



24-5283

DATE: April 15, 2024 (Item No. j)

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dana Reed, Director, Office of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Proclamation declaring May 4, 2024 as “Wildfire Community Preparedness Day” in Santa Clara County. (Office of the County Executive)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND

On August 16, 2020, the SCU Lightning Complex fires started and ultimately burned a total of 393,624 acres making it the 4th largest California wildfire since 1932. It burned in Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Merced, and Stanislaus counties. On the same date the CZU Lightning Complex fires started in neighboring San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties. The CZU fires ultimately burned 86,509 acres and destroyed 1,490 structures. Across California over the last 7 years (since October of 2017): 12 of the Top 20 largest California wildfires, 12 of the Top 20 most destructive, and 7 of the Top 20 deadliest wildfires have occurred.

The size and destructive power of these wildfires requires a regional coordinated response as well as the preparation of individuals and families in Santa Clara County.

AlertSCC is Santa Clara County Operational Area’s (Op Area) alert and warning system that provides emergency alerts via text, email, and voicemail prior to, during, and after an emergency or disaster. The entire Op Area currently uses the Everbridge platform, which provides a uniform system across Santa Clara County. www.PrepareSCC.org is a Santa Clara County Operational Area resource community members can use to prepare for disasters. Community members across Santa Clara County can prepare for earthquakes by: 1) participating in the Great California Shakeout drill at 10:19 a.m. on October 19; 2) signing up for emergency notifications at AlertSCC.org; 3) making an emergency plan; 4) building an emergency supply kit; 5) helping family, friends and neighbors by being a prepared community member.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have a positive impact on children and youth by increasing awareness and involvement in community wildfire preparedness action.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have a positive impact on seniors by increasing awareness and involvement in community wildfire preparedness actions.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The County of Santa Clara would not recognize May 4, 2024 as Wildfire Community Preparedness Day.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Please notify Charles Harris in the Office of Emergency Management.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2024 Proclamation