

FINDINGS

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

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

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

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

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

| Item # | Article Number | Chapter Number | Section Number | Section Title | Findings |
|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|----------|
| 1 | 1 | | 1.1 | Findings | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | | 1.2 | Purpose | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | | 1.3 | Authority | 4 |
| 4 | | | 1.4 | Adoption | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | | 1.5 | Filing with the Clerk of the Board | 4 |
| 6 | 1 | | 1.6 | Copies of Code for sale to the public | 4 |
| 7 | 2 | | 2.1 | Repeal | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | | 2.2 | References to prior code | 4 |
| 9 | 3 | | 3.1 | Amendments | 4 |
| 10 | 3 | 1 | 101.1 | Title | 4 |
| 11 | 3 | 1 | 102.7 | Referenced codes and standards | 4 |
| 12 | 3 | 1 | 103.1 | General | 4 |
| 13 | 3 | 1 | 104.5 | Notices and orders | 4 |
| 14 | 3 | 1 | 104.5.1 | Citations | 4 |
| 15 | 3 | 1 | 104.7 | Liability | 4 |
| 16 | 3 | 1 | 104.7.1 | Legal defense | 4 |
| 17 | 3 | 1 | 105.1.7 | Sale or delivery without permit | 4 |
| 18 | 3 | 1 | 105.3.3 | Occupancy and use, prohibited before approval | 4 |
| 19 | 3 | 1 | 105.5.34 | Open burning | 4 |
| 20 | 3 | 1 | 105.5.52 | Miscellaneous combustible compost, composting, green waste, mulch, organic processing and yard waste | 4 |
| 21 | 3 | 1 | 105.6.25 | Fuel Modification plans | 4 |
| 22 | 3 | 1 | 106.1 | Submittals | 4 |
| 23 | 3 | 1 | 107.2 | Schedule of fees | 4 |
| 24 | 3 | 1 | 107.4 | Work commencing before permit issuance | 4 |
| 25 | 3 | 1 | 107.4.1 | Investigation fee | 4 |
| 26 | 3 | 1 | 107.7 | Delinquent fees | 4 |
| 27 | 3 | 1 | 107.7.1 | Penalties | 4 |
| 28 | 3 | 1 | 107.7.2 | Interest | 4 |
| 29 | 3 | 1 | 107.7.3 | Legal means | 4 |
| 30 | 3 | 1 | 111.1 | Board of Appeals established | 4 |
| 31 | 3 | 1 | 111.2 | Limitations of authority | 4 |
| 32 | 3 | 1 | 111.3 | Members and qualifications | 4 |

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

| Item # | Article Number | Chapter Number | Section Number | Section Title | Findings |
|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|----------|
| 33 | 3 | 1 | 111.4 | Finality | 4 |
| 34 | 3 | 1 | 112.4 | Violation penalties | 4 |
| 35 | 3 | 1 | 112.5 | Notice of intent to record notice of noncompliance and recordation of notice of noncompliance | 4 |
| 36 | 3 | 1 | 112.5.1 | | 4 |
| 37 | 3 | 1 | 112.5.2 | | 4 |
| 38 | 3 | 1 | 112.5.3 | | 4 |
| 39 | 3 | 1 | 112.5.4 | Release | 4 |
| 40 | 3 | 1 | 112.5.5 | Fee | 4 |
| 41 | 3 | 2 | 202 | Definition | 4 |
| 42 | 3 | 3 | 301.1.3 | Fire hazard | 4 |
| 43 | 3 | 3 | 304.1.2 | Vegetation | 4 |
| 44 | 3 | 3 | 304.1.4 | Unlawful disposal | 4 |
| 45 | 3 | 3 | 307.1 | General | 4 |
| 46 | 3 | 3 | 307.1.1 | Prohibited Open Burning | 4 |
| 47 | 3 | 3 | 307.1.2 | Prohibited burning of rubbish | 4 |
| 48 | 3 | 3 | 307.1.3 | Prohibited open fires | 4 |
| 49 | 3 | 3 | 307.1.4 | Repsonsibility | 4 |
| 50 | 3 | 3 | 307.2 | Permit required | 4 |
| 51 | 3 | 3 | 307.3 | Extinguishment authority | 4 |
| 52 | 3 | 3 | 307.4 | Location from Structures | 4 |
| 53 | 3 | 3 | 307.4.1 | Bonfires | 4 |
| 54 | 3 | 3 | 307.4.2 | Recreational Fires | 4 |
| 55 | 3 | 3 | 307.4.3 | Portable outdoor fireplaces | 4 |
| 56 | 3 | 3 | 308.1.6.3 | Sky lanterns | 4 |
| 57 | 3 | 3 | 315.7 | Outdoor pallet storage | 4 |
| 58 | 3 | 3 | 315.7.8 | Fire apparatus access roads | 4 |
| 59 | 3 | 3 | 317.1 | General | 4 |
| 60 | 3 | 3 | 322.1 | General | 4 |
| 61 | 3 | 3 | 322.2 | Prevention of ignition | 4 |
| 62 | 3 | 3 | 322.3 | Provisions for extinguishment | 4 |
| 63 | 3 | 3 | 322.4 | Location | 4 |
| 64 | 3 | 3 | 323.1 | General | 4 |

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

| Item # | Article Number | Chapter Number | Section Number | Section Title | Findings |
|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|----------|
| 65 | 3 | 3 | 323.2 | Written report | 4 |
| 66 | 3 | 3 | 323.3 | Safety | 4 |
| 67 | 3 | 3 | 323.4 | Modifications | 4 |
| 68 | 3 | 3 | 323.5 | Non-hazardous materials | 4 |
| 69 | 3 | 3 | 323.6 | Reporting | 4 |
| 70 | 3 | 5 | 503.1 | Where required | 4 |
| 71 | 3 | 5 | 507.6 | Emergency power | 1,2,3 |
| 72 | 3 | 5 | 507.6.1 | Retroactive installation for existing water systems | 1,2,3 |
| 73 | 3 | 9 | 903.1.2 | Concurrent permits | 1,2,3 |
| 74 | 3 | 9 | 903.1.3 | Maintenance of area separation walls | 1,2,3 |
| 75 | 3 | 9 | 903.1.4 | Change of use | 1,2,3 |
| 76 | 3 | 9 | 903.2 | Where required | 1,2,3 |
| 77 | 3 | 9 | 903.3.1.2.3 | Attics | 1,2,3 |
| 78 | 3 | 12 | 1205.5.1 | Vegetation control | 4 |
| 79 | 3 | 28 | 2802.1 | Definitions | 4 |
| 80 | 3 | 28 | 2808 | Title | 4 |
| 81 | 3 | 28 | 2808.1 | General | 4 |
| 82 | 3 | 28 | 2808.1.1 | Compost, compostable material, mulch, combustible yard waste, and recyclable material | 4 |
| 83 | 3 | 28 | 2808.1.2 | Other materials | 4 |
| 84 | 3 | 28 | 2808.3 | Size of piles | 4 |
| 85 | 3 | 28 | 2808.6 | Static pile protection | 4 |
| 86 | 3 | 28 | 2808.10 | Fire protection plan | 4 |
| 87 | 3 | 28 | 2810 | Title | 4 |
| 88 | 3 | 28 | 2810.1 | General | 4 |
| 89 | 3 | 28 | 2810.7 | Clearance to important buildings | 4 |
| 90 | 3 | 28 | 2810.7.1 | Distance to other combustibles | 4 |
| 91 | 3 | 28 | 2810.8.1 | Pallet pile stability and size | 4 |
| 92 | 3 | 28 | 2810.9 | Fire-flow | 4 |
| 93 | 3 | 28 | 2810.12 | Fire hydrants | 4 |
| 94 | 3 | 28 | 2810.13 | Fire apparatus access roads | 4 |
| 95 | 3 | 28 | 2810.14 | Heat treatment chambers | 4 |
| 96 | 3 | 28 | 2810.14.1 | Distance to other combustibles | 4 |

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

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|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|----------|
| 97 | 3 | 28 | 2810.14.2 | Fuel supply | 4 |
| 98 | 3 | 28 | 2810.14.3 | Above-ground fuel tanks | 4 |
| 99 | 3 | 49 | 4901.1 | Scope | 4 |
| 100 | 3 | 49 | 4901.2 | Purpose | 4 |
| 101 | 3 | 49 | 4901.3 | Cost | 4 |
| 102 | 3 | 49 | 4902 | Definitions | 4 |
| 103 | 3 | 49 | 4903 | Fire protection plans | 4 |
| 104 | 3 | 49 | 4905.4 | Fencing | 4 |
| 105 | 3 | 49 | 4905.5 | Building setbacks | 4 |
| 106 | 3 | 49 | 4906 | Vegetation management requirements for new landscaping | 4 |
| 107 | 3 | 49 | 4906.5 | Greenbelts | 4 |
| 108 | 3 | 49 | 4907.1 | General | 4 |
| 109 | 3 | 49 | 4907.2 | Application | 4 |
| 110 | 3 | 49 | 4907.3 | Requirements | 4 |
| 111 | 3 | 49 | 4907.3.1 | Retroactivity | 4 |
| 112 | 3 | 49 | 4907.4 | Responsibility and costs | 4 |
| 113 | 3 | 49 | 4907.5 | Clearance of brush, vegetative growth and combustible material from parcels. | 4 |
| 114 | 3 | 49 | 4907.6 | Clearance of fuels or vegetative growth from structures | 4 |
| 115 | 3 | 49 | 4907.7 | Defensible space clearance zones and requirements | 4 |
| 116 | 3 | 49 | 4907.8 | Fire protection equipment and utilities | 4 |
| 117 | 3 | 49 | 4907.9 | Clearance of brush or vegetative growth from roadways | 4 |
| 118 | 3 | 49 | 4907.1 | Clearance of brush and vegetative growth from electrical transmission and distribution lines. | 4 |
| 119 | 3 | 49 | 4907.11 | Ignition sources | 4 |
| 120 | 3 | 49 | 4907.12 | Flammable and hazardous material processes, storage, and use | 4 |
| 121 | 3 | 49 | 4907.13 | Disposal | 4 |
| 122 | 3 | 49 | 4907.14 | Correction of conditions | 4 |
| 123 | 3 | 49 | 4907.15 | Notice and prosection | 4 |
| 124 | 3 | 49 | 4907.16 | Clearance upon default of owner or lessee | 4 |
| 125 | 3 | 49 | 4907.17 | Collection of the cost of abatement | 4 |
| 126 | 3 | 49 | 4907.18 | Recorded notices | 4 |
| 127 | 3 | 49 | 4911 | Fire safety provisions for wildland-urban interface(WUI) areas | 4 |

Fire District Ordinance No. 32 - Findings

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|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 128 | 3 | 50 | 5003.13 | Enclosures | 4 |
| 129 | 3 | 56 | 5601.1.3 | Fireworks | 4 |
| 130 | 3 | 56 | 5601.7 | Seizure | 4 |
| 131 | 3 | Appendix B | B103.3 | Areas without water supply systems | 1,2,3 |
| 132 | 3 | Appendix B | B103.4 | Inadequate water purveyors | 4 |
| 133 | 3 | Appendix C | C103.1 | Hydrant spacing | 4 |
| 134 | 3 | Appendix U | | Administrative Citations | 4 |

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