APPROVED SPECIAL TAX FOR THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

Special Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Land Use	Special Tax Rate	Special Tax Rate w/Sprinkler Credit
Single Family Residential	\$64.78	NOT APPLICABLE
Mobile Home in Park	\$32.39	NOT APPLICABLE
Multiple Family Residential	\$81.82 + \$.0084 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.	\$81.82 + \$.0079 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.
Non-Residential	\$78.40 + \$.0528 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$78.40 + \$.0508 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*
High Rise	\$95.43 + \$.0645 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$95.43 + \$.0616 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*
Special Use	\$119.30 + \$.0805 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$119.30 + \$.0769 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*
Vacant Land - 2 acres or less	\$16.20	NOT APPLICABLE
Vacant Land - more than 2 acres and less than or equal to 10 acres	\$21.37	NOT APPLICABLE
Vacant Land - more than 10 acres and less than or equal to 50 acres	\$42.77	NOT APPLICABLE
Vacant Land - more than 50 acres	\$64.78	NOT APPLICABLE

*Capped at 100,000 square feet per parcel.

INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Los Angeles County Fire Department Special Tax

June 18, 2015

Committee Members
Bryce Anderson
James Dear
Jim Goldsworthy
Jose A. Gomez
Pilar M. Hoyos

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Ex Officio Member
Isaac D. Barcelona

Dear Supervisors:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FINDINGS

The purpose of this letter is to report the findings of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee's (ICOC) review of the expenditure of the Fire Department's special tax revenue. As required by the provisions of the Proposition E special tax measure of 1997, the ICOC was provided and reviewed the Fire Station Final 2014-15 Staffing Costs dated June 4, 2015, the Funding Sources for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services for Fire Station Personnel chart for Fiscal Year 2014-15, and the History of Special Tax Levy through 2014-15 to determine that the special tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2014-15 was expended for fire protection or paramedic rescue services.

Background

In accordance with Proposition E, the Board established the ICOC. The ICOC consists of a representative from each Board office, a city council representative appointed by the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee and the Chair of the Los Angeles County Economy and Efficiency Commission as an *ex officio* member. The duties prescribed for the ICOC are as follows:

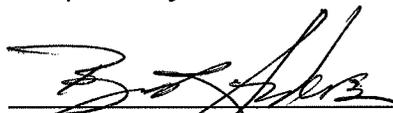
- Meet at least once in each fiscal year.
- Review expenditures paid from the special tax to ensure that such expenditures are for "Fire Protection or Paramedic Rescue Services," which specifically include emergency paramedic rescue, firefighting, search and rescue, and hazardous materials and disaster response.
- Report the Committee's findings to the Board of Supervisors, which satisfies the public reporting requirement.

The ICOC met on June 18, 2015, at which time Committee members were briefed on the Fiscal Year 2015-16 funding and expenditure projections.

Findings

With regard to the expenditure of special tax revenues in 2014-15, the Committee finds that the 2014-15 special tax revenues of \$78.9 million were expended for fire protection and paramedic services of \$491.9 million in accordance with provisions of Proposition E.

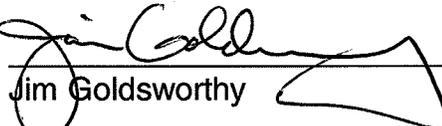
Respectfully submitted,



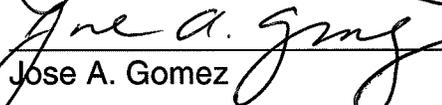
Bryce Anderson

(unavailable to sign)

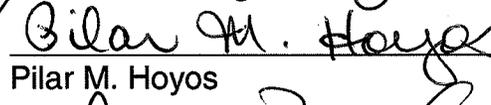
James Dear



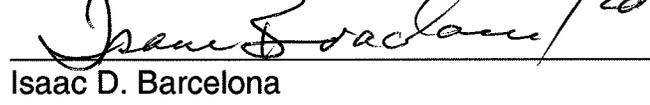
Jim Goldsworthy



Jose A. Gomez



Pilar M. Hoyos



Isaac D. Barcelona



lb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors