



ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

NOTICE AND CALL OF A SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority's **Legislative and Public Affairs Committee** has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.**

The meeting will be held at the Orange County Fire Authority, Regional Fire Operations & Training Center, Classroom One, 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA

Opportunity will be provided for members of the public to address the Orange County Fire Authority Committee Members regarding the item of business as described on the Agenda.

The business to be transacted at the meeting is indicated on the agenda and available online at:

https://ocfa.org/AboutUs/BoardMeetings.aspx#agenda_minutes

Katrina Foley, /ss/
Chair



ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, August 29, 2023
12 noon

Orange County Fire Authority
Regional Fire Operations & Training Center
Classroom One
One Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602

Committee Members

Katrina Foley, Chair • Connor Traut, Vice Chair
Ross Chun • Joe Kalmick • Anne Hertz-Mallari • Donald Wagner • Chris Duncan

NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

This meeting is open to the public. Committee members will participate in person. There are several alternative ways to make comments including:

In Person Comments at Meeting: Resolution No. 97-024 established rules of decorum for public meetings held by the Orange County Fire Authority. Resolution No. 97-024 is available from the Clerk of the Authority.

Any member of the public may address the Committee on items within their subject matter jurisdiction, but which are not listed on this agenda during PUBLIC COMMENTS. However, no action may be taken on matters that are not part of the posted agenda. We request comments made on the agenda be made at the time the item is considered and that comments be limited to three minutes per person. Please address your comments to the Committee and do not engage in dialogue with individual Board Members, Authority staff, or members of the audience.

If you wish to speak, please complete a Speaker Form identifying which item(s) you wish to address. Please return the completed form to the Clerk of the Authority prior to the item being considered. Speaker Forms are available at the entryway of the meeting location.

E-Comments: Alternatively, you may email your written comments to coa@ocfa.org. E-comments will be provided to the Committee members upon receipt and will be part of the meeting record as long as they are received during or before the Committee takes action on an item. Emails related to an item that are received after the item has been acted upon by the Committee will not be considered.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action or discussion shall be taken on any item not appearing on the following Agenda. Unless legally privileged, all supporting documents, including staff reports, and any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee members after the posting of this agenda are available for review at the Orange County Fire Authority Regional Fire Operations & Training Center, 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA 92602 or you may contact the Clerk of the Authority at (714) 573-6040 Monday through Thursday, and every other Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and available online at <http://www.ocfa.org> under Board & Committee Agendas/Minutes.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and [Board of Directors policy](#), if you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please complete the [ADA Reasonable Accommodation Form](#) available on the Agency's website and email to COA@ocfa.org, or you may contact the Clerk of the Authority at (714) 573-6040 during regular business hours to submit your request orally. Please notify us at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to enable the Authority to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Foley

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Director Kalmick

ROLL CALL by Clerk of the Authority

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please refer to instructions on how to submit a public comment during COVID-19 Emergency on Page 1 of this Agenda.

1. PRESENTATION

No items.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters on the consent calendar are considered routine and are to be approved with one motion unless a director or a member of the public requests separate action on a specific item.

A. Minutes for the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee Meeting

Submitted by: Maria Huizar, Clerk of the Authority

The record will reflect that any Director not in attendance at the meeting of the Minutes will be registered as an abstention, unless otherwise indicated.

Recommended Action:

Approve the Minutes for the March 15, 2023, Special Meeting as submitted.

3. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

A. Legislative Report

Submitted by: Robert Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department and Jay Barkman, Legislative Affairs Manager

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the Legislative Report update.

B. Quarterly Public Affairs Update

Submitted by: Matt Olson, Director of Communications

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the report.

REPORT

A. Wildland Severity Zone Map Update

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – The next regular meeting of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury and as required by the State of California, Government Code § 54956, that the foregoing Agenda was posted in the lobby and front gate public display case of the Orange County Fire Authority, Regional Training and Operations Center, 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA, not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK:

- Legislative Quarterly Update
- Public Affairs Quarterly Update

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Budget and Finance Committee
Executive Committee
Board of Directors

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 12 noon
Thursday, September 28, 2023, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

**Legislative and Public Affairs Committee
Special Meeting
Wednesday March 15, 2023
12:00 Noon**

**Regional Fire Operations and Training Center
Classroom One
1 Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee was called to order on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Joe Kalmick.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Chun led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach, Chair
Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo
Katrina Foley, County of Orange
Connor Traut, Buena Park
Chris Duncan, San Clemente

Absent: Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange

Anne Hertz-Mallari, Cypress

Also present were:

Deputy Chief Lori Zeller
Assistant Chief Robert Cortez
Director of Communications Matt Olson
Assistant Chief Tim Perkins
Assistant General Counsel Michael Daudt

Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
Assistant Chief Rob Capobianco
Assistant Chief Shane Sherwood
Assistant Chief Jim Ruane
Assistant Clerk Martha Halvorson

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Director Duncan arrived at this point (12.03 p.m.).

1. PRESENTATION

No items.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Director Chun and second by Director Foley, approved 5-0 Agenda Items 2A-2B (Directors Hertz-Mallari and Wagner absent).

A. Minutes for the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee Meetings (FILE 12.02E2)

Action:

1. Approve the Minutes for the January 12, 2023, Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.
2. Approve the Minutes for the January 18, 2023, Regular Meeting as submitted.
3. Approve the Minutes for the January 26, 2023, Concurrent Joint Special Meeting as submitted.

B. Orange County Drowning Prevention Task Force Update (FILE 12.02E1)

Action: Receive and file.

3. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

A. Legislative Report (FILE 12.02E5)

Legislative Affairs Manager Jay Barkman presented the Legislative Report and introduced John Moffatt, Partner with Nielsen Merksamer, who provided the state legislature updates.

On motion of Director Foley and second by Director Chun, approved 5-0 (Directors Hertz-Mallari and Wagner absent) to review the proposed Legislative Report and adopt recommended positions.

B. Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair (FILE 12.02E1)

Chair Kalmick introduced the Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair; opening the floor for nominations for the position of Chair for the ensuing year.

Director Chun nominated Director Foley for the position of Chair, Director Traut seconded the motion.

There were no additional nominations.

Chair Kalmick closed the nominations for Chair.

Director Foley accepted the nomination.

On nomination of Director Foley, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 5-0 (Directors Hertz-Mallari and Wagner absent) as Chair of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee for the ensuing year.

Chair Kalmick opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice Chair for the ensuing year.

Director Foley nominated Director Traut for the position of Vice Chair, Director Duncan seconded the motion.

Director Traut accepted the nomination.

There were no additional nominations.

On nomination of Director Traut, following a roll call vote, declared passed 5-0 (Directors Hertz-Mallari and Wagner absent) as Vice Chair of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee for the ensuing year.

Past Chair Kalmick invited Chair Foley to resume the proceedings of the meeting, she requested Past Chair Kalmick continue to conduct the meeting for the balance of the afternoon.

REPORTS

None.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Foley requested an update on the Fire Hazard Severity maps.

ADJOURNMENT – Past Chair Kalmick adjourned the meeting at 12:43 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

Martha Halvorson, CMC
Assistant Clerk of the Authority



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Legislative and Public Affairs Committee Meeting
August 29, 2023

Agenda Item No. 3A
Discussion Calendar

Legislative Report

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert Cortez, Assistant Chief robertcortez@ocfa.org 714.573.6012
Business Services Department

Jay Barkman, Legislative Affairs jaybarkman@ocfa.org 714.573.6048
Manager

Summary

This item is submitted to inform the committee of legislation that have been identified for tracking and adopted positions consistent with the Board adopted Legislative Platform.

Prior Board/Committee Action

Not Applicable.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Receive and file the Legislative Report update.

Impact to Cities/County

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact

Not Applicable.

Background

The attached Legislative Report provides an update on legislation previously identified for recommended positions. Only one new bill, SB 610 (Wiener), has been added for a recommended “monitor” position that is discussed in the attached report. This is now a two-year bill that will be considered in 2024 and staff is recommending a continued monitor position. One other bill, AB 1168 (Bennett) has been updated from a monitor position to a recommended position of support.

Staff will provide an oral update on these two bills and others in the attached report. OCFA’s lobbyists will be available to address any questions regarding legislation or budget actions affecting OCFA.

Attachment(s)

Legislative Report



Orange County Fire Authority

Legislative ReportAugust 2023

California legislators returned from their summer recess on August 14, 2023, and are now in the final weeks of session until adjournment on September 14, 2023. With policy committees having finished their work before the break, all eyes are now on the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees, which have until September 1 to pass or hold fiscal bills. Bills that clear that hurdle will have a couple more weeks to be considered on the floor and then proceed to the Governor for his review. Bills that do not pass will become two-year bills eligible for consideration in 2024.

Legislative leadership and the Governor have several priorities they hope to address including potential general obligation bonds for parks and natural resources, schools, and mental health facilities. OCFA's lobbyist are monitoring for opportunities that may assist with public safety infrastructure or wildland fire safety projects.

Congress will return on September 12, 2023, with their primary focus being the passage of appropriation bills. The federal fiscal year and spending authority ends September 30, 2023, and without passage of those bills a government shutdown will occur. House Republicans and Senate Democrats have forged separate bills that are at varying stages of approval, and they will need to merge those into compromise legislation for signature by the President.

The following are bills identified previously for impact to OCFA and recommended positions consistent with the Board of Directors adopted legislative platform. One new bill, SB 610 (Wiener), is included below and staff will provide a verbal update.

[SB 475 \(Min\) Laguna Woods Fire Station](#)

Summary: This bill is sponsored by OCFA and the City of Laguna Woods to remove state restrictions on city park property preventing construction of a new fire station. The city was the past recipient of state grant funds, and the bill allows the California Department of Park and Recreation (CDPR) to remove the deed restriction placed on the park by that grant. The Laguna Woods city manager and OCFA staff attended the committee hearing on April 26, 2023, where the bill passed unanimously. The bill passed the Senate and proceeded to the Assembly Local Government Committee where it also passed on their consent calendar. Currently, the bill is located on the consent calendar for the Assembly Floor and should quickly proceed to the Senate for concurrence in amendments and then transmission to the Governor.

A letter of support was recently received by the California Professional Firefighters and based on past conversations with CDPR we are hopeful it will be signed.

Emergency Command Center**[AB 277 \(Rodriguez\) Extreme Weather Forecast Center](#)**

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: This bill was amended significantly since first seeking to establish the Extreme Weather Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center under the California Office of

Emergency Services (CalOES). Instead, the bill now recognizes that there is a State-Federal Flood Operations Center that exists under the Department of Water Resources. The bill also directs the department to submit a report to the legislature outlining necessary technological advances for agile forecasting. The bill has no impact on OCFA or state emergency planning and will be removed from future bill reports.

[AB 296 \(Rodriguez\) 911 Education Campaign](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Establishes the 911 Public Education Campaign under CalOES to educate the public on when it is appropriate to call 911 for assistance. In addition, the bill seeks to promote 911 alternatives such as the “988 hotline.” This bill is consistent with OCFA’s Legislative Platform directing support for “measures that reduce false or abusive use of 911 requests for service.”

In Senate Appropriations Committee.

[US HR 369 \(Kim\) Public Safety Communication Standards](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: U.S. Representative Young Kim (CA-40) has introduced this bill to direct federal efforts to improve detection and forecasting of wildfire. The bill was introduced in response to issues the Congresswoman heard about from OCFA, CAL FIRE, and other federal partners about the need to standardize how data and communication are coordinated across agencies.

In the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee ordered to be reported and amendments pending.

Operations

[AB 740 \(Gabriel\) Drone Cybersecurity](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Requires the Department of General Services, in consultation with the Chief of the Office of Information Security, to adopt rules and regulations, by a specified date, to ensure that each unmanned aircraft and unmanned aircraft system used by a government entity, as defined, in part, to include local governmental entities, for any purpose meets appropriate safeguards to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of any data collected, transmitted, or stored by that unmanned aircraft or system.

AB 955 (Petrie-Norris) was previously identified as imposing similar requirements but was amended to deal with an unrelated topic. Assemblymember Gabriel had added language from that bill and OCFA was monitoring for potential impact to our procurement process for hardware or software related to our drone program. Several public safety agencies and a coalition of local agencies expressed concerns and as a result the bill has become a two-year bill.

In Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee not heard.

[SB 281 \(McGuire\) Aggravated Arson](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Existing law defines aggravated arson as any fire causing property damage of more than \$8.3 million or that causes damage or destruction to five or more inhabited structures. This bill adjusts that amount to reflect inflation to over \$10.1 million through January 1, 2029. If the dollar threshold is not adjusted again in the future prior to expiration the definition of aggravated arson will revert to five or more inhabited structures.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee.

[SB 374 \(Ashby\) Firefighter License Plate](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Increases the fee to \$40 for a renewal of registration that includes the continued display of the special license plate for firefighters. The bill is supported by California Professional Firefighters and California Fire Chiefs Association.

On Assembly Floor Consent Calendar.

[SB 577 \(Hurtado\) State Fire Training](#)

Recommended Position: Support- CALCHIEFS Sponsored Bill

Summary: Authorizes the State Fire Marshal to establish and collect the admission fees and other fees associated with the California Fire Service Training and Education Program, and to establish the fees to implement the California Fire and Arson Training Act, only to the extent that state appropriations and other funding sources are insufficient to cover the necessary costs of the activities eligible to be paid from those fees.

Allows additional funds to be accepted by the State Fire Marshal for two programs that provide training and certifications to firefighters. The bill is sponsored by California Fire Chiefs Association to improve funding of training programs and provide relief from fee increases that have impacted volunteer and entry level firefighter positions.

In Assembly Appropriation Committee.

EMS

[AB 1168 \(Bennett\) EMS Administration](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Requires a city or fire district that contracted for or provided, as of specified date, prehospital EMS, to be deemed to retain its authorities regarding the prehospital EMS when a city or district enters into an agreement with a county for the joint exercise of powers regarding prehospital EMS, or that ceased to contract for, provide, or administer prehospital EMS as a result of a judicial finding, or that contracts with a county to provide prehospital EMS in areas outside of that city or district.

This bill is in response to a 2021 court decision ruling that the City of Oxnard could not “resume” the administration and provision of ambulance transport services within city boundaries. The court found that the city had ceased providing these services when it joined a joint powers authority with the county, and that nothing in state law allowed the city to unilaterally resume administration without the county’s approval.

The author and the League of Cities (sponsor) state they are seeking to allow what had been in place previously, the city administering and/or providing ambulance services, to resume. The bill has been amended to narrowly apply to the City of Oxnard and to address their local dispute with the County of Ventura. The bill specifically references the joint powers agreement between those two agencies and seeks to force a resolution to their dispute. The bill is supported by California Professional Firefighters, California Fire Chiefs Association and other cities and fire districts.

The bill is opposed by over twenty counties including the Orange County Board of Supervisors who adopted an oppose position at their June 27th meeting on a 4-1 vote with Supervisor Katrina Foley dissenting. The counties and associations representing county health officers, EMS Directors, and Administrators state in their opposition that this bill sets a precedent and may undermine their ability to manage a regional and “integrated emergency medical system.”

However, staff recommends a support of the bill as recent amendments provide clarity that any agreements or future joint power authority structures created after January 1, 2024, shall not be construed as a city or fire district relinquishing their rights to administer prehospital EMS. This limited portion of the bill may benefit OCFA and our member cities in considering future prehospital EMS models. Lastly, the bill is consistent with our Board adopted legislative platform that directs us to support measures that increase “city authority to exercise local oversight and administration of the EMS system.”

In Senate Appropriations Committee.

Wildfires

[AB 294 \(Petrie-Norris\) Wildfire Tax Exclusions](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Excludes monies received for costs and losses due to wildfires or natural hazards from the definition of gross income for tax purposes. The bill sought to provide victims of these disasters relief from paying taxes on settlement amounts received due to wildfire damages.

Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

[AB 478 \(Connolly\) Insurance](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Limits increases of yearly insurance premiums for anyone 65 years or older living in a high or very-high fire hazard severity zone.

In Assembly Insurance Committee not heard.

[AB 541 \(Wood\) Wildfire Aftermath Safe Drinking Water](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Directs the State Water Resources Control Board to require public water systems, water corporations, or water districts to test their water source for benzene after a wildfire event of 300 acres or more, if any structure connected to water systems distribution was damaged or destroyed.

The bill has no impact to OCFA or fire agencies in conducting fire suppression operations. Staff will continue to track and monitor how water districts may seek to coordinate access to sites or testing after a wildfire.

On Senate floor.

[AB 582 \(Connolly\) Tax Credits Fire Resistant Home](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: This bill would allow a credit against those taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2023, and before January 1, 2028, to a qualified taxpayer, as defined, in an amount equal to 40% of the taxpayer's qualified expenses, as defined, not to exceed \$400 per taxable year, or \$2,000 cumulatively.

Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

[AB 609 \(Papan\) Aerial Firefighting Technologies](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Requires the Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development under CALFIRE to submit a report back to the Legislature by July 1, 2025, evaluating innovative aerial firefighter technologies. The bill requires the office to consider whether updates are appropriate to CALFIRE and CalOES procedures and deployment protocols to include innovative wildfire technologies.

In Senate Appropriations Committee.

[AB 788 \(Petrie-Norris\) Grant Programs](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Requires the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, on or before July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, to compile and post on its internet website specified information relating to specified state and federal grant programs relating to fire prevention, as provided.

In Senate Appropriations Committee.

Community Risk Reduction

[SB 571 \(Allen\) Development Projects Emergency Preparedness](#)

Recommended Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Summary: Requires a proponent of a new development within a state responsibility area or local responsibility area that is within a high or very-high fire hazard severity zone to include an evacuation plan with its application submitted to the local government for the development. Subjects the evacuation plan to the independent approval of the local government, as defined, the respective law enforcement and fire agencies and the California Highway Patrol.

OCFA is concerned about mandated requirements that a local “fire agency” approve evacuation plans submitted by proposed developments in the very high or high fire hazard severity zone. Local fire agencies are not responsible for conducting evacuations or equipped with the personnel to assess evacuation plans. These plans are based on traffic studies and engineering reviews by

transportation or public work officials. Therefore, if the bill proceeds OCFA will request amendments removing local fire agencies from any involvement entirely.

In Senate Governance and Finance Committee not heard.

[SB 610 \(Wiener\) Fire Hazard Severity Zones](#)

*Newly Identified Bill

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: This bill will allow local agencies to modify areas that are included or excluded in fire hazard severity zones designated by the State Fire Marshal (SFM). Under existing law local agencies may add areas to the moderate and high zones at their discretion, and to the very-high zones following a finding supported by substantial evidence.

It is unclear if the intent of this bill is to provide local agencies with final authority in designating hazard severity zones, or to create a process with the SFM for pursuing modifications. The bill states that a “local agency may, at its discretion” exclude areas from all three zones following a finding supported by substantial evidence. However, the bill requires that the ordinance enacting this modification “shall not be considered adopted” until approved by the State Fire Marshal. These two provisions appear contradictory and may lead to delays that impact OCFA and other local agencies from enforcing wildfire safety measures.

The bill was amended on June 19, 2022, from a prior version dealing with an unrelated subject matter and will be a two-year bill to be considered in 2024.

Double referred to Assembly Natural Resources Committee and Assembly Local Government Committee.

[SB 675 \(Limon\) Fire Prevention Grazing](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Expands the definition of fire prevention activities to include prescribed grazing, defined as the lawful application of a specific kind of livestock at a determined season, duration, and intensity to accomplish defined vegetation or conservation goals, including reducing the risk of wildfire by reducing fuel loads, controlling undesirable or invasive plants, and promoting biodiversity and habitat for special status species. The bill requires the Range Management Advisory Committee to consult with various state entities to develop a guidance for local or regional “prescribed grazing plans.”

The bill’s goal is to develop clear guidance and encourage the use of “prescribed grazing” by goats, sheep, and other animals to mitigate wildfires.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Human Resources/Risk Management

[AB 700 \(Grayson\) Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Establishes the California Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program, and would require the State Department of Public Health, in consultation with the University of California and the FIRESCOPE Program, to develop and administer the program. The bill

designates FIREScope with making final recommendations and requires the department to award grants to eligible educational institutions to conduct research using a fire service community-based participatory research model.

The bill is sponsored by the California Professional Firefighters.

In Senate Appropriations Committee.

Community Safety

[AB 1056 \(Davies\) Youth Water Safety Grant](#)

Recommended Position: Support

Summary: Requires the Department of Parks and Recreation to establish and administer the California Youth Water Safety State Grant. Requires the department to make funding available to nonprofit organizations and city or county parks and recreation departments to provide free swimming lessons for low-income and at-risk youth. Authorizes an applicant to apply on an annual basis and would prohibit the department from awarding a grant larger than \$25,000 per application.

Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee. OCFA Letter of Support sent May 11, 2023.

Facilities

[AB 944 \(Irwin\) Fire Stations Alternative Power Generation](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Requires fire stations to have an alternative method of power generation for at least 96 hours during power outages. Requires a fire station that utilizes a generator for alternative power to maintain a fuel supply or ensure delivery sufficient for operations for at least 96 hours. Similarly, stations using battery or renewable generation bus ensure capabilities to operate for at least 96 hours.

This bill raises concerns for local agencies who do not have the financial resources or logistical capabilities to equip every fire station with backup power. Fire departments have implemented plans and designated procedures to ensure operations during the loss of power. This bill does not take those efforts into account. Lastly, under this bill fire departments will be competing for limited generating resources. OCFA is closely monitoring and will work with our fire service partners to communicate concerns.

Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Administration

[SB 769 \(Gonzalez\) Local Government Fiscal and Financial Training](#)

Recommended Position: Monitor

Summary: Requires, if a local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to a member of a legislative body, or provides reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred by a member of a legislative body in the performance of official duties, all local agency officials, as defined, to receive at least two hours of fiscal and financial training, as described. Requires training by local agencies at least once every two years.

Amendments made on April 20, 2023, narrow the scope of the bill to apply to local agencies designated as high-risk or that have failed to submit or knowingly submitted false annual financial reports. Staff and our lobbyist reviewed to determine no impact to OCFA.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee.



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Legislative and Public Affairs Committee Meeting
August 29, 2023

Agenda Item No. 3B
Discussion Calendar

Quarterly Public Affairs Update

Contact(s) for Further Information

Matt Olson
Director of Communications

MattOlson@ocfa.org

714.573.6028

Summary

This item is submitted to provide a preliminary update of current OCFA public affairs programs and analytics that will be presented to the committee.

Prior Board/Committee Action

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Receive and file the report.

Impact to Cities/County

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact

Not applicable.

Background

Over the past two quarters, the Corporate Communications section has implemented various innovative new strategies to engage, educate, and inform the communities we serve. This includes the agency's first-ever Military Appreciation music video, various social media campaigns, and multiple press conferences and media events that resulted in hundreds of news articles, radio spots, and TV clips. Updates will include these and other areas of Public Affairs interest such as social media engagement numbers, community education events, current seasonal campaigns (drowning and wildfire awareness), and multimedia projects.

Attachment(s)

None.