



Fire Department

“Serving the community since 1926”

HEADQUARTERS

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October 5, 2021

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION For the Proposed Brookside Avenue Fire Station

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The County of Santa Barbara (County) proposes to acquire an undeveloped parcel of land in the unincorporated area of the County of Santa Barbara and construct and operate a new approximately 8,600-square foot fire station with three apparatus bays. The proposed fire station would serve the Orcutt and Santa Maria Valley area west of U.S. Highway 101 in Santa Barbara County. Project construction is anticipated to begin the summer of 2027 and the station would begin operations by early 2029.

PROJECT LOCATION: The 4.6-acre project site is located at the western terminus of Brookside Avenue (Assessor Parcel Number 107-321-013), immediately north of Union Valley Parkway, in the community of Orcutt in unincorporated Santa Barbara County.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The County Fire Department is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration. You may comment by submitting written comments to the project manager identified below prior to the close of public comment on November 4, 2021 at 5 p.m. Due to the non-complex nature of the project, a separate environmental hearing will not be held.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: The County Fire Department has prepared a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to Section 15070 of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County’s Guidelines for the Implementation of CEQA. The Fire Department’s issuance of a Mitigated Negative Declaration affirms our opinion that any potentially significant impacts associated with the proposed project may be reduced to a less than significant level with the adoption of mitigation measures. The Mitigated Negative Declaration identifies and discusses the County’s environmental thresholds and potential impacts on the environment for identified subject areas, along with applicable mitigation measures, residual impacts, and monitoring requirements. If the project description changes, the Fire Department will require a reevaluation to consider the changes. If you challenge this environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised by you or others in written correspondence or in hearings on the proposed project.

PUBLIC REVIEW: A public review period for the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on October 5, 2021 and end on November 4, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and all documents referenced therein may be reviewed at <https://rinconconsultants.exavault.com/share/view/2ojym-a8nq38dh> and on our website at www.SBCFire.com. For alternative accommodations, please contact the project manager, Matt Farris, Telephone: (805) 568-3532, Email: matthew.farris@sbcfire.com.

Serving the cities of Buellton, Goleta, and Solvang, and the Communities of Casmalia, Cuyama, Gaviota, Hope Ranch, Los Alamos, Los Olivos, Mission Canyon, Mission Hills, Orcutt, Santa Maria, Sisquoc, and Vandenberg Village

HOW TO COMMENT: Any interested person or agency may provide comments to the project planner, Matt Farris, Telephone: (805) 568-3532, Fax: (805) 681-4045, Email: matthew.farris@sbcfire.com, Mail: 4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110, prior to the close of public comment on November 4, 2021 at 5 p.m. Please limit comments to environmental issues such as biology, cultural resources, noise, etc. You will receive notice of the dates of future public hearings to consider project approval or denial, which is expected to occur in winter 2021.

PUBLIC HEARING: The County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors will consider adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approval of this project following the public review period at the County Administration Building Board Hearing Room, Fourth Floor at 105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. Interested parties should check the County's website to confirm meeting time, date, and location.