

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER

December 17, 2024

REPORT ON THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR MEASURE E

The Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (Fire District) is responsible for protecting the lives and property of 4 million residents living in 60 cities, including the City of La Habra in Orange County, and the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The Fire District has a budget of \$1.6 billion with a projected structural deficit of \$18 million.

Measure E, a citizen's initiative, was placed on the November ballot for the voters' consideration as a solution to address the Fire District's deficit. Measure E imposes a special tax of six cents (\$0.06) per square foot of structural improvements, excluding the square footage of improvements used for parking, on all taxable parcels. The tax also only applies to the parcels located within the Fire District and is expected to generate approximately \$152 million in annual revenue. The measure was approved by the voters by 55.05%.

The revenue generated from this special tax will enable the Fire District to replace, upgrade, and maintain communications and information technology systems, including but not limited to, technologies to dispatch 9-1-1 calls from cell phones for faster responses; purchase, replace, and maintain fire engines and equipment; improve fire protection in wildfire zones; and to hire and train additional firefighters and paramedics to meet national staffing standards.

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MOTION

SOLIS	_____
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HAHN	_____
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The Fire District’s Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee, established in 1997, shall provide annual review of the special tax to ensure that the revenue generated by the special tax is expended only for the purposes specified and annually report the findings of its review to the Board of Supervisors and to the public.

Additionally, the Auditor-Controller will require a report be prepared by an independent auditor and filed with the Board no later than December 31st of each year, stating the amount of special tax proceeds collected and expended and the status of all projects or description of any services or programs funded from proceeds of the special tax. It is important for the public to understand how the Fire District plans on implementing this new revenue stream including how it will prioritize areas of critical need and the impact it will have on fire response.

I, THEREFORE MOVE, that the Board of Supervisors: Request the Fire Chief to provide a verbal presentation to the Board at its January 7, 2025, meeting outlining his implementation plan for Measure E.

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KB:scem