

VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDINANCE NUMBER 27

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE 2010 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE, PORTIONS OF THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, TOGETHER WITH THE APPENDIX CHAPTERS B, C, E, F, G, K, L, M, N and O WITH ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND TO REPEAL VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDINANCE NUMBER 26.

The Board of Directors of the Ventura County Fire Protection District (VCFPD or District) ordains as follows:

ARTICLE 1. - ADOPTION OF THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS CODES AND OTHER MODEL CODES BY REFERENCE

CHAPTER 1 - ADOPTION INTO THE VENTURA COUNTY FIRE CODE

Section 101 VENTURA COUNTY FIRE CODE DEFINED.

101.1 ELEMENTS OF VENTURA COUNTY FIRE CODE. The Ventura County Fire Code contained herein is comprised of the following elements:

- a) The specified portions of the California Building Standards Codes known as California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9, "California Fire Code (CFC)" as adopted by the State Fire Marshal (SFM); and
- b) Those portions of The International Fire Code (IFC), 2009 Edition referenced by the California Building Standards Code and not adopted or modified by the SFM and;
- c) The VCFPD amendments contained in Article 3 of this Ordinance to the above-referenced codes.

Taken together, the codes and amendments described above constitute the Ventura County Fire Code.

102. FILING WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD. Not less than one (1) certified copy of this Code and of each of the codes adopted by reference herein are on file in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura (County), and all such certified copies of the codes shall be kept at that office for public inspection while this Code is in force.

103. COPIES OF CODE FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC. Copies of the Ventura County Fire Code shall be made available in the offices of the fire code official for examination. Purchase of the codes by the public at a price not to exceed the actual cost thereof to the VCFPD or the County, plus a reasonable handling charge as established by the fire code official or Clerk of the Board, shall be available for purchase depending on the stock on hand.

CHAPTER 2. ADOPTION OF THE 2010 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND 2009 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, WITH EXCEPTIONS.

101. Adoption. For the purpose of prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life and property from fire, explosion or hazardous materials, those certain Codes known as the "California Fire Code", 2010 Edition (also known as the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 9, a portion of the "California Building Standards Codes"), and the 2009 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC), as published by the International Code Council and the whole thereof, except such portions not adopted by the SFM, and also except such portions of either of such Codes as are hereinafter, deleted, modified or amended by Article 3 of this ordinance, are hereby adopted pursuant to Section 13869 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code (H&S), and are incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein and from the date on which this ordinance shall take effect, the provisions thereof along with the other provisions of this ordinance shall be controlling within the jurisdictional limits of the VCFPD.

102. All chapters, sections, and other headings shall be those of the California Fire Code and the International Fire Code, respectively. Generally, each numbered portion of these codes, such as Section 109.3, is deemed to be a separate section. An amendment to such a numbered portion amends only that section and does not, by omission of reference, delete any other section such as Section 109.3.1. An amendment to the California Fire Code or the International Fire Code shall be made by ordinance amendment to the specific chapter, section or other heading involved.

ARTICLE 2. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

All parts of VCFPD Ordinance No. 26, except Appendix J, and Board of Directors approvals dated March 19, 1985 and November 13, 1990 related to approval of Fire District Access Standards, are hereby repealed, except Appendix J of said Ordinance No. 26 shall remain in effect in the County of Ventura and within each city wherein its provisions apply until Appendix L hereof becomes effective in said County or any such city pursuant to Article 4 hereof, at which time Appendix J shall be repealed in said County or city.

(continued on next page)

ARTICLE 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE 2010 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.

The 2010 California Fire Code (CFC) and the 2009 International Fire Code (IFC) are amended and changed in the following respects:

Chapter 1

Section 101.1 (IFC) are amended to read as follows:

101.1 Title (IFC). This ordinance shall be known as the "Ventura County Fire Code," may be cited as such, and will be referred to herein as "this Code." This ordinance shall adopt certain State and model codes by reference, together with amendments thereto, as published herein. These referenced codes and amendments shall have the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein. Throughout this Code, where references are made to the California or International Building Code, California or International Residential Code, California or International Mechanical Code, California or International Fuel Gas Code, California or International Existing Building Code and the California or International Electrical Code those references shall mean the California version of those codes adopted under the California Building Standards Code.

Section 103.4 is amended to read as follows;

103.4 Liability. The fire code official or his authorized representatives and members of the board of appeals, charged with the enforcement of this Code, acting in good faith and without malice in the discharge of his duties, shall not thereby render himself personally liable for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act or omission in the discharge of his duties. Any suit brought against the fire code official or employee because of such act or omission performed by him in the enforcement of any provision of such codes or other pertinent laws or ordinances implemented through the enforcement of this Code shall be defended by the legal department of the District until final termination of such proceedings, and any judgment resulting there from shall be assumed by the District.

It is the intent of the Board of Directors to establish minimum standards for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. This Code shall not be construed to establish standards of performance, strength, or durability other than those specified. Neither this Code nor any services rendered in connection with or pursuant to its terms by District or County officers, inspectors, agents or employees, is intended nor shall be construed as the basis for any express or implied warranties or guarantees to any person relative to or concerning any structure or part, portion, or appurtenance thereto or thereof constructed, erected, altered, enlarged, repaired, moved, replaced, or removed pursuant to this Code or any permits against the District or any of its officers, inspectors, agents, or employees because any structure or portion thereof erected, constructed, altered, enlarged, repaired, moved, replaced, or removed, or any appliances installed, maintained, repaired or replaced hereunder does not meet the standards prescribed herein, or does not meet any other standards prescribed elsewhere as to performance, strength, durability or other characteristics.

This Code shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility of any person owning, operating, or controlling any building or structure for any damages to persons or property caused by defects, nor shall the District or the County be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the inspections authorized by this Code or any permits or certificates of inspection issued under this Code.

Section 103.4.1 is deleted.

Section 104.5 is amended to read as follows:

104.5 Notices and Orders. The fire code official is authorized to issue such notices or orders as are required to affect compliance with this Code in accordance with Section 109 and Health & Safety Code Sections 13870 and 13872.5.

Section 104.5.1 is added to read as follows:

104.5.1 Citations. The fire code official and his authorized representatives shall have the authority to issue citations for violations of this Code in accordance with Section 109, Appendix N and Health & Safety Code Section 13872.

Section 105.1.4 is added and reads as follows:

105.1.4 Sale or delivery without permit. No person shall sell, deliver or cause to be delivered, any hazardous commodity to any person not in possession of a valid permit when such permit is required by the provisions of this Code.

Section 105.3.3 is amended to read as follows:

105.3.3 Occupancy and use, prohibited before approval. The building or structure shall not be occupied prior to the fire code official issuing a permit that indicates that applicable provisions of this Code have been met. No appliance, device, equipment, or system shall be operated or used until the installation has been approved and permitted by the fire code official and all applicable provisions of this Code have been met. It shall be the duty of both the permit applicant and his or her contractor to cause the work to remain accessible and exposed for inspection purposes.

Section 105.4.1 is amended to read as follows:

105.4.1 Submittals. Construction documents and supporting data shall be submitted in one or more sets with each application for a permit and in such form and detail as required by the fire code official. The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. Except as otherwise determined by the fire code official, plans for the construction, alteration, repair, or conversion of buildings or portions thereof which are classified as high-rise buildings, Use Groups A, E, H, I, L and R occupancies, except Group R-3 occupancies, shall be submitted for review prior to obtaining a building permit. The fire code official shall check for compliance with state and local laws and regulations that relate to fire and life safety.

Exception: The fire code official is authorized to waive the submission of construction documents and supporting data not required to be prepared by a registered design professional if it found that the nature of the work applied for is such that review of construction documents is not necessary to obtain compliance with this Code.

Section 105.6.23 is amended to read as follows:

105.6.23 Hot work operations.

An operational permit is required for hot work including, but not limited to:

1. Public exhibitions and demonstrations where hot work is conducted.
2. Use of portable hot work equipment inside a structure.
3. Hot work conducted within a hazardous fire area.
4. Application of roof coverings with the use of an open-flame device.
5. When approved, the fire code official shall issue a permit to carry out a Hot Work Program.

This program allows approved personnel to regulate their facility's hot work operations. The approved personnel shall be trained in the fire safety aspects denoted in this chapter and shall be responsible for issuing permits requiring compliance with the requirements found in Chapter 26. These permits shall be issued only to their employees or hot work operations under their supervision.

Section 105.6.29 is amended to read as follows:

105.6.29 Miscellaneous combustible storage. An operational permit is required to store in any building or upon any premises in excess of 2,500 cubic feet (71 m³) gross volume of combustible empty packing cases, boxes, barrels or similar containers, idle pallets, rubber tires, rubber, cork or similar combustible material.

Section 105.6.29.1 is added to read as follows:

105.6.29.1 Miscellaneous combustible compost, composting, green waste, mulch, organic processing and yard waste. An operational permit is required to store in any building or upon any premises, in excess of 200 cubic yards gross volume of combustible composting, green waste, mulch, organic processing, yard waste, or similar combustible material. See Section 1908. Exception: On-site storage for normal agricultural operation in conformance with Section **1908.1.2**.

Section 105.7.7.1 is added to read as follows:

105.7.7.1 Fuel Modification Plans.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to a fuel modification zone located within a High Fire Hazard (HFA) area, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Zone or Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ).

Section 105.7.9.1 is added to read as follows:

105.7.9.1 Photovoltaic systems.

A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to a photovoltaic system upon the exterior of any structure. See Section 610.

Exception: One and two family dwellings.

Section 105.7.11 is amended to read as follows:

105.7.11 Private fire hydrants and fire protection water systems.

A construction permit is required for the installation or modification of private fire hydrants and fire protection water systems.

Sections 108.1, 108.2, and 10.3 are amended to read as follows:

108.1 Board of appeals established. In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the fire code official relative to the application and interpretation of this Code, there shall be and is hereby created a board of appeals. The County Executive Officer shall provide staff services for the board. The board of appeals shall be appointed by the District's Board of Directors and shall hold office at its pleasure. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting its business, and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the fire code official. The fees for appeals shall be consistent with those set forth in the Ventura County Building Code for similar appeals of Building standards.

108.2 Limitations on authority. An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the

intent of this Code or the rules legally adopted hereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this Code do not fully apply, or an equivalent method of protection or safety is proposed with the exception of the provisions dealing with the abatement of combustible and flammable materials in Appendix K. The board shall have no authority to waive requirements of this Code or state law.

The Board of Appeals decisions shall be final, except that in the case of appeals from governmental agencies, such agencies shall have the right to a review by the Board of Directors. Any decision on review by the Board of Directors shall be final.

108.3 Members and Qualifications. The board of appeals shall consist of five members who are residents of the County of Ventura: a Fire Department member (not employed by the District), a Licensed Architect, a Licensed Engineer, a Licensed General Contractor, and a member of the public at large, who are qualified by experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to hazards of fire, explosions, hazardous conditions or fire protection systems and are not employees of the District.

Section 109.3 is amended to read as follows:

109.3 Violation penalties. Persons who violate a provision of this Code or fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or any directive of the fire code official, or a permit or certificate used under provisions of this Code, and from which violation no appeal has been taken, or who shall fail to comply with such any order affirmed or modified by the Board of Appeals within the time fixed therein, shall severally for each and every such violation and noncompliance respectively, be subject to the criminal sanctions set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 13871. Each numbered portion of this Code, such as Section 109.3, is deemed to be a separate section. In addition, the fire code official may use the provisions of Appendix N, Administrative Citations. The imposition of one penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue. All violators shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time and, when not otherwise specified, each day that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense. The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of prohibited conditions.

Sections 109.4 through 109.4.5 are added to read as follows:

109.4 NOTICE OF INTENT TO RECORD NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE AND RECORDATION OF NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE. Whenever the fire code official determines that any work or use has been done without the required permit, or has not been completed in accordance with the requirements of this Code, the fire code official may post the property and mail to the owner(s) of that property a Notice of Intent to Record a Notice of Noncompliance. The Notice of Intent shall describe the property, shall set forth the non-complying conditions, and shall inform the owner(s) that the fire code official may record a Notice of Noncompliance unless, by a date specified in the Notice of Intent, (1) it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the fire code official that the non-complying conditions have been corrected or (2) a timely appeal has been filed with the Board of Appeal.

109.4.1 If by the date specified in the Notice of Intent, (1) it has not been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Fire Code Official that the non-complying conditions have been corrected and (2) a timely appeal has not been filed with the Board of Appeal, the fire code official may record a Notice of Noncompliance unless the fire code official determines that the non-complying conditions have been corrected in accordance with the Board of Appeal's decision.

109.4.2 If a timely appeal is filed with the Board of Appeal and the Board finds that the non-complying conditions have not been corrected and need to be corrected, the fire code official shall record a Notice of Noncompliance.

109.4.3 Under either 109.4.1 or 109.4.2 above, the Notice of Noncompliance shall be recorded with the office of the County Recorder and the owner(s) of the property shall be notified of such action. The Notice of Noncompliance shall describe the property, shall set forth the non-complying conditions, and shall state that the property owner(s) have been notified.

109.4.4 Release. If after a Notice of Noncompliance has been recorded, it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the fire code official that the non-complying conditions have been corrected or removed, the fire code official shall record with the office of the County Recorder a Release of Notice of Noncompliance. The Release of Notice of Noncompliance shall describe the property, crossed-referenced to the Notice of Noncompliance, and state that the non-complying conditions have been corrected or removed.

109.4.5 Fee. A fee as set forth in the latest VCFPD Fee Schedule may be charged the property owner(s) for issuing and recording the Release of Notice of Noncompliance.

Section 113.2 is amended to read as follows:

113.2 Schedule of fees. Fees for permits and services rendered pursuant to this Code shall be assessed as set forth in this Code, and in accordance with the latest VCFPD Fee Schedule as established by the Board of Directors.

Section 113.3 is amended to read as follows

113.3 Work Commencing Before Permit Issuance. Any person who commences any work, activity or operation regulated by this Code before obtaining the necessary permits and or approvals shall be subject to an investigation fee in accordance with Section 113.3.1.

Section 113.3.1 is added to read as follows:

113.3.1 Investigation Fee. An investigation fee, in addition to the permit fee, shall be collected whether or not a permit is then, or is subsequently, issued. The investigation fee shall be equal to the amount of the permit fee required by this Code, and shall in no case be less than the minimum fees required by the latest VCFPD Fee Schedule. The payment of such investigation fee shall not exempt any person from compliance with all applicable provisions of this Code or any of the codes adopted by reference hereby, nor from any penalty prescribed by law.

Sections 113.6 through 113.6.3 are added to read as follows:

113.6 Delinquent Fees. The following shall apply to any delinquent fee due, including fees assessed under Appendix K:

113.6.1 Penalties. A penalty of ten percent (10%) shall be added to any delinquent fines on the last day of each month more than 15 days after the due date. The penalty shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the original fee due.

113.6.2 Interest. In addition to penalties provided by this Section, delinquent fees will accrue interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, exclusive of penalties, from the due date.

113.6.3 Legal Means. The VCFPD may use all legal means to collect any past due fees should a permittee or property owner fail to pay the fine in a timely manner.

Chapter 2

Section 202 is amended to include the following definitions in addition to the definitions found therein not inconsistent herewith:

COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL includes seasonal and recurrent weeds, stubble, brush, dry leaves, mulch, tumbleweeds, rubbish, recyclable material, litter or flammable materials of any kind.

CRITICAL FIRE WEATHER. As determined by the fire code official, a set of weather conditions (usually a combination of low relative humidity, warmer temperatures and/or high winds) the effect of which on fire behavior makes control of a fire difficult and threatens fire fighter and public safety. This includes "Red Flag Warnings" and "Fire Weather Watches" as issued by the National Weather Service.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE. An area either natural or man-made, where material capable of allowing a fire to spread unchecked has been treated, cleared or modified to slow the rate and intensity of an advancing wildfire and to create an area for fire suppression operations to occur.

FIRE AND LIFE HAZARD. "Fire and life hazard" means any condition, arrangement, or act which will increase, or may cause an increase of, the hazard or menace of fire or a hazardous material release (spill, leak, etc.) to a greater degree than customarily recognized as normal by persons in the public service of preventing, suppressing or extinguishing fire and responding to hazardous material releases; or which may obstruct, delay, or hinder egress from a facility or building, or may become the cause of obstruction, delay or hindrance to the prevention, suppression, or extinguishment of a fire or hazardous material release.

FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES (FHSZ) are geographical areas designated pursuant to California Public Resources Codes Sections 4201 through 4204 and classified as Very High, High, or Moderate in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) or as Local Agency Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (LAVHFHSZ) designated pursuant to California Government Code, Sections 51175 through 51189.

FIRE PROTECTION PLAN is a plan that shall be based upon a site-specific wildfire risk assessment that includes considerations of location, topography, aspect, flammable vegetation, climatic conditions and fire history. The plan shall describe ways to minimize and mitigate the fire problems created by any project or development, with the purpose of reducing impact on the community's fire protection delivery system. Plan items shall include, but shall not be limited to: addressing water supply, access, building ignition and fire-resistance factors, fire protection

systems and equipment, defensible space and vegetation management.

FIRE WEATHER. Weather conditions favorable to the ignition and rapid spread of fire. In wildfires, this generally includes high temperatures combined with strong winds and low humidity. See "Critical Fire Weather".

HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA (HFA) is land which is covered with grass, grain, brush, or forest, whether privately or publicly owned, which is so situated or is of such inaccessible location that a fire originating upon such land would present an abnormally difficult job of suppression or would result in great and unusual damage through fire or resulting erosion and includes any location within 500 feet of a forest or brush, grass, or grain covered land, exclusive of small individual lots or parcels of land located outside of a brush, forest grass, or grain covered area.. Such areas are designated by the fire code official. The fire code official is authorized to utilize, as references, the definition of Wildland-Urban Interface Area, State SRA maps, Local Agency Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps designated pursuant to California Government Code, Sections 51175 through 51189 and the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

HELISPOT is a site used for helicopter landings and take-offs during emergency operations.

PERSON is a natural person, heir, executor, administrator or assign, and also includes a firm, partnership whether general or limited, company, corporation, unincorporated association, union or organization, cooperative and trust, its successor or assign, or the agent of any of the aforesaid. It shall include the plural as well as the singular number, the male and female gender, and all governmental entities subject in whole or in part to this Code and the codes adopted by reference herein.

STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA (SRA). As defined in Public Resources Code sections 4102, 4125-4127; and the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 14, division 1.5, chapter 7, article 1, sections 1220.

TEMPORAY USE. Unless otherwise specified within this Code, temporary use, when allowed, shall not exceed a period of 180 days in a 12-month period.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) AREA. That geographical area where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with wildland or vegetative fuels.

Chapter 3

Section 301.3 is added to read as follows:

301.3 Housekeeping. Every facility, building or portions of a building or facility, shall be maintained in a neat and orderly manner, free from any condition that would create a fire or life hazard. See Section 202.

Section 304.1.2 is amended to read as follows:

304.1.2 Vegetation. Weeds, grass, vines or other growth that is capable of being ignited and endangering property, shall be cut down and removed by the owner or occupant of the premises. Vegetation clearance requirements in wildland-urban interface areas, hazardous fire areas and any other parcels declared a public nuisance by the fire code official shall be in accordance with Appendix K.

Section 318 is added to read as follows:

SECTION 318 Combustible Materials Subject To Spontaneous Ignition.

318.1 General. Combustible materials, as defined in Section 202, subject to spontaneous ignition, including mulch, recyclable materials, are governed by Sections 318 and 1908, and Appendix K.

318.2 Prevention of ignition. Materials shall be stored, handled, treated or monitored as necessary and in such a manner as to prevent ignition.

318.3 Provisions for extinguishment. The owner or person responsible for such materials shall provide the necessary means to extinguish a fire should ignition occur. Piles of such materials shall be arranged in such a manner as not to exceed the capability of resources available to the owner or person responsible for such materials to extinguish a fire in any single pile before it can spread to another pile or any other combustible fuels. Access for firefighting apparatus shall be provided when required by the fire code official.

318.4 Location. When materials are located in, upon or adjoining any hazardous fire area, clearance between such materials and any other from combustible vegetation shall be maintained in accordance with Section 1908 and Appendix K for buildings.

Section 319 is added to read as follows:

319 Fire Hazard. No person operating any occupancy subject to these regulations shall permit any fire hazard, as defined in this article, to exist on premises under their control, or fail to take immediate action to abate a fire hazard when requested to do so by the fire code official.

Section 320 is added to read as follows:

320 Special Hazards, Not Otherwise Specified.

320.1 General. Any process that utilizes materials not normally considered to be hazardous, but that in combination, or when electricity, pressure, heat or any other external source is applied to them, creates a product (or by-product) that may itself cause serious harm or damage to life, health, the environment or property, must be reported to the fire code official and any and all appropriate agencies for review and approval prior to receiving and engaging in any use of the process.

320.2 Written Report. The manufacture, storage, transfer and disposal of such material(s), which shall be designated as a "Special Hazard", shall be fully explained in writing to the satisfaction of the fire code official and any agency with authority over the process or use of such materials.

320.3 Safety. The fire code official may utilize provisions of this Code and other recognized standards for the classification of any hazard that the process most resembles. Any recommendations and/or requirements to render the operation safe(r) shall be complied with prior to receiving a Certificate of Occupancy and permission to operate the process.

320.4 Modifications. Any future additions, expansions or alterations to the process and any information submitted with respect to such modifications, must be reviewed and approved by the fire code official prior to such process, as modified, being initiated.

320.5 Non-Hazardous Materials. Those precursor materials not considered to be hazardous that are used in the process are not subject to this section.

320.6 Reporting. Any business that uses such processes shall complete the "Business Plan" form as prescribed by Section 25500 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code and shall submit a

copy to the fire code official before initiating use of any such process.

Chapter 5

Section 503.1 is amended to read as follows:

503.1 Where required. Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503.1.1 through 503.1.4 and Appendix O.

Section 503.1.4 is added to read as follows:

503.1.4 Access Road Design. The fire code official may evaluate access road design in terms of total response efficiency. The fire code official is authorized to make modifications to access road network design, access road route and inter-connectivity with new or existing roads so that response efficiency is maintained.

Section 503.2 is amended to read as follows:

503.2 Specifications. Fire apparatus access roads shall be installed and arranged in accordance with Sections 503.2.1 through 503.2.8 and Appendix O.

Section 503.3 is amended to read as follows:

505.3 Marking. Where required by the fire code official, approved signs or other approved notices or markings that include the words NO PARKING – FIRE LANE – TOW AWAY shall be provided for fire apparatus access roads to identify such roads or prohibit the obstruction thereof. The means by which fire lanes are designated shall be maintained in a clean and legible condition at all times and shall be replaced or repaired when necessary to provide adequate readability and visibility.

Section 503.4.1 is added to read as follows:

503.4.1 Restricted Parking - Critical Fire Weather. The fire code official may designate certain fire apparatus access roads as "Restricted or No Stopping -Tow Away" zones during periods of Critical Fire Weather. Such designation shall be made by placing clearly posted signs along such designated fire apparatus access roads and authorizations for such postings shall include provisions for notification to affected property owners.

Section 503.4.2 is added to read as follows:

503.4.2 Vehicle Code. The fire code official is authorized to use provisions of the California Vehicle Code for marking and enforcing fire lane provisions upon public and private fire apparatus roads and driveways. This includes provisions for Tow Away zones.

Section 503.6.1 and 503.6.2 are added to read as follows:

503.6.1 Gates. All gates across required access roads within developments shall provide for egress by all persons at all times. Gates shall not be restricted to exit during emergency use only.

503.6.2 Gate Entrances. All gates across required access roads in the SRA area shall comply with the following:

A. Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving the gate.

B. All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road.

C. Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance; a 40 foot inside turning radius shall be used.

Section 505 is amended with new sections added to read as follows:

505 Premises Identification

505.1 Address Identification. New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. Address numbers shall be provided at additional locations on the building and at locations adjacent to roads or driveways leading to buildings when required by the fire code official. These numbers shall contrast with their background. The height and minimum stroke of numbers or letters shall be approved by the fire code official.

505.1.1 Directories. When required by the fire code official, complexes with multiple buildings may be required to provide directories, premises maps and directional signs. The scale, design and location of directory signs shall be approved by the fire code official and may be required to be illuminated.

505.2 Street and road signs. All streets and roads shall be identified with approved signs. Temporary signs shall be installed at each street intersection when construction of new roadways allows passage by vehicles. Signs shall be of an approved size, weather resistant and be maintained until replaced by permanent signs.

505.2.1 Hazardous Fire Areas. All street road identification signs and supports shall be of non-combustible materials when located within a Hazardous Fire Area (HFA).

Section 507.2.2 is amended to read as follows:

507.2.2 Water Tanks. Water tanks for private fire protection shall be installed in accordance with applicable provisions of the California Building Code, Ventura County Building Code and NFPA 22. Where any conflict occurs with the requirements of these authorities with respect to water tank installation, the most restrictive application shall apply.

Section 507.3 is amended to read as follows:

507.3 Fire Flow. Fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and facilities shall be determined by an approved method *or Appendix B*. For purposes of this section, VCFPD amendments to Appendix B shall be deemed an approved method for local requirements.

Section 507.5.4 is amended to read as follows:

507.5.4 Obstructions. Access to all water sources required by this Code shall be unobstructed at all times. The fire code official shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to water source equipment, fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

Section 507.5.7 is added to read as follows:

507.5.7 Identification. Water sources, draft sites, hydrants and fire protection equipment and hydrants shall be clearly identified in a manner approved by the fire code official to identify location and to prevent obstruction by parking and other obstructions.

Section 507.6 and 507.6.1 are added to read as follows:

507.6 Emergency Power. Emergency power supply shall be provided for any water system components (pumps, valves, etc) necessary for maintaining the required fire protection water supply and fire flow. Emergency power supplies shall be installed in accordance with Section 604 of this Code and the California Building and Electrical Codes and shall provide emergency power for a minimum, two (2) hour duration.

Exception: Water systems serving up to four (4) single family dwellings are exempt from this section.

507.6.1 Retroactive Installation for Existing Water Systems. Water system components not in compliance with Section 507.6 shall be provided the required emergency power supply within two (2) years after the effective date of this ordinance.

Section 510.4 is added to read as follows:

510.4 Public Safety Radio System Coverage. In new buildings and new developments, public safety radio system equipment or upgrades to existing public safety radio system equipment may be required if public safety radio reception is shielded or when determined necessary for essential public and firefighter safety when existing public safety radio communication quality and intelligibility in a geographic area can be improved to provide effective communication and public safety services.

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Chapter 6

Section 610 is added to read as follows:

610 Photovoltaic Systems

610.1 General. The installation of photovoltaic systems shall comply with this section and the California Building and Electrical Codes and the requirements of the local Building Department having jurisdiction.

Exception: Photovoltaic systems installed on one and two family dwellings are exempt from this section.

610.2 Permits. See Section 1.5.7.9.1

610.3. Plans. Construction plans that include a roof layout of the proposed photovoltaic system panels and equipment shall be submitted to the fire code official for approval prior to installation.

610.4 Design. Photovoltaic system shall be designed in accordance with the SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION GUIDELINE issued by the California State Fire Marshal Office April 22, 2008. with an amendment to Section 2.2.1 (page 10) as follows:

Section 2.2.1 on Pg 10 of the SFM SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION GUIDELINE is amended to read as follows:

2.2.1 Access.

There shall be a minimum six foot (6') wide clear perimeter around the edges of the roof, as measured from the exterior bearing walls of the building to the nearest photovoltaic panel. Examples #5 to #8 shall reflect this requirement.

Exception: If either axis of the building is 250 feet or less in length, there shall be a minimum four feet (4') wide clear perimeter around the edges of the roof, as measured from the exterior bearing walls of the building to the nearest photovoltaic panel.

610.5 Findings

610.5.1 General. After due consideration the VCFPD's Board of Directors hereby finds that due to the local climatic, geologic and topographic conditions stated in this section, the modifications and changes to the current California Building Code and California Fire Code set forth herein are reasonably necessary to provide sufficient and effective protection of life, health and property in this jurisdiction.

610.5.2 Climatic. Ventura County experiences periods of high temperatures, accompanied by low humidity and high winds each year. These conditions create an environment in which the Fire District commits large numbers of fire fighting resources to the control and extinguishment of wildland fires. During such periods, the limited available firefighting resources may have great difficulty in controlling fires in structures where roof top photovoltaic equipment hinders standard fire-fighting operations.

610.5.3 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 available firefighting resources. Proper location of roof top photovoltaic equipment will assist fire fighters in extinguishing or controlling fires in structures by not unduly delaying fire fighting operations, which

will increase the availability of firefighting resources after seismic activity.

610.5.4 Topographical. Ventura County has rural areas that are in hazardous fire areas. Due to topography, access to structures in rural areas increases response time and delays fire suppression efforts. An extended response time will allow fires to grow beyond the control of initial attack 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. Proper location of roof top photovoltaic equipment will assist fire fighters in extinguishing or controlling fires in structures in a timely manner by not unduly delaying fire fighting operations, which will help prevent the spread of fire to the Wildland areas and will increase the availability of firefighting resources available for Wildland fires.

610.6 Ratification. Before Section 610 of Ordinance No. 27 is effective in the County of Ventura or in any city within jurisdiction of the VCFPD, the legislative body of the County or of any such city shall ratify Section 610 in accordance with subdivisions (b) and (c) of California Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7.

(Continued on next page)

Chapter 9

Section 901.10 is added to read as follows:

901.10 Working space and clearance. A working space of not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in width, 36 inches (914 mm) in depth and 78 inches (1,981 mm) in height shall be provided in front of fire protection equipment including, but not limited to: fire sprinkler control valves, fire department connections, hose connections, risers, hood system manual pull stations, fire alarm control panels, fire pumps, and specialized fire protection storage tanks (dry chemical, foam, CO₂, clean agent). Where the fire protection equipment is wider than 30 inches (762 mm), the working space shall not be less than the width of the equipment. No storage of any materials shall be located within the designated working space. Direct access to the working space shall be provided from aisles or access roadways. Modifications to working space dimensions shall be approved by the fire code official.

Section 903.1 is amended to read as follows:

903.1 General. Automatic sprinkler systems shall comply with this section and Appendix L.

Chapter 19

Section 1908 is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1908 Storage And Processing Of Wood Chips, Hogged Material, Fines, Compost, Compostable Material, Mulch, Raw Product And Combustible Yard Waste And Recyclable Material.

1908.1 General. The storage and processing of wood Chips, hogged materials, fines, compost, compostable material, mulch, raw product and combustible yard waste produced from yard waste, debris and recycling facilities shall comply with Section 1908, the Ventura County Ordinance Code and State and Federal Regulations. Where any conflict occurs with the requirements of this chapter and other Laws, Regulations, Rules and Codes, the most restrictive application shall apply, unless prohibited by Law.

1908.1.1 Definitions. The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and permit requirements of Chapter 1, have the meanings shown herein:

AGRICULTURAL LAND. As defined within Ventura County Ordinance Code Article 1, Chapter 7, Division 4, Section 4701.

APPLICATION. "Application" or "land application" shall mean the spreading of compostable material, compost, or mulch on land at the end user location.

CHIPPING AND GRINDING OPERATION. "Chipping and grinding operation(s)" shall mean any activity where compostable material is mechanically reduced (chipped or ground) and where such activity is subject to regulatory compliance by any regulation or standard, whether or not a solid waste permit is required.

COMPOST AND COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL. "Compost" and "Compostable Material" shall mean any organic material that when accumulated is capable of rapid decomposition and generating temperatures of at least 122 degrees Fahrenheit.

CONTAMINANTS. "Contaminants" shall mean pieces of non-compostable solid waste that include, but are not limited to, paper, plastics, metals, glass, clothing, painted or treated wood, plywood and other similar materials.

DISPOSAL. As defined within Ventura County Ordinance Code Article 1, Chapter 7, Division 4, Section 4701.

MULCH. "Mulch" shall mean compostable material limited to landscape waste and crop production byproducts consisting of leaves, grass clippings, weeds, yard trimmings, wood waste, branches and stumps, and whole plants/trees, that have been mechanically reduced in size, whether composted or not.

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL. "Recyclable material" shall mean any type of material that would otherwise become solid waste but, instead, is or may be recycled, as defined in the Public Resources Code Section 40180 as "recycle", and shall include material that is commingled or source separated, including compostable materials.

1908.1.2 Compost, Compostable Material, Mulch, Combustible Yard Waste, and Recyclable Material. Storage, processing and application of compost, compostable material, mulch, combustible yard waste, and recyclable material shall be as approved and required by the fire code official.

1908.1.3 Other Materials. Materials other than compost, compostable material, mulch, combustible yard waste, and recyclable material shall comply with Sections 1908.2 to 1908.10.

1908.2 Storage Site. Storage sites shall be level and on solid ground or other all-weather surface. Sites shall be thoroughly cleaned before transferring wood products to the site.

1908.3 Size of Piles. Piles shall not exceed 15 feet (4,572 mm) in height, 50 feet (15,240 mm) in width and 100 feet (30,480 mm) in length.

Exception: The fire code official is authorized to allow the pile size to be increased when additional fire protection is provided in accordance with Chapter 9. The increase shall be based upon the capabilities of the system installed.

1908.4 Pile Separation. Piles shall be separated from adjacent piles by approved fire apparatus access roads.

1908.5 Combustible Waste. The storage, accumulation and handling of combustible materials and control of vegetation shall comply with Chapter 3.

1908.6 Static Pile Protection. Static piles shall be monitored by an approved means to measure temperatures within the static piles. Internal pile temperatures shall be monitored and recorded weekly. Records shall be kept on file at the facility and made available for inspection. An operational plan indicating procedures and schedules for the inspection, monitoring and restricting of excessive internal temperatures in static piles shall be submitted to the fire code official for review and approval.

1908.7 Pile Fire Protection. Automatic sprinkler protection shall be provided in conveyor tunnels and combustible enclosures that pass under a pile. Combustible conveyor systems and enclosed conveyor systems shall be equipped with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

1908.8 Fire Extinguishers. Portable fire extinguishers complying with Section 906 and with a minimum rating of 4-A:60-B:C shall be provided on all vehicles and equipment operating on piles

and at all processing equipment.

1908.9 Material-handling Equipment. Approved material-handling equipment shall be available for moving wood chips, hogged material, wood fines and raw product during fire-fighting operations.

1908.10 Fire Protection Plan (FPP). The owner or operator shall develop a FPP for monitoring, controlling and extinguishing spot fires and submit the plan to the fire code official for review and approval. The FPP shall include the following:

- A. Scaled and dimensioned site plan indicating: property lines, buildings, access roads, fire hydrants, location of piles, push out area. A 20 or 40 scale shall be used.
- B. Available fire flow (if from purveyor) or location and size of water tanks (no purveyor).
- C. Monitoring procedures for pile temperature and moisture content.
- D. Fire suppression methods.
- E. Other procedure and methods to reduce fire within piles.
- F. Methods to control contaminants and contaminant storage / disposal procedures.
- G. Employee training.
- H. Equipment and resources available on-site for fire prevention / suppression.
- I. Thresholds for calling 911.

Chapter 22

Section 2206.2.3 is amended to read as follows:

2206.2.3 Above-ground tanks located outside, above grade. Above-ground tanks shall not be used for automotive fuel dispensing stations open to the public for retail sales. Above-ground tanks shall not be used for the storage of Class I, II or IIIA liquid motor fuels except as provided by this section.

Chapter 27

Section 2703.4 is amended to read as follows

2703.4 Material Safety Data Sheets. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) shall be readily available on the premises for hazardous materials regulated by this chapter. When a hazardous substance is developed in a laboratory, available information shall be documented. The fire code official is authorized to require the MSDS be kept in a key box at an approved location.

Exception: Designated hazardous waste.

Section 2704.14 is added to read as follows:

2704.14 Enclosures. Two means of access shall be provided when an enclosure is provided on three or more sides of a hazardous material container, tank or storage area. The two points of access shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the enclosure. Each access shall be a minimum of three feet in width. When provided, the method of locking or securing the enclosure shall be approved by the fire code official.

Chapter 33

IFC Section 3301 is amended to read as follows:

Section 3301.1 Scope. For explosive requirements see California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 10. For fireworks requirements see California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 6. All provisions of Chapter 33 of the 2009 IFC are pre-empted by the CFC and are not adopted as part of this Code, with the exception of the local amendments as set forth below.

IFC Section 3301.2 is added to read as follows:

Section 3301.2 Fireworks Prohibited. Fireworks, including "Safe and Sane" as defined by California Code of Regulations Title 19, shall not be used or possessed within the jurisdictional boundaries of the VCFPD, including its cities.

Exception: Public displays, pyrotechnic and theatrical special effects when stored and used in accordance with Title 19 and with a valid fire code permit.

Section 3301.3 is added to read as follows:

3301.3 Seizure. The fire code official or any law enforcement officer is authorized to seize, take, remove or cause to be removed fireworks in violation of Section 3301.2 or Title 19.

Appendix A is not adopted.

Appendix B is adopted and amended to read as follows:

APPENDIX B

VCFPD FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS

SECTION B101 GENERAL

B101.1 Scope. The procedure for determining fire-flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings hereafter constructed shall be in accordance with this appendix and the requirements of the adopted Water Works Manual for the County or City in which the building is located, whichever is more restrictive. This appendix does not apply to structures other than buildings, except that parcels, buildings and uses located in the SRA area shall also comply with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2: SRA Regulations. Fire flow for uses other than buildings shall be as determined by the fire code official.

SECTION B102 DEFINITIONS

B102.1 Definitions. For the purpose of this appendix, certain terms are defined as follows:

FIRE-FLOW. The flow rate of a water supply, measured at 20 pounds per square inch (psi) (138 kPa) residual pressure (PSIR), that is available for fire fighting. Fire-Flow also includes the required storage duration as required by this appendix or the adopted Water Works Manual.

FIRE-FLOW CALCULATION AREA. The building floor area, in square feet (m²), used to determine the required fire flow.

GREEN HOUSE is a Group U agricultural building used for the growing of plants. It shall include other structures also known as hothouses, coldframes and other similar specialty categories. It shall include construction materials of glass, rigid plastic, flexible plastic, masonry, wood, metal and concrete.

ISOLATED RESIDENTIAL is a single Group R, Division 3 dwelling on a parcel of land of 5 acres or more in size where no building is closer than 100 feet to the nearest building on any adjacent parcel.

ISOLATED COMMERCIAL is a single, commercial zoned parcel, not exceeding 2 acres in size, and surrounded by residential Group R, Division 3 dwelling zoned parcels.

SECTION B103 MODIFICATIONS

B103.1 Decreases. The fire chief is authorized to reduce the fire-flow requirements for isolated buildings or a group of buildings in rural areas or small communities where the development of full fire-flow requirements is impractical.

B103.2 Increases. The fire chief is authorized to increase the fire-flow requirements where conditions indicate an unusual susceptibility to group fires or conflagrations. An increase shall not be more than twice that required for the building under consideration.

B103.3 Areas without water supply systems. For information regarding water supplies for fire-fighting purposes in rural and suburban areas in which adequate and reliable water supply systems do not exist, the fire code official is authorized to utilize NFPA 1142 or the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

B103.4 Inadequate Water Purveyors. New buildings and uses requiring a water demand, domestic and or fire flow, shall not be permitted if the new building or use will impact or decrease the fire flow water available for the existing buildings and uses within the water purveyor's service area or service zone.

SECTION B104 FIRE-FLOW CALCULATION AREA

B104.1 General. The fire-flow calculation area shall be the total floor area of all floor levels within the exterior walls, and under the horizontal projections of the roof of a building, except as modified in Section B104.3.

B104.2 Area separation. Portions of buildings, which are separated by fire walls without openings, constructed in accordance with the International Building Code, are allowed to be considered as separate fire-flow calculation areas.

B104.3 Type IA and Type IB construction. The fire-flow calculation area of buildings constructed of Type IA and Type IB construction shall be the area of the three largest successive floors.

Exception: Fire-flow calculation area for open parking garages shall be determined by the area of the largest floor.

SECTION B105 FIRE-FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS

B105.1 One- and two-family dwellings and Group U Private Garages. The minimum fire-flow and flow duration requirements for one- and two-family dwellings and Group U private garages accessory to a one or two family dwelling, shall be 1000 gallons per minute (3785.4 L/min.) for two hours. When approved by the fire code official the following exceptions may be applied.

Exceptions:

1. If the water purveyor's current system cannot meet the required fire-flow, a reduction in required fire flow of 50 percent, as approved, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.
2. Isolated residential lots and existing residential parcels in existence prior to October 7, 1980, fire-flow for buildings may be reduced to 500 gallons per minute.
3. Buildings on rural residential parcels in existence prior to October 7, 1980, where there is no water purveyor or the water purveyor's current system cannot meet fire-flow or duration requirements without excessive system modifications, an on-site water storage tank may provide the fire protection water supply when the building has an approved automatic sprinkler system. Use of this exception shall be approved by the water purveyor for projects located in a water purveyor's service area. The location, capacity, connections and other appurtenances of the tank also shall be approved by the fire code official. Buildings utilizing this exception and are also using a fire protection system to mitigate required access, building construction or fuel modification reduction, shall provide fire sprinklers throughout the structure, including attics, and shall also provide at a minimum double the amount of water storage tank size normally required, but not less than 10,000 gallons. Note: This exception is not intended for use in urbanized developed areas with water purveyors.
4. Buildings on residential parcels created after October 7, 1980, where there is no water purveyor or the water purveyor certifies the system cannot provide the required fire-flow or duration, the provisions of Exception 3 may be utilized. Note: This exception is not intended for use in urbanized developed areas with water purveyors.
5. Buildings classified as Group R, Division 3 occupancies with a total fire area of 700 square feet or less and Group U occupancies with a total fire area of 1,500 square feet or less shall provide fire-flow as follows:
 - A. Minimum 250 gpm from a fire hydrant located within 1,000 feet of the building as measured along the required fire department access road or driveway.
 - B. A minimum 2,000 gallon water storage tank when using exception # 3 above.
6. Buildings with additions not exceeding 50% of the existing legal floor area are not required to provide additional fire flow unless there is no current fire flow available for the existing building.
7. Buildings located in a water purveyors service area and requiring a fire hydrant at a location more than 1,000 feet from the purveyors service main capable of providing the required fire flow may utilize exception #3.

B105.2 Buildings other than: one- and two-family dwellings and Group U Private

Garages. The minimum fire-flow and flow duration for buildings other than one and two-family dwellings and Group U private garages accessory to a one or two family dwelling, shall be as specified in Table B105.1. When approved by the fire code official the following exceptions may be applied.

Exceptions:

1. A reduction in required fire-flow of up to 50 percent, as approved by the fire code official, is allowed when the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system installed throughout in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. The resulting fire-flow shall not be less than 1,250 gallons per minute for the prescribed duration as specified in Table B105.1.
2. In rural areas where there is no water purveyor or the water purveyor certifies the system cannot provide the required fire-flow or duration, and the building is protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, the provisions in NFPA 13 for combined inside and outside hose lines may be utilized to determine fire-flow and duration. The required amount of water for fire flow shall be provided for every 10,000 sq ft or portion thereof of building area. If the water tank is serving more than one building, the required fire flow and fire sprinkler demand shall be based upon the largest requirement of any one building being served. The location, connections and other appurtenances of tanks shall be approved by the fire code official. Note: This exception is not intended for use in urbanized developed areas with water purveyors.
3. Buildings classified as Group U, agricultural buildings used as barns, storage structures, stables, poultry buildings and other similar uses with a total fire area of 1,500 square feet or less are not required to provide fire-flow.
4. Buildings classified as Group U, agricultural buildings used as greenhouses, horticultural structures, nurseries and similar uses with a total fire area of 3,000 square feet or less are not required to provide fire-flow.
5. For buildings classified as Group U, not exempt from fire-flow requirements by Exceptions 3 or 4, shall provide a minimum fire-flow of 500 gallons per minute for a minimum two (2) hour duration. Where there is no water purveyor or the water purveyor certifies the system cannot provide the required fire-flow or duration, an on-site water storage tank shall be provided. The tank capacity, location, connections and other appurtenances of tanks shall be approved by the fire code official. Note: This exception is not intended for use in urbanized developed areas with water purveyors.
6. Buildings with a total floor area of 700 square feet or less shall provide fire-flow as follows:
 - A. A minimum 250 gpm from a fire hydrant located within 1,000 feet of the building as measured along the required fire department access road or driveway.
 - B. Only a minimum 2,000 gallon water storage tank for fire flow when using exception # 2 above.

7. Additions to buildings where the new fire flow required by Table B105.1 does not increase more than 250 gpm are not required to provide additional fire flow unless there is no current fire flow available

8. Isolated commercial parcels may have fire flow determined as required for a Group R-3 parcel under section B105.1 when all of the following apply:

- A. The isolated commercial parcel is separated a minimum of ½ mile from any other isolated commercial or other non Group R-3 zoned parcels.
- B. No building exceeds 10,000 square feet of floor area.

9. Small Agricultural Produce Stands (as defined in the Ventura County Building Code (VCBC)) which comply with all of the following:

- A. Shall not exceed 400 square feet of floor area.
- B. Shall be constructed in accordance with the VCBC.
- C. Shall be separated from other buildings a minimum of 30 feet

B105.2 .1 Minimum Fire Hydrant Flows. The minimum fire hydrant flow rates when 2 or more fire hydrants are required shall be as follows:

- A. Only one (1) fire hydrant flowing:
 - i. 1,250 gpm for required fire flows less than or equal to 3,000 gpm.
 - ii. 1,500 gpm for required fire flows exceeding 3,000 gpm.
- B. Two (2) or more fire hydrants flowing: 1,000 gpm at all fire hydrants flowing.

Appendix C is adopted with the following amendments.

Section C102.1 is amended to read as follows:

C102.1 Fire Hydrant Locations. Fire hydrants shall be provided along required fire apparatus access roads driveways and adjacent streets. When required by the fire code official, additional fire hydrants above those required by Table C105.1 shall be provided along a complex, development or subdivision perimeter streets to provide a water supply for wildland fires.

Appendix D is not adopted.

Appendix E is adopted without amendments.

Appendix F is adopted without amendments.

Appendix G is adopted without amendments.

Appendix H is not adopted.

Appendix I is not adopted.

Appendix J is not adopted.

(continued on next page)

Appendix K is added to read as follows:

APPENDIX K

Fire Hazard Abatement.

K101 General

K101.1 Scope. This appendix provides provisions intended to identify hazard areas and mitigate the risk to life and structures from intrusion of fire from wildland fire exposures and fire exposures from adjacent structures and to mitigate fires from spreading to wildland fuels that may threaten to destroy life, overwhelm fire suppression capabilities, or result in large property loss. Requirements are based upon the California Health & Safety Code (H&S), California Public Resource Code (PRC), California Code of Regulations (CCR) and Fire District requirements.

K101.2 Purpose. The purpose of this appendix is to establish minimum requirements in wildland-urban interface areas that will increase the ability of a building to resist the intrusion of flame or burning embers being projected by a vegetation fire including: the identification of hazardous fire areas that require applicable defensible space provisions included in this Code and enforced by the fire code official and applicable state and local fire-resistive building standards that are required and enforced by the local building official.

K102 Definitions.

K102.1 Definitions. For the purpose of this appendix certain terms are defined as follows:

Fuel Break. An area, strategically located for fighting anticipated fires, where the native vegetation has been permanently modified or replaced so that fires burning into it can be more easily controlled. Fuel breaks divide fire-prone areas into smaller areas for easier fire control and to provide access for fire fighting.

Fuel Modification. A method of modifying fuel load by reducing the amount of non fire-resistive vegetation or altering the type of vegetation to reduce the fuel load.

Fuel Mosaic. A fuel modification system that provides for the creation of islands and irregular boundaries to reduce the visual and ecological impact of fuel modification.

Greenbelts. A facility or land-use, designed for a use other than fire protection, which will slow or resist the spread of a wildfire. Includes parking lots, irrigated or landscaped areas, golf courses, parks, playgrounds, maintained vineyards, orchards or annual crops that do not cure in the field.

Parcel is a portion of land of any size, the area of which is determined by the assessor's maps and records and may be identified by an assessor's parcel number whether or not any buildings are present.

Public Nuisance is a declaration by the fire code official that the presence of combustible material on a parcel creates a fire hazard.

K103 Unlawful Disposal. Every person who places, deposits or dumps combustible material on a parcel whether or not he owns such parcel, or whether or not he so places, deposits or dumps on such parcel with the consent of the owner thereof, is subject to the criminal sanctions set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 13871.

K104 Clearance of Brush, Vegetative Growth and Combustible Material from Parcels. All

parcels declared a public nuisance shall be cleared entirely of combustible material. If the fire code official determines this impractical, the provisions of Section K105 may be used.

K105 Clearance of Brush or Vegetative Growth from Structures.

K105.1 Structures. Any person owning, leasing, controlling, operating or maintaining any building in, upon, or adjoining any hazardous fire area, and any person owning, leasing or controlling any land adjacent to such buildings, shall at all times maintain around and adjacent to such building an effective firebreak made by removing and clearing away, all combustible material for a distance not less than 100 feet from all portions of the building. Distances may be increased by the fire code official because of a site-specific analysis based on local conditions and when required, based on a fire protection plan.

This section shall not apply to single specimens or stands of protected species of trees, ornamental shrubbery or similar plants used in landscaping and ground covers, provided that they do not form a means of rapidly transmitting a fire from the native growth to any building and are in accordance with Sections K105.1.1, K105.1.2, K105.1.3 and K105.1.4.

K105.1.1 Trees. When allowed by Section K105.1, trees within the defensible space shall comply with the following:

- A. Highly flammable trees are not allowed unless approved by the fire code official.
- B. The horizontal distance between crowns of trees and crowns of adjacent trees, overhead electrical facilities or unmodified fuel is not less than 15-feet.
- C. The vertical clearance distance above any roof is not less than 10 feet.
- D. The horizontal clearance to any chimney or heat producing device is not less than 10 feet.
- E. Trees exceeding 6 feet in height shall be limbed up from the ground 5 feet or 1/3rd the height of the tree, whichever is less.
- F. Deadwood and litter shall be regularly removed from trees.

K105.1.2 Fuel Mosaic. Fuel mosaic using shrubs shall comply with the following:

- A. Flammable plants and shrubs are not allowed.
- B. Shrubs shall not exceed 6 feet in height.
- C. Single grouping of shrubs are limited to a 10 foot diameter grouping.
- D. Each grouping shall be spaced a minimum of 15 feet from any other grouping.
- E. Grouping shall be spaced a minimum of 30 feet from any structure subject to Section K105.1 or K105.2.

K105.1.3 Detached Accessory Storage Buildings. Detached accessory storage buildings are not subject to the clearance requirements of K105.1 when all of the following apply:

- A. Building area is 120 square feet or less.
- B. The building is set back a minimum of 30 feet from any other building subject to the clearance requirements of K105.1
- C. A building permit is not required by the local Building Department.
- D. The building does not contain any items or materials requiring a fire code permit.

K105.1.4 Photovoltaic Systems. The clearance requirements around free standing photovoltaic systems and equipment shall comply with the following:

- A. A minimum 10 foot clearance for clusters of panels not exceeding 1,500 sq ft of combined panel area.
- B. Clusters shall be separated a minimum of 30 feet.
- C. A minimum 30 foot clearance for clusters of panels 1,501 to 5,000 sq ft of combined panel area.

- D. Clusters exceed 5,000 sq ft of combined panel area shall provide clearance as required under K105.1.
- E. Panels and clusters shall not be located within 30 feet of any building subject to clearance requirements of K105.1 unless the clearance requirements of K105.1 are provided as measured from the perimeter of the panel or cluster.

K105.2 Fire Protection Equipment and Utilities. The clearance requirements of Section K105.1 shall apply to cell site towers and their support buildings; required fire protection water supplies including water tanks, water supply pumps and pump houses; and any other utility structure as required by the fire code official. The fire code official may consider a reduced distance, not less than 30 feet, for water tanks and structures with no interior space, based upon a site risk assessment.

K106 Fire Protection and Vegetation Management Plans.

K106.1 Plans. A fire protection plan shall be prepared by the applicant when required by the fire code official.

K106.2. Submittal. Vegetation management plans shall be submitted to the fire code official for review and approval as part of the plans required for a permit. Vegetation management plans shall describe all actions that will be taken to prevent a fire from being carried toward or away from the building.

K106.2.1 Content. A vegetation management plan shall include at least the following information:

1. A copy of the site plan.
2. Methods and timetables for controlling, changing or modifying areas on the property.
3. Elements of the plan shall include removal of slash, snags, vegetation that may grow into overhead electrical lines, other ground fuels, ladder fuels and dead trees, and the thinning of live trees.
4. A plan for maintaining the proposed fuel-reduction measures.

K106.2.2 Maintenance. To be considered a fuel modification for purposes of this Code, continuous maintenance of the clearance is required.

K106.2.3 Greenbelts. Subdivisions and other developments, which propose greenbelts as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelts strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection authority.

K106.3.1 Cost. The cost of fire protection and vegetation management plans preparation and review shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

K107 Notice and Prosecution. The fire code official shall serve a written order upon the owner or possessor of a parcel, when, in his opinion, a public nuisance exists thereon. The order shall direct such owner or possessor to remove or abate the public nuisance within ten days after such order is given. Every owner or possessor who fails or refuses to abate said public nuisance from such parcel within ten days after being served with such order is guilty of a misdemeanor. Evidence that the current assessment roll of the County shows real property assessed to a person shall constitute *prima facie* evidence that such person is the owner of such property.

K107.1 Additional Notices. The 10-day abatement period shall not apply for any additional notices the fire code official may issue to a property owner for abatement of the hazard identified in the original notice. A reduced abatement period may apply as indicated by the fire code official on the additional notice. Additional notices may be posted upon the property in lieu of mailing.

K108 Clearance Upon Default of Owner or Lessee.

K108.1 Notice. The fire code official may, instead of or in addition to following the procedure set forth in Section K107, cause a notice to be mailed.

K108.2 Mailed Notice. If a notice is mailed, the fire code official shall provide information specified in Section K107 and shall include a description of the property according to that set forth on the County assessment roll, to the last assessee of the property at the address given on said roll. The fire code official shall also provide such notice, including the description, to the Clerk of the Board of Directors three days prior to the Board hearing. The notice shall be mailed at least ten days before the Board of Directors meets to hear the report of the fire code official regarding the alleged public nuisance. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of record in the current assessment roll to notify any new owner or possessor of the property of the notice that was received and forward the notice to the new owner or possessor of the property. It shall also be the responsibility of the current owner of record to notify the Fire District of this change in ownership on the form provided.

K108.3 Hearing. At the time and place stated in the notices, the Board of Directors shall meet to hear the report of the fire code official and any objections thereto. The fire code official shall attend, inform the Board as to the alleged public nuisance, and supply the description of the parcel upon which it exists, the name and address of the last known assessee thereof, and state what has been done in order to give notice of the hearing according to the provisions of this Code. The Board may continue the hearing from time to time as it sees fit.

K108.3.1 Seasonal and Reoccurring. If the Board of Directors makes a finding of seasonal and reoccurring combustible material upon the parcel, no further public hearings are required before the fire code official can issue a notice to abate the hazard and Section L108.5 shall apply. Ref: H&S 14900.5

K108.4 Clean-up Order. If, after a hearing, the Board of Directors finds that a public nuisance exists upon a parcel, the Board may direct the fire code official to abate the public nuisance. The Board shall maintain a record of its proceedings at such hearing and retain therewith the report of the fire code official and a description of such parcel and, where available, the name and address of its last known assessee.

K108.5 Abatement. If the Board of Directors directs the fire code official to abate a public nuisance, he shall proceed to abate such nuisance unless it has been completely abated before his agents arrive to begin such abatement. The fire code official may expend District funds for such abatement and may contract with a person or persons for such abatement.

K109 Collection of the Cost of Abatement

K109.1 Account of Expenses. The fire code official shall keep an account of his expenses when abating a public nuisance pursuant to an order by the Board of Directors and file the account thereof with the Board which shall include a description, according to the County assessment roll, of the parcel upon which such public nuisance existed and, when available, the name and address of the last known assessee.

K109.2 Confirmation of Expense Account. The account of expenses shall be maintained on file, open to public inspection, in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Directors for at least ten days before a hearing of the Board to confirm such account. Before the expiration of such ten days, any person may file a written request to be notified of such hearing. Upon confirmation, the Board shall mail notice to the address supplied for any such written request. At the time fixed for such hearing, the Board shall meet to hear any objections to the account of expenses filed by the fire code official. At such hearing the Board may make any modification in the amount it deems just, after which the account shall be confirmed.

K109.3 Special Assessment and Lien. The amount of expenses incurred by the fire code official for abating a public nuisance when confirmed by the Board of Directors shall constitute a special assessment against the parcel from which the said public nuisance was removed and a lien thereon for the amount of such assessment.

K109.4 Transmittal of Account. The Board of Directors shall deliver a copy of the account, as confirmed, to the Auditor of the County on or before the 10th day of August following such confirmation.

K109.5 Inclusion of Assessment. The County Auditor shall enter the amount stated in the account as a special assessment against the parcel described in the account. The Tax Collector of the County shall include the amount of the assessment on the bill for taxes levied against the parcel. All laws applicable to the levy, collection and enforcement of county taxes are applicable to such special assessments, except that if any real property to which such lien would attach has been transferred or conveyed to a bona fide purchaser for value, or if a lien of a bona fide encumbrance for value has been created and attaches thereon, prior to the date on which the first installment of such taxes would become delinquent, then the lien which would otherwise be imposed by this section shall not attach to such real property and the costs of abatement, as confirmed, relating to such real property shall be transferred to the unsecured roll for collection. All special assessments collected shall be paid into the county treasury to be used on behalf of the Fire District.

(Continued on next page)

Appendix L is added to read as follows:

APPENDIX L FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

L101 General. An automatic fire extinguishing system shall be installed in all occupancies and locations as set forth in Appendix L and Chapter 9.

L102 Definitions

Building, Existing – as defined in the California Building Code.

Floor Area - as defined in the California Building Code.

L103 Where required. Approved automatic sprinkler systems in new and existing buildings shall be provided in the locations described in this section.

L103.1 Buildings. An automatic fire extinguishing system shall be installed in all buildings.

Exceptions:

1. Group U Occupancies when approved by fire code official.
2. Small Agricultural Produce Stands (as defined in the Ventura County Building Code (VCBC)) which comply with all of the following:
 - A. Shall not exceed 400 square feet of floor area.
 - B. Shall be constructed in accordance with the VCBC.
 - C. Shall be separated from other buildings a minimum of 30 feet.
3. Free standing restroom buildings which comply with all of the following:
 - A. Shall not exceed 400 square feet of floor area.
 - B. Shall be constructed primarily of non-combustible materials (wood frame with drywall or stucco covering is acceptable).
 - C. Shall have a minimum Class A roof.
 - D. Shall be separated from other buildings a minimum of 30 feet.
 - E. No other combined use is permitted (I.E: maintenance room, snack bar, storage, etc.).
4. Combination restroom with pool equipment shelter which complies with the requirements of exception # 3 above (other than 3.A. and D.) and the following:
 - A. Shall not exceed 200 square feet of floor area.
 - B. Shall not have any habitable or storage space
 - C. Shall be separated from other buildings a minimum of 15 feet.
5. Picnic and lunch shelters structures which comply with all of the following:
 - A. Use is defined as a Group A, Division 2 or 3 occupancy by the Building Department.
 - B. Shall not exceed 1,500 square feet for A-2 Occupancy or 4,500 square feet of floor area for A-3 Occupancy.
 - C. Shall be separated from other buildings a minimum of 30 feet.
 - D. Only picnic tables and chairs are located underneath the shelter.
 - E. Shall not have any enclosed space underneath the shelter covering.
 - F. Shall be located at grade level around the entire shelter.
 - G. Open on all sides from finished grade to a height of 10 feet above finished grade.

- H. Structural columns and other architectural features may not obstruct more than 10% of the opening length around the structure.
- I. Shall have no obstructions that will hinder egress within 10 feet of the exterior perimeter of the shelter for a distance of 75% of the opening length around the shelter.
- J. A food prep surface area may be located along one opening, but shall not obstruct more than 20 feet or 10% of the opening length, whichever is smaller.
- K. May be constructed of any materials allowed by the California Building Code.
- L. Any roof covering shall be non-combustible if not an open trellis style shelter.

L103.2 Buildings, Existing. Buildings in existence at the time of the effective date of this Appendix may have their existing use continued if such use was legal at the time. Additions to buildings shall require an automatic fire extinguishing system installed throughout, including areas not previously protected, except for buildings that meet one of the following exceptions.

Exceptions:

1. All occupancies, except Group R, Division 3, where an addition is 25% or less of the existing floor area.
2. Occupancies classified as Group R, Division 3, including attached Group U occupancies, where an addition is 1,000 square feet or less, regardless of the percent of addition.
3. Occupancies classified as Group R, Division 3 including attached Group U occupancies, where an addition is 50% or less of the existing floor area.
4. Group U Occupancies when approved by the fire code official.

L103.2.1 Concurrent permits. Additions or modifications, where the application for building permit is submitted prior to the final inspection of any previously issued building permit(s) shall require the installation of an automatic fire extinguishing system throughout (including areas not previously protected by an automatic fire extinguishing system) when the area of addition or modification of the combined previously issued permits and the new application exceed the exceptions listed under section L103.2.

L103.3. Previously Exempt Buildings and Uses. To establish the fire sprinkler requirements for buildings and uses legally in existence that were previously exempt from automatic fire sprinklers due to limited size or use, and that are being increased above the exempt amount, or are changing the occupancy use that would not have been exempt when the building permit was issued, shall comply with requirements for automatic fire sprinklers as follows:

L103.3.1 Additions. Any existing building less than 701 sq ft previously exempt from fire sprinklers that would have been required to mitigate fire flow, access requirements, or distance to a fire station, at the time the building permit was issued, shall provide fire sprinklers within the entire building when any addition to the building brings the total square footage over the previous exempt amount of 700 sq ft, regardless of the percent of the addition. Exceptions 1 to 3 under Section L103.2 shall not apply.

L103.3.2 Change of Use. Any change of use of a Group U occupancy, that reclassifies to a new occupancy classification that would not have been exempt from fire sprinklers due to existing size, use, fire flow, access requirements, or distance to a fire station, under a previous Fire District Ordinance in effect at the time the building permit was issued, shall provide fire sprinklers within the existing building. The exceptions under Section L103.2 shall not apply. This section does not limit the requirements for fire sprinklers for the new occupancy classification under the current California Building and Fire Codes.

L104 Installation Requirements.

L104.1 Modifications.

L104.1.1 Fire Walls. For the purpose of this Appendix, fire walls shall not be considered as creating separate buildings.

L104.1.2 Coverage. Where allowed, sprinkler systems installed in accordance with NFPA 13D in Group R-3 occupancies shall provide sprinkler protection for attached Group U occupancies and all bathrooms.

L104.1.3 Modifications Prohibited. When NFPA 13R sprinkler systems are provided in Group R occupancies, exceptions to, or reductions in, code requirements are not allowed based on the installation of either a NFPA 13R or a NFPA 13 sprinkler system. This shall also include requirements in the California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 2 and Part 9.

L105. Maintenance of Area Separation Walls

L105.1 General. Area separation fire walls used to create fire areas less than 5,000 square feet in buildings, for which the original application for permit under which the building was constructed was accepted by Building and Safety before November 1, 2002, shall be maintained as approved area separation fire walls with no openings.

L106 Findings

L106.1 General. After due consideration the Board of Directors of the VCFPD hereby finds that due to local climatic, geologic and topographic conditions as stated in this section, that modifications and changes to the current California Building Code and California Fire Code are reasonably necessary to provide sufficient and effective protection of life, health and property.

L106.1.2 Climatic. Ventura County experiences periods of high temperatures, accompanied by low humidity and high winds each year. These conditions create an environment in which the Fire District commits large numbers of fire fighting resources to the control and extinguishment of wildland fires. During such periods, the limited available firefighting resources may have great difficulty in controlling fires in structures not having built-in fire protection.

L106.1.3 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 available firefighting resources. Built-in fire protection will assist in extinguishing or controlling fires in structures, which will increase the availability of firefighting resources after seismic activity.

L106.1.4 Topographical. Ventura County has rural areas that are in hazardous fire areas. Due to topography, access to structures in rural areas increases response time and delays fire suppression efforts. An extended response time will allow fires to grow beyond the control of initial attack 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.

L107 Ratification

L107.1 General. Before Appendix L of Ordinance No. 27 is effective in the County of Ventura or in a city within the Fire Protection District, the legislative body of the County or of the city shall ratify Appendix L in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7.

(Continued on next page)

Appendix M is added to read as follows:

APPENDIX M

Fire Safety Provisions for Hazardous Fire Areas, Wildland Urban Interface Areas and Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

M101 GENERAL

M101.1 Scope. The provisions of this appendix establish general requirements applicable to new and existing properties located within Hazardous Fire Areas (HFA), Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Areas and Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ).

M101.2 Objective. The objective of this appendix is to provide necessary fire protection measures to reduce the threat of wildfire in a HFA, WUI and FHSZ and improve the capability of controlling such fires.

M102 VEGETATION CONTROL

M102.1 General. Vegetation control shall comply with this section and Appendix K.

M102.2 Clearance of brush or vegetative growth from roadways. The fire code official is authorized to require areas within 10 feet (3,048 mm) on each side of portions of fire apparatus access roads and driveways to be cleared of non fire-resistive vegetation growth.

Exception: Single specimens of trees, ornamental vegetative fuels or cultivated ground cover, such as green grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants used as ground cover, provided they do not form a means of readily transmitting fire.

M102.3 Clearance of brush and vegetative growth from electrical transmission and distribution lines.

M102.3.1 General. Clearance of brush and vegetative growth from electrical transmission and distribution lines shall be in accordance with the following subsections of Section M102.3 and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14.

Exception: Section M102.3 does not authorize persons not having legal right of entry to enter on or damage the property of others without consent of the owner.

M102.3.2 Support clearance. Persons owning, controlling, operating or maintaining electrical transmission or distribution lines shall have an approved program in place that identifies poles or towers with equipment and hardware types that have a general history of becoming an ignition source, and provides a combustible free space consisting of a clearing of not less than 10 feet (3,048 mm) in each direction from the outer circumference of such pole or tower during such periods of time as designated by the fire code official.

Exception: Lines used exclusively as telephone, telegraph, messenger call, alarm transmission or other lines classed as communication circuits by a public utility.

M102.3.3 Electrical distribution and transmission line clearances.

M102.3.3.1 General. Clearances between vegetation and electrical lines shall be in accordance with Section M102.3.3.

M102.3.3.2 Trimming clearance. At the time of trimming, clearances not less than those established by Table M102.3.3.2 shall be provided. The radial clearances shown below are minimum clearances that shall be established, at time of trimming, between the vegetation and the energized conductors and associated “live parts” of electrical equipment.

TABLE M102.3.3.2
MINIMUM CLEARANCES BETWEEN VEGETATION
AND ELECTRICAL LINES AT TIME OF TRIMMING

LINE VOLTAGE	MINIMUM RADIAL CLEARANCE FROM CONDUCTOR (feet)
2,400-72,000	4
72,001-110,000	6
110,001-300,000	10
300,001 or more	15

For International System of Units (SI): 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

Exception: The fire code official is authorized to establish minimum clearances different than those specified by Table M102.3.3.2 when evidence substantiating such other clearances is submitted to and approved by the fire code official.

M102.3.3.3 Minimum clearance to be maintained. Clearances not less than those established by Table M102.3.3.3 shall be maintained during such periods of time as designated by the fire code official. The site-specific clearance achieved, at time of pruning, shall vary based on species growth rates, the utility company-specific trim cycle, the potential line sway due to wind, line sag due to electrical loading and ambient temperature and any vegetation's location in proximity to the high voltage lines.

Exception: The fire code official is authorized to establish minimum clearances different than those specified by Table M102.3.3.3 when evidence substantiating such other clearances is submitted to and approved by the fire code official.

TABLE M102.3.3.3
MINIMUM CLEARANCES BETWEEN VEGETATION AND
ELECTRICAL LINES TO BE MAINTAINED

LINE VOLTAGE	MINIMUM CLEARANCE (feet)
750-35,000	6
35,001-60,000	12
60,001-115,000	19
115,001-230,000	30.5
230,001-500,000	115

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

M102.3.3.4 Electrical power line emergencies. During emergencies, the utility shall perform the required work to the extent necessary to clear the hazard. An emergency can include situations such as trees falling into power lines, or trees in violation of Table M102.3.3.3.

M102.4 Correction of condition. The fire code official is authorized to give notice to the owner of the property on which conditions regulated by Section M102 exist to correct such conditions. If the owner fails to correct such conditions, the legislative body of the District is authorized to cause the same to be done and make the expense of such correction a lien on the property where such condition exists.

M103 ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

M103.1 Restricted entry to public lands. The fire code official is authorized to determine and publicly announce when WUI or FHSZ areas shall be closed to entry and when such areas shall again be opened to entry. Entry on and occupation of WUI or FHSZ areas, except public roadways, inhabited areas or established trails and campsites that have not been closed during such time when the WUI or FHSZ area is closed to entry, is prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Residents and owners of private property within WUI or FHSZ areas and their invitees and guests going to or being on their lands.
2. Entry, in the course of duty, by peace or police officers, and other duly authorized public officers, members of a fire department and members of the Wildland Firefighting Service.

M103.2 Trespassing on posted private property.

M103.2.1 General. When the fire code official determines that a specific area within a WUI or FHSZ area presents an exceptional and continuing fire danger because of the density of natural growth, difficulty of terrain, proximity to structures or accessibility to the public, such areas shall be restricted or closed until changed conditions warrant termination of such restriction or closure. Such areas shall be posted in accordance with Section M103.2.2.

M103.2.2 Signs. Approved signs prohibiting entry by un-authorized persons and referring to this Code shall be placed on every closed area.

M103.2.3 Trespassing. Entering and remaining within areas closed and posted is prohibited.

Exception: Owners and occupiers of private or public property within closed and posted areas; their guests or invitees; authorized persons engaged in the operation and maintenance of necessary utilities such as electrical power, gas, telephone, water and sewer; and local, state and federal public officers and their authorized agents acting in the course of duty.

M103.3 Use of fire roads and defensible space. Motorcycles, motor scooters and motor vehicles shall not be driven or parked on, and trespassing is prohibited on, fire roads or defensible space beyond the point where travel is restricted by a cable, gate or sign, without the permission of the property owners. Vehicles shall not be parked in a manner that obstructs the entrance to a fire road or defensible space. Radio and television aerials, guy wires thereto, and other obstructions shall not be installed or maintained on fire roads or defensible spaces, unless located 16 feet (4,877 mm) or more above such fire road or defensible space.

Exception: This section does not apply to public officers acting within their scope of duty.

M103.4 Use of motorcycles, motor scooters, ultra light air-craft and motor vehicles. Motorcycles, motor scooters, ultra-light aircraft and motor vehicles shall not be operated within WUI or FHSZ areas, without a permit by the fire code official, except on clearly established public or private roads. Permission from the property owner shall be presented when requesting a permit.

M103.5 Use of Equipment.

M103.5.1 General. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person shall use, operate or cause to be operated, in upon or adjoining any hazardous fire area, any internal combustion engine which uses hydrocarbon fuels, unless the engine is equipped with an approved spark arrestor maintained in effective working order, or the engine is constructed, equipped and maintained for the prevention of fire.

M103.5.2 Location. Spark arresters affixed to the exhaust system of engines or vehicles subject to this section M103.5 shall not be placed or mounted in such a manner as to allow flames or heat from the exhaust system to ignite any flammable material.

M103.5.3 Construction. A spark arrester is a device constructed of nonflammable material specifically for the purpose of removing and retaining carbon and other flammable particles over 0.0232 of an inch (0.58mm) in size from the exhaust flow of an internal combustion engine the uses hydrocarbon fuels or which is qualified and rated by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and bears said USFS approval stamp.

M103.5.4. Other Vehicles. Engines used to provide motor power for trucks, truck tractors, buses, and passenger vehicles, except motorcycles, are not subject to Section M103.5 if the exhaust system is equipped with a muffler as defined in the California Vehicle Code and the muffler is maintained in proper working condition.

M103.5.5 Turbocharged Engines. Turbocharged engines are not subject to Section M103.5 if all exhaust gases pass through the rotating turbine wheel, there is no exhaust bypass to the atmosphere and the turbocharger is in effective mechanical condition.

M103.5.6 Private Closed Courses. Section M103.5 shall not apply to an organized closed course facility if measures to prevent, control and extinguish any fire resulting from use of internal combustion engines are approved by the fire code official. A fire protection plan may be required. Also see Section 403 and Appendix K.

M103.6 Tampering with locks, barricades, signs and address markers. Locks, barricades, seals, cables, signs and address markers installed within WUI or FHSZ areas, by or under the control of the fire code official, shall not be tampered with, mutilated, destroyed or removed. Gates, doors, barriers and locks installed by or under the control of the fire code official shall not be unlocked.

M104IGNITION SOURCE CONTROL

M104.1 General. Ignition sources shall be in accordance with Section M104.

M104.2 Objective. Regulations in this section are intended to provide the minimum requirements to prevent the occurrence of wildfires.

M104.3 Clearance from ignition sources. Clearance between ignition sources and grass, brush or other combustible materials shall be maintained a minimum of 30 feet (9,144 mm).

M104.4 Smoking. When required by the fire code official, signs shall be posted stating NO SMOKING. No person shall smoke within 15 feet (4,572 mm) of combustible materials or non fire-resistive vegetation.

Exception: Places of habitation or in the boundaries of established smoking areas or campsites as designated by the fire code official.

M104.5 Equipment and devices generating heat, sparks or open flames. Equipment and devices generating heat, sparks or open flames capable of igniting nearby combustibles shall not be used in wildland-urban interface areas without a permit from the fire code official.

Exception: Use of approved equipment within places of habitation or designated campsites that are a minimum of 30 feet (9,144 mm) from grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered areas.

M104.6 Outdoor fires.

M104.6.1 General. No person shall build, ignite or maintain any outdoor fire of any kind for any purpose in or on any WUI or FHSZ area, except by the authority of a written permit from the fire code official.

Exception: Outdoor fires within places of habitation or designated campsites where such fires are in a permanent barbecue, portable barbecue, outdoor fireplace, incinerator or grill and are a minimum of 30 feet (9,144 mm) from any combustible material or non fire-resistive vegetation.

M104.6.2 Permits. Permits shall incorporate such terms and conditions that will reasonably safeguard public safety and property. Outdoor fires shall not be built, ignited or maintained in or on hazardous fire areas under the following conditions:

1. When high winds are blowing,
2. When a person 17 years old or over is not present at all times to watch and tend such fire, or
3. When a public announcement is made that open burning is prohibited.

M104.6.3 Restrictions. No person shall use a permanent barbecue, portable barbecue, outdoor fireplace or grill for the disposal of rubbish, trash or combustible waste material.

M104.7 Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues and grills. Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues and grills shall not be built, installed or maintained in WUI or FHSZ areas without approval of the fire code official. Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecue and grills shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all times. Openings in such appliances shall be provided with an approved spark arrestor, screen or door.

Exception: When approved by the fire code official, unprotected openings in barbecues and grills necessary for proper functioning.

M104.8 Reckless behavior. The fire code official is authorized to stop any actions of a person or persons if the official determines that the action is reckless and could result in an ignition of fire or spread of fire.

M104.9 Planting vegetation under or adjacent to energized electrical lines. No vegetation shall be planted under or adjacent to energized power lines that, at maturity, shall grow within 10 feet (3,048 mm) of the energized conductors.

SECTION M105 CONTROL OF STORAGE

M105.1 General. In addition to the requirements of the IFC, storage and use of the materials shall be in accordance with Section M105.

M105.2 Hazardous materials. Hazardous materials in excess of 10 gallons (37.8 L) of liquid, 200

cubic feet (5.66m³) of gas, or 10 pounds (4.54 kg) of solids require a permit and shall comply with nationally recognized standards for storage and use.

M105.3 Explosives. Explosives shall not be possessed, kept, stored, sold, offered for sale, given away, used, discharged, transported or disposed of within wildland-urban interface areas, except by permit from the fire code official.

M105.4 Combustible materials.

M105.4.1 General. Outside storage of combustible materials such as, but not limited to, wood, rubber tires, building materials or paper products shall comply with the other applicable sections of this Code and this section.

M105.4.2 Individual piles. Individual piles shall not exceed 5,000 square feet (465 m²) of contiguous area. Piles shall not exceed 50,000 cubic feet (1,416m³) in volume or 10 feet (3,048 mm) in height.

M105.4.3 Separation. A clear space of at least 40 feet (12,192 mm) shall be provided between piles. The clear space shall not contain combustible material or non fire-resistive vegetation.

SECTION M106 DUMPING

M106.1 Waste material. Waste material shall not be placed, deposited or dumped in WUI or FHSZ areas, or in, on or along trails, roadways or highways or against structures in wildland-urban interface areas.

Exception: Approved public and approved private dumping areas.

M106.2 Ashes and coals. Ashes and coals shall not be placed, deposited or dumped in or on wildland-urban interface areas.

Exceptions:

1. In the hearth of an established fire pit, camp stove or fireplace.
2. In a noncombustible container with a tight-fitting lid, which is kept or maintained in a safe location not less than 10 feet (3,048mm) from non fire-resistive vegetation or structures.
3. Where such ashes or coals are buried and covered with 1 foot (305 mm) of mineral earth not less than 25 feet (7,620 mm) from non fire-resistive vegetation or structures.

SECTION M107 LAND USE LIMITATIONS

M107.1 General. Temporary fairs, carnivals, public exhibitions and similar uses must comply with all other provisions of this Code in addition to enhanced ingress and egress requirements. Also see Section 403.

M107.2 Objective. The increased public use of land or structures in Wildland-urban interface areas also increases the potential threat to life safety. The provisions of this section are intended to reduce that threat.

M107.3 Permits. Temporary fairs, carnivals, public exhibitions or similar uses shall not be allowed in a designated Wildland-urban interface area, except by permit from the fire code official. Permits shall incorporate such terms and conditions that will reasonably safeguard public safety and property.

M107.4 Access roadways. In addition to the requirements in Section 403, access roadways shall be a minimum of 24 feet (7,315 mm) wide and posted FIRE LANE - NO STOPPING-TOW AWAY. Two access roadways shall be provided to serve the permitted use area. When required by the fire code official to facilitate emergency operations, approved emergency vehicle operating areas shall be provided.

M108 Restricted Development Setbacks. New structures and additions to existing structures shall not be constructed less than 100 feet from any protected habitat, whether on the same or adjacent parcels, where the 100 foot defensible space required under Appendix K can not be provided, unless an alternate method of construction and protection is provided that can ensure the safety of the structure as approved by the fire code official. Protected habitat includes lands restricted from brush clearance or modification by Local, State or Federal agencies.

Appendix N is added to read as follows:

APPENDIX N ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS

Section N101 GENERAL PROVISIONS

N101.1 Purpose. This chapter is adopted for the purpose of making any violation of this Code subject to an administrative fine and to set forth the procedures for the imposition and collection of such fines.

N101.2 Applicability. This chapter provides for administrative citations that are in addition to all other legal remedies, criminal or civil, which may be pursued by the fire code official to address any violation of this Code. The use of this chapter shall be at the sole discretion of the fire code official enforcing this Code.

Section N102 DEFINITIONS.

Unless the contrary is stated or clearly appears from the context, the following definitions shall govern the construction of the words and phrases used in the chapter.

CITEE means the person(s) to whom a fire code official issued an administrative citation pursuant to this chapter.

DAY means calendar, not business, day.

FIRE CODE OFFICIAL means any VCFPD employee or agent with the authority to enforce any provision of this Code.

HEARING OFFICER The VCFPD Fire Marshal, or designee, will select the hearing officer for the administrative citation hearing.

REVIEWING OFFICER is the fire code official's representative assigned to conduct initial requests for review of an administration citation.

Section N103 NOTICES.

N103.1 Service. Unless otherwise provided, all notices and citations required by this chapter shall be served on citee via personal service or first class mail, postage prepaid, to citee's last known address. Service shall be deemed effective when personally served or when deposited into the United States mail. The individual serving citee with any notice shall complete a declaration of service. Failure to receive any notice shall not affect the validity of the proceedings conducted under this chapter.

Section N104 ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS

N104.1 Administrative Citations. Issuing an administrative citation pursuant to this chapter is in lieu of any criminal citation that could have been issued for the same violation. The issuance of the administrative citation does not, however, prevent issuance of a criminal citation for subsequent violations of the same nature.

N104.1 Contents. Each administrative citation shall contain the following information:

1. The date of the violation
2. The address or a definite description of the geographic location where the violation occurred or is occurring
3. The section of this Code that was violated
4. A description of the conditions causing the code violations
5. The amount of the administrative fine for the code violation
6. A description of the fine payment process, including a description of the time within which and the place to which the fine shall be paid
7. An order prohibiting the continuation or repeated occurrence of the code violation described in the administrative citation
8. Notification that payment of a fine under this chapter shall not excuse or discharge any continuation or repeated occurrence of the code violation that is the subject of the administration citation
9. A description of the administrative citation review process, including the time within which the administrative citation may be contested and the manner in which a request for review of the citation may be requested; and
10. The name of the citing fire code official.

N104.2 Service; Storage. The fire code official shall serve the original citation on the citee in the manner set forth in this chapter. The fire code official will be the custodian for the citation and, except as specified by this chapter, all documents related thereto.

N104.3 Records Duration. All citations and related documents shall be retained for a period of three (3) years after final disposition of the citation case.

Section N105 ADMINISTRATIVE FINES

N105.1 Amount of Fine. The amounts of the administrative fines imposed under this chapter for violations of this Code shall be established by Board of Directors and are subject to change by resolution of the Board of Directors. That resolution shall also set forth any increased fines for repeat violations of the same code provision(s) by the same person within twelve (12) months from the date of a previous administrative citation.

N105.1.1 Administrative Fine Established. The following administrative fines are established and shall be applicable to each violation of any provision of this Code unless the Board of Directors provides otherwise by subsequent resolution or ordinance amendment:

- A. A fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) for the first violation.
- B. A fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200) for the second violation of the same provision within one (1) year of the first violation.
- C. A fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) for the third violation of the same provision within one (1) year of the first violation.

N105.1.1.1 Factors to be Considered in Determining the Amount of Any Fines. The amount of any administrative fine imposed for separate violations of this Code may be up to, but not exceed, \$1,000 per day. In determining the amount of the fine, the fire code enforcement officer shall consider the known relevant circumstances in light of various factors which include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The actual or potential extent of the harm caused;
2. The likelihood to cause harm;
3. The seriousness or gravity of the violation (i.e., the level of threat to property, health, or safety of people and animals or the environment);
4. Whether the violation is subject to correction by obtaining a permit or cannot be corrected by permit;
5. The culpability of the violator in causing the violation;
6. The length of time over which the violation occurs;
7. The history of past violations, either of a similar or different nature, on the same or different property under the same ownership;
8. The cooperation of the violator in resolving the existing and past violations;
9. The financial burden to the violator;
10. The factors and policies set forth in any guidelines hereafter adopted by the Board of Directors; and
11. All other relevant circumstances.

N105.2 Payment Of Administration Fines An administrative fine shall be paid to the VCFPD within thirty (30) days from the date of the administrative citation or, if a request for an initial administrative review is submitted, within fifteen (15) days of the date of issuance of the reviewing officer's report of the conclusions of the initial administrative review, whichever is later (the "due date").

N105.3 Delinquent Administrative Fines Penalties & Interest. The following shall apply to any delinquent administrative fine due:

N105.3.1 Penalties A penalty of ten percent (10%) shall be added to any delinquent fines on the last day of each month after the due date. The total amount of any penalty shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the fine.

N105.3.2 Interest In addition to any penalties provided by this Section, delinquent fines will accrue interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, exclusive of penalties, from and after the due date until paid in full.

N105.3.3 Legal Means. The VCFPD may use all legal means to collect any past due fines or penalties should a citee fail to pay the fine or penalties by the applicable due date.

N105.4 Issuance Of Permits. Should a fire code official issue a citation because the citee lacks a required permit and the fine subsequently become delinquent, the required permit shall not be issued until the delinquent fine, and any applicable penalties and interest, is paid in full. Any permit issued may be revoked for the citee's failure to timely pay any delinquent fine or penalties.

Section N106 ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND HEARINGS

N106.1 Initial Administrative Review Request. A citee may request an initial administrative review of the citation within twenty (20) days of its issuance. This request must be made in writing to the fire district, attention: reviewing officer. A citee's request must set forth, with particularity, the reasons the citee believes a violation did not occur or that the citee should not be found responsible for the violation(s), and must also include a copy of the citation, and the address to which the reviewing officer's report of the conclusions of the initial administrative review should be mailed. A request for an initial administrative review is a mandatory prerequisite to any subsequent request for an administrative hearing.

N106.2 Initial Administrative Review Decision Upon receiving a citee's request for review, the reviewing officer shall review the request, citation, and other pertinent information, and provide the citee with written report that includes either of the following with respect to each alleged violation:

1. The citation is vacated because there was no violation, or the citee was not responsible for the violation; or
2. The citation is not vacated because no justification for setting aside the violation was found.

The report shall briefly set forth the reasons for the reviewing officer's conclusion(s).

N106.2.1 Notification. The reviewing officer shall mail a copy of the report to the citee at the address included in the request for initial administrative review along with, if applicable, notice of the fine due date and the procedure for requesting an administrative hearing.

N106.2.2 Time Period. Absent unusual circumstances, a reviewing officer should complete his/her review within ten (10) business days of receiving a citee's request. A notice of the administrative review decision shall be mailed within 3 business days of the reviewing officer's conclusion of his/her review.

Section N107 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING PROCEDURES

N107.1 Request For Administrative Hearing. Any citee dissatisfied with the conclusions of an initial administrative review may further contest the citation by requesting an administrative hearing. Any request for an administrative hearing must be submitted in writing within fifteen (15) days of the date of the reviewing officer's report, which shall otherwise be final. Requests for administrative hearings must be submitted to the VCFPD Prevention Bureau and must be accompanied by an advance deposit in the total amount of the fine or a request for a hardship waiver.

N107.2 Advance Deposit – Hardship Waiver. Citees who claim they are financially unable to make an advance deposit in the amount of the administrative fine may file for a hardship waiver. The request for a hardship waiver must be filed with the VCFPD's administrative office on a form containing the information requested by the VCFPD, including the address to which the District's determination should be mailed. The VCFPD will review the request and determine whether a waiver is justified. A waiver may only be approved if the request for waiver is accompanied by a sworn affidavit, together with any supporting documents or materials, demonstrating that the citee's actual financial inability to deposit the full amount of the fine pending further review.

N107.2.1 Notification. The VCFPD will inform the citee in writing regarding whether the District has approved or denied the waiver. This determination shall be served upon the citee by mail at the address provided in the waiver application. The VCFPD determination is final.

N107.2.2 Deposit Due. Should the District determine that waiver is unjustified, the citee must deposit the amount of the fine with the District at the location set forth in the citation not later than ten (10) days after the date of the District's notice of rejection of the waiver. Citee's failure to make such a deposit within ten (10) days after denial of any waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the citee's right to an administrative hearing and the administrative fine shall be deemed final and delinquent.

N107.3 Hearing Date. After receiving a timely filed hearing request and deposit, or waiver, of the fine amount, the Fire Marshal will set an administrative hearing on a date not less than fifteen (15), or more than sixty (60) days, from the date the hearing is requested or the waiver is granted or denied. Written notice of the date, time and location of the administrative hearing will be provided to the citee at least fifteen (15) days prior to the hearing date.

N107.4 Conduct Of Hearings. The following procedures shall apply to the administrative hearing:

N107.4.1 Evidentiary Rules. The administrative citation shall constitute *prima facie* evidence of the respective facts contained in the citation. Both the citee and the fire code official shall have the opportunity to testify and present additional evidence concerning the administrative citation. Evidence may include, without limitation, witness testimony, documents, or other similar evidence. Evidence sought to be introduced shall not be limited by any legal rules of evidence except that it must be relevant and material to the issue of whether the violation alleged in the citation occurred and whether the citee was responsible for the alleged violation.

N107.4.2 Waiver of Personal Appearance at hearing. In lieu of personally appearing at an administrative hearing, the citee may request that the hearing officer decide the matter based on the citation's face and any documentary evidence submitted by the citee or the fire code official prior to the hearing date.

N107.4.3 Failure to Appear at Hearing. Failure of a citee to appear at the hearing shall be deemed a waiver of the right to be personally present at the hearing. The hearing officer shall then decide the matter based upon the citation itself, any documentation evidence previously submitted, and any additional evidence that may be presented at the hearing by the fire code enforcement officer who issued the citation.

N107.4.4 Attendance of the Fire Code Official. The fire code enforcement officer who issued the administrative citation may, but is not required, to attend the administrative hearing. Whether or not the fire code enforcement officer attends the hearing, the fire code enforcement officer may, prior to the hearing date, submit reports, photographs, or other documentation regarding the alleged violation to the hearing officer for consideration at the administrative hearing.

N107.4.5 Continuation of Hearings. The hearing officer may continue any hearing and request additional information from the fire code enforcement officer or the citee prior to issuing a written decision.

N107.5 Hearing Officer's Decision. The hearing officer must issue a written decision to uphold or set aside the administrative citation and must present the reasons for the decision in the decision.

N107.5.1 Notification. The Fire Marshal will serve a copy of the hearing officer's decision to the citee by first class mail with notice of the citee's right to challenge the decision in a limited civil action in Ventura County's Superior Court.

N107.5.2 Decision. The hearing officer's decision is the VCFPD's final action on the matter. The decision is final as of the date of the decision.

N107.6 Disposition Of Administrative Fines. The following actions regarding deposited fines shall occur after the hearing:

N107.6.1 Citation Upheld. Should the hearing officer uphold the administrative citation, then the VCFPD will retain the deposited fine amount and may expend such revenues as authorized by the Board of Directors.

N107.6.2 Citation Vacated. Should the hearing officer vacate the administrative citation, the VCFPD will promptly refund the amount of the deposited fine amount, if any, to the citee.

N107.6.3 Hardship Payment Due. Should the hearing officer uphold the administrative citation in cases where a hardship waiver was granted, the due date for paying the administrative fine shall be thirty (30) days from the date of the notice of the hearing officer's decision. After such time, the fine shall be delinquent.

N107.7 Right To Judicial Review. A citee may appeal the hearing officer's decision by filing an appeal with the Superior Court in accordance with the terms of California Government Code section 53069.4 within twenty (20) days from service of the hearing officer's decision.

N107.7.1 Suspension of Fine. Should the citee file a timely appeal with the Superior Court, any outstanding obligation to pay the fine (or any penalties) will be suspended and the payment of the fine and penalties, if any, will be in accordance with the Superior Court's final decision.

Section N108 COLLECTION AND LIEN PROCEDURES

N108.1 Recovery Of Administrative Citation Fines And Costs. In addition to any other legal remedy for collection of delinquent fines and penalties, the fire code official may record a lien on property owned by the citee in an amount equal to the sum of any fines delinquent for more than ninety (90) days, plus penalties and interest. Imposition of a lien pursuant to this Section must be based on a citation related to the condition or use of real property, or its improvements, owned by the citee.

N108.2 Satisfaction Of Lien. Once the District receives full payment for outstanding principal, penalties, and costs, the District shall either record a notice of satisfaction or provide the citee with a notice of satisfaction for recordation at the Venture County Recorder's Office. This notice of satisfaction shall cancel the lien.

(continued on next page)

Appendix O

VCFPD ACCESS STANDARDS

O101 Purpose and Intent.

O101.1 Purpose. These District Access Standards supplement the provisions of CFC Section 503 and CCR Title 14, Sections 1270.00 – 1273.11. They are adopted to provide for improved emergency response and public safety. They are promulgated to protect current and future land owners by providing roads with sufficient accessibility for fire equipment and to reduce additional roadway maintenance costs. Public Road Standards are applicable for Tract Maps and more densely populated areas and developments. Ventura County Policy states that private roads should only be permitted when the occupants of a development will be better served and the public interest will not be impaired by the existence of the proposed private road. City Standards and policies normally require private roads to comply with public road design standards, including paved widths.

O101.2 Minimum and Cumulative Standards. The District Access Standards are minimum standards. They can be increased, when necessary in the opinion of the fire code official, to ensure adequate accessibility for residents and emergency personnel. Increases are normally based upon the cumulative effect of previously submitted, approved or completed development within the area. The County Road Standards allow for more restrictive limitations to apply when necessary. Other factors that can require an increase in the standards include, but are not limited to: topographical conditions, brush hazard, type of vehicles expected to utilize the access roads, and parking needs.

O102 Definitions

O102.1 Definitions. The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of Section 503 and this appendix, have the meanings provided herein:

ALL WEATHER ACCESS ROAD. A road that will support a 20 ton vehicle in a 10 year storm.

ALTERNATE ACCESS. An alternate road provided for the public and for emergency equipment, to be used only when the primary access is impaired by vehicle congestion or other emergency conditions. Construction standards of alternate access shall be the same as primary access except width need not exceed 25 feet when there is no parking allowed on the road.

SRA EXISTING PARCEL, ROAD, STRUCTURE OR USE. For the purposes of CCR Title 14, Sections 1270 – 1273.11, SRA Fire Safe Access Regulations, existing parcels, roads, structures or uses shall be those legally divided, constructed, installed or uses in legally in effect prior to September 1, 1991. See CCR Title 14, Section 1270.02.

EXISTING PARCEL. Parcels, including those located in a SRA area that were legally divided prior to October 1, 1980.

FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION. Construction specified in the current California Building Code that will resist the spread of fire.

MOST WEATHER ROAD. A road that provides access during most (but not all) weather conditions for firefighting or rescue operations. See specific details in this Standard.

NEW LOCAL PARCEL. Is a parcel not located in a SRA area and divided or created on or after the effective date of this Ordinance.

NEW SRA PARCEL. Is any parcel legally divided or created on or after September 1, 1991 and located in a designated SRA area.

OFF-SITE ACCESS. An access road that is outside the boundaries of the property being served.

ON-SITE DRIVEWAY. An access road serving not more than 4 single family dwellings and is located within the boundaries of the properties being served.

ON-SITE IMPROVEMENTS. Road improvements within the boundaries of the proposed subdivision, including parcel maps.

OFF-SITE IMPROVEMENTS. Road improvements outside the boundaries of the proposed subdivision, including parcel maps.

PRIMARY ACCESS. A road used routinely for access into and out of the area.

SECOND ACCESS. A second road used routinely into and out of an area. Construction standard shall be the same as the primary access.

SPEED HUMP. A mildly tapered raised section of pavement, 8-10 foot wide and not higher than 3 inches at the center point, that provides for traffic calming which allows for traffic speeds of at least 15 MPH to safely negotiate.

SPEED BUMP. A narrow raised section of pavement, 1-2 feet wide and over 3 inches in height at the center point, which provides for traffic calming and requires traffic speeds of less than 15 MPH to safely negotiate.

O103 General Requirements.

O103.1 Subdivisions. Where the existing public or private access road is deemed inadequate to serve a proposed subdivision, the divider will be required to improve the existing or private road to an acceptable width and structural section as set forth in the conditions of approval. The divider shall prior to recordation of the record map, submit improvement plans, construct the improvements, or bond for the required access road improvements, dedicate or acquire sufficient road easement, pay the applicable fees and enter into an agreement to complete the improvements within a specified time frame. If access road improvements are bonded, the required access improvements shall be installed prior to issuance of any building permit for a new structure within the subdivision. Where the proposed division is not adjacent to a public road, off-site improvements and easements may be required in accordance with this standard.

O103.2 Access roadway Location. All access improvements shall be constructed within the dedicated right-of-way or recorded access easement.

O103.4 Distance Measurements. All specified or referenced distances are measured along the ground, unless otherwise stated.

O103.5 Timing Of Installation. Access shall be provided prior to and during the time of construction. All weather access shall be provided for other than a single Group R-3 or U occupancy. Required access for a single Group R-3 or U occupancy shall meet most weather

requirements during construction and shall have required all weather access improvements installed prior to final occupancy inspection and sign-off.

O103.6 Turning Radius. Turning radius shall be provided as follows:

- A. **New SRA Parcel, Roadway Radius.** No roadway, including any driveway, shall have a horizontal inside radius of curvature of less than 50 feet and additional surface width of 4 feet shall be added to curves of 50-100 feet radius and 2 feet to those from 100-200 feet.
- B. **Local Existing or New Parcel.** No roadway, including any driveway, shall have a horizontal inside radius of curvature of less than 40 feet.
- C. When transitioning from one curve to another in the opposite direction, a minimum 40 foot recovery distance shall be provided.

O103.7 Fair Weather Crossings. Existing crossings that do not exceed 1 foot depth of flow during a 10 year storm may be considered all weather if the surface of the crossing is concrete and has a history of withstanding normal flow. Existing crossings shall be certified by a Registered Civil Engineer, and a copy of the engineer's report shall be provided to the District. New crossings shall be designed by a Registered Civil Engineer above the 10 year flow level, with documentation submitted to the District for approval. Length of fair weather crossings shall not exceed 50 feet.

O103.8 Bridges. Bridges shall support a minimum 20-ton load and shall comply with the following:

- A. **Existing.** Shall be in accordance with Building and Safety requirements and certified by a Registered Civil or Structural Engineer, and a copy of the engineer's report shall be provided to the District.
- B. **New.** Shall be designed and constructed in accordance with Building and Safety requirements. A construction permit from the local building official is required.

O103.9 Turnarounds. Approved turnaround areas for fire apparatus shall be provided when dead-end fire access roads and driveways exceed 150 feet. Turnaround areas shall not exceed a 5% cross slope in any direction and shall be located at the end of the fire access road or within 150 feet of the end of the access driveway.

O103.10 Cul-de-sacs. A minimum 40-foot turning radius is required to the outside road edge and shall not exceed a 5% cross slope in any direction. No obstructions are allowed within any cul-de-sac, i.e., no trees, planters, islands, etc.

O103.11 Turnouts. When turnouts are required, they shall be a minimum of 10-feet wide and 80-feet long with a minimum 10 taper at each end of the turnout. Turnouts on driveways serving 4 or less single family dwellings may reduce the turnout length to 40 feet with minimum 15-foot tapers at each end.

O103.12 Grade Limitations Turnouts, curves and 90° turns. Turnouts, curves and 90° turns shall not have a grade greater than allowed for the road on which they are located. Transitions between grade changes shall not exceed 6% and shall not interfere with the angle of approach, angle of departure or high centering of fire apparatus.

O103.13 Turnouts at Fire Hydrants. Turnouts at fire hydrants shall not exceed a 5% grade along the length of the turnout.

O103.14 Grade Limitations, General. Length limitations of grades are cumulative along the access road or driveway and shall not total more than the maximum length indicated in Sections O103.15 and O103.16.

O103.15 Grade Limitations, Group R-3 and U occupancies. Grade limitations shall be as follows:

A. On-Site Driveways:

0-15% without distance limitations. Surface may be concrete or asphalt. Alternate surfacing is allowed up to 10% grade.

15.1% to 20% Existing parcels: Maximum distance of 1,000 feet.

15.1% to 20% New parcels: Maximum of 200 feet

20.1% to 25% Existing parcels only: Maximum distance of 200 feet. Surface must be concrete. New parcels shall not have driveway grades exceeding 20%.

B. Access Roads:

0-15% without distance limitations. Surface may be concrete or asphalt. When approved, alternate surfacing may be allowed up to 10%.

15.1-20% for a maximum distance of 200 feet. Surface must be concrete or asphalt.

O103.16 Grade Limitations, All Other Occupancies. Access road and driveway grades shall not exceed those allowed for public road standards for the jurisdiction in which the project is located. Where no limitation is provided in the public road standards, a maximum of 6% grade shall be used.

O103.17 Vertical Curve, Angle Of Approach, Angle Of Departure and High Centering Of Fire Apparatus. Transitions between grades along access roads and driveways shall not exceed a 6% elevation change along any 10 foot section. For new SRA parcels, the length of vertical curves in roadways, exclusive of gutters, ditches, and drainage structures designed to hold or divert water, shall be not less than 100 feet.

O103.18 Private Road Design Within Cities. Private roads located within incorporated cities shall comply with public road standards for the jurisdiction in which the project is located. This includes paved widths and structural design. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks shall be as determined by the public works or planning department having jurisdiction.

O103.19 Surface and Construction. All private access roads within the unincorporated areas and all driveways shall have a structural cross section and surface complying with one of the following, subject to any grade limitations. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks shall be as determined by the public works or planning department having jurisdiction.

A. **Asphalt or Concrete:** In accordance with Ventura County Road Standards.

B. **Alternate Surfacing, Group R-3 and U Occupancies:** Alternate surfaced roads and driveways serving Group R-3 and U occupancies shall be In accordance with the following requirements for a double chip seal road or equivalent. Alternate surfacing is not permitted for any other occupancy group.

Double Chip Seal Surface over minimum 4" PMB compacted to 95% relative compaction: Apply bituminous prime coat to aggregate base at the rate of 0.35 gallons per square yard of SC70 or MC70 bituminous binder, followed by a medium chip seal coat consisting of 0.35 gallons per square yard of CRS emulsion and 25 pounds of 3/8" x #6 screening consisting of broken stone or crushed gravel per square yard in accordance with the current California Division of Highways Standard Specifications.

- C. **Certification.** Alternate surfaced roads as outlined above shall be certified by a Registered Civil Engineer as being "all weather" based upon Standard R Value Analysis. A copy of the certification shall be provided for the Fire Prevention file and a statement recorded on the parcel deed that the access road is an all weather road and shall be maintained by the property owner. Drainage and erosion controls shall be recommended by the Engineer and shall be provided and maintained. Alternate surfacing will be acceptable on grades up to 10%. NOTE: Compacted dirt or base is not an all weather road. When the road or driveway serves 2 or more parcels, provisions for maintenance of the road shall be assured by a permanent homeowners association or equivalent organization and a deed restriction requiring this is recorded on each parcel.

O103.20 Most Weather Road. When in the opinion of the fire code official, firefighting or rescue operations would not be unduly impaired during most weather conditions, private access roads and driveways requirements may be modified in areas subject to annual snowfall (i.e., Lockwood Valley) as follows and provided:

- A. The driveway and/or access road serving the single family dwelling area must conform to District standards for width, grade, length, curve radius, vertical clearance and be capable of supporting fire and rescue apparatus during most weather conditions.
- B. Most weather access roads of 10% grade or more shall meet surface requirements.
- C. A statement is recorded with the County Recorder as a public record, indicating the District's minimum fire access requirement is not provided to this parcel and that emergency equipment may not be able to reach any buildings on the parcel during inclement weather. A certified copy shall be provided to the District. The form shall be as approved by the fire code official.

O103.21 Shoulders. Shoulders, if required, shall be compacted to a minimum 95% relative compaction. All weather surface is not required. For access widths that include shoulders, any parking areas shall be added to the outside edge of the required shoulder. If shoulders are provided, fire lane signs shall be posted if the shoulder is greater than four (4) feet in width, unless provisions for parking with additional 10 foot width have been provided (total shoulder of 14 feet or wider).

O103.22 Speed Humps. Prior to installation of any speed hump, the permittee, property owner or HOA (if applicable) shall submit plans to the District for approval. Speed humps shall comply with District Standards and any applicable City or County regulations.

O103.23 Speed Bumps Speed bumps are prohibited on access roads. Speed bumps may be installed on driveways serving commercial, industrial buildings and multi-family residential complexes. Prior to installation of any speed bumps, the permittee or property owner shall submit plans to the District for approval. Speed bumps shall comply with Fire District Standards.

O104 Widths.

O104.1 Access Width, Existing Parcels Serving Group R-3 Occupancies. The minimum clear width of access roads and driveways shall be as indicated in this section.

A. Up To 2 Single Family Dwellings, Non Tract Development:

1. 12 feet of pavement where straight roads and driveways with grades under 10% and greater than 80 foot outside turning radius are provided and dwelling is not located in hazardous fire area.
2. 15 feet of pavement, grades over 10%; 40-80 foot outside turning radius, or located in a hazardous fire area.

Exception: When the required driveway width cannot be installed due to topography or other natural obstructions, and in the opinion of the fire code official, firefighting or rescue operations would not be unduly impaired, the following shall be required:

1. Minimum pavement width of 10 feet in areas where the full width cannot be provided. Fire sprinklers installed in all structures.
2. A statement is recorded with the County Recorder as a public record, indicating the minimum required access has been modified due to topography or other natural obstructions, and emergency vehicle response may be delayed. A certified copy shall be provided to the District.

B. Single Family Dwelling Tract Development: Private driveways serving one (1) R-3 structure shall be 15 feet wide. A width of 20 feet shall be provided on common driveways serving two (2) to four (4) R-3 structures. Private driveways and required fire access turnarounds serving 2 or more lots shall be located in a common area lot or easement. The common area lot or easement shall be a minimum of 5 feet wider than the required driveway and turnaround area widths (2-1/2 feet each side). Signs prohibiting obstruction and parking along the common driveway shall be posted at the discretion of the fire code official.

C. 3 Or More Single Family Dwellings. 20 feet of pavement.

Exception: When the required access width cannot be installed due to topography or other natural obstructions and in the opinion of the fire code official, firefighting or rescue operations would not be unduly impaired, all of the following shall be required:

1. Vehicle turnouts shall be provided every 300 feet.
2. Approved turnaround areas shall be provided at ½ mile intervals.
3. Fire Sprinklers shall be installed in all structures except detached U occupancies.
4. Full access width shall be provided in those areas that are not obstructed.
5. Access width shall not be less than 15 feet.
6. Access shall meet all other requirements for percentage of grade, turn/curve radius, vertical clearance and surfacing.
7. Combustible vegetation shall be cleared a minimum of 10 feet on both sides of the road.

8. A statement is recorded with the County Recorder, indicating that the minimum required access has been modified due to topography or other natural obstructions and that emergency vehicle response may be delayed. A certified copy shall be provided to the District.

O104.2 New subdivision of land for residential single family dwelling use. The minimum clear width of access roads and driveways shall be as indicated in this section. All private roads shall be asphalt or concrete when serving parcel of up to 20 acres in size. Subdivisions proposing more than one (1) single family dwelling on each parcel shall count each single family dwelling as one (1) parcel for determining width requirements under this section. Exception: Second dwellings and caretaker dwellings may be counted with the main dwelling on the same parcel.

A. 1-4 Parcels Private driveways serving one (1) R-3 structure shall be 15 feet wide. A width of 20 feet shall be provided on common driveways serving two (2) to four (4) R-3 structures. Private driveways and required fire access turnarounds serving 2 or more lots shall be located in a common lot or easement. The common lot or easement shall be a minimum of 5 feet wider than the required driveway and turnaround area widths (2-1/2 feet each side). Signs prohibiting obstruction and parking along the common driveway shall be posted at the discretion of the fire code official.

B. 5-10 Parcels:

Under 5.0 Acres:

Roads shall comply with Public Road Standards. This includes paved widths and structural design. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks shall be as determined by the public works or planning department having jurisdiction. Roads shall be located within an easement that is a minimum of 5 feet wider on each side of the required paved width.

5 - 40.0 Acres:

Minimum paved width of 20 feet, with minimum 4 foot wide shoulders each side, located within a minimum 30 foot wide easement.

40.01 or more Acres:

1. Non-SRA or non HFA Areas: Minimum paved width of 20 feet located within a minimum 30-foot wide easement.

2. SRA or HFA Areas: Minimum paved width of 20 feet, with minimum 4-foot wide shoulders each side, located within a minimum 30-foot wide easement.

C. 11 or More Parcels:

Under 10 acres:

Roads shall comply with Public Road Standards. This includes paved widths and structural design. Curbs, gutters and sidewalks shall be as determined by the public works or planning department having jurisdiction. Roads shall be located within an easement that is a minimum of 5 feet wider on each side of the required paved width.

10 - 40 Acres:

Minimum paved width of 24 feet, with minimum 4-foot wide shoulders each side, located within a minimum 40-foot wide easement.

40.01 or more Acres:

1. Non-SRA or non HFA Areas: Minimum paved width of 24 feet located within a minimum 40-foot wide easement.
2. SRA or HFA Areas: Minimum paved width of 24 feet, with minimum 4-foot wide shoulders each side, located within a minimum 40-foot wide easement.

O105 Secondary Access

O105.1 Secondary Access and Dead-End Roads. Secondary access (ingress/egress) is required when access roads exceed 800 feet from a location that provides two separate ways out of a development or subdivision area. Separate access roads that come back to a single access location (choke point) are not acceptable and will be considered a dead-end access. Where subdivision of land is served from an existing dead-end access road that exceeds allowable dead-end lengths, secondary access shall be provided for the proposed subdivision regardless of where the new parcels take access along the existing dead-end access road. The intent is not to further increase the density on a dead-end road that exceeds allowable dead-end lengths. When secondary access is required, the width and construction standard shall be the same as the primary access. When figuring required width, the total number of existing dwellings, existing and new vacant lots served shall be used to determine the required width. All lengths shall be measured from the edge of the roadway surface at the intersection that begins the road to the end of the road surface at its farthest point. Where a dead-end road crosses areas of differing zoned parcel sizes, requiring different length limits, the shortest allowable length shall apply.

Exceptions:

A. Non-SRA and Non-HFA Areas:

Parcel sizes:

Less than 5 acres and not more than 10 parcels are served by the dead-end access roadway.

5 – 10.0 acres may have dead-end access roads not exceeding 1,200 feet. No distance limit if not more than 15 parcels are served by the dead-end access roadway.

10.01 – 19.99 acres may have dead-end access roads not exceeding 1,200 feet. No distance limit if not more than 20 parcels are served by the dead-end access roadway.

20 – 39.99 acres may have dead-end access roads not exceeding 1,600 feet. No distance limit if not more than 20 parcels are served by the dead-end access roadway.

40 acres or larger may have dead-end access roads not exceeding 2,640 feet. No distance limit if not more than 20 parcels are served by the dead-end access roadway.

For parcels less than 20 acres in size, dead-end access roads may be up to 1,600 feet when all of the following are provided:

- A. All structures, except detached U occupancies, served by the dead-end access road are provided with automatic fire sprinklers throughout the structure, including attics.

- B. Turnouts are provided on each side of the road every 400 feet.
- C. A cul-de-sac turnaround is installed with a minimum 50 foot radius and posted for no parking.
- D. The dead-end access road does not serve more than 50 dwellings units.
- E. In lieu of turnouts under Item B, a minimum 40-foot wide paved access road is provided and there are minimum 80-foot long no parking zones on each side of the road every 400 feet.

B. SRA and HFA Areas:

- A. Parcels under 1.0 acres: No exceptions. The dead-end access road shall not exceed 800 feet regardless of the number of dwellings served.
- B. 1.0 – 4.99 acres and there are not more than 10 parcels served by the dead-end access road and the dead-end access road does not exceed 1,320 feet regardless of the number of dwellings served.
- C. 5.0 – 10.0 acres and there are not more than 15 parcels served by the dead-end access road and the dead-end access road does not exceed 2,640 feet regardless of the number of dwellings served.
- D. 10.01 – 19.99 acres there are not more than 20 parcels served by the dead-end access road and the dead-end access road does not exceed 2,640 feet regardless of the number of dwellings served.
- E. 20 acres or larger there are not more than 20 parcels served by the dead-end access road and the dead-end access road does not exceed 5,280 feet regardless of the number of dwellings served.

O105.1.1 Special Turnaround Requirements in SRA and HFA Areas. The following shall apply to dead-end roads located in a SRA or HFA areas:

- A. Where parcels are zoned 5 acres or larger, turnarounds shall be provided at a maximum of 1,320 foot intervals.
- B. Each dead-end road shall have a turnaround constructed at its terminus.

O105.2 Projects Having More Than 100 Dwelling Units or 200 Guest Rooms. Multiple-family residential projects having more than 100 dwelling units or 200 guest rooms, or a combination thereof, shall be equipped throughout the project with two separate and approved fire apparatus access roads, including secondary access to the site. Access roadways within the project and serving 24 dwelling units or 48 guest rooms may not exceed 400 feet dead-end length.

O105.3 Commercial and Industrial Parcels. Secondary access shall be provided for subdivisions with dead-end access roads exceeding 800 feet or when the total subdivision (all parcels) exceeds 30 acres, whichever is less.

O105.4 Primary and secondary Access Road Separation. Primary and secondary access roads shall be separated to ensure that both routes will not be obstructed by a single emergency. Separation distances are a minimum 300 feet in non HFA and a minimum of 1,000 feet for HFA areas. A distance of ¼ to ½ mile may be required for Local Very High and SRA very high FHSZ areas.

O106 Multi-Family Buildings and Commercial Access

O106.1 Multi-Family Buildings and Commercial Access. This section governs access serving residential buildings, other than one and two family dwellings, and non-residential buildings not classified as Group U occupancies.

O106.2 Private Access Roads. All private access roads shall comply with public road standards.

O106.3 On-site driveways: On site driveways serving buildings up to 3 stories in height shall have a minimum clear paved width of 25 feet and a minimum clear paved width of 30 feet when serving buildings exceeding 3 stories in height.

O106.4 Aerial Fire Apparatus Access, Multi-Family, Commercial or Industrial. Buildings or portions of buildings or facilities exceeding 30 feet (9,144 mm) in height above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access shall be provided with approved fire apparatus access roads and/or driveways with a minimum clear width of 30 feet and capable of accommodating aerial fire apparatus. At least one of the required access routes meeting this condition shall be located a minimum of 15 feet (4,572 mm) and a maximum of 30 feet (9,144 mm) from the building, and shall be positioned parallel to one entire side of the building as approved by the District. Buildings exceeding 50,000 square feet shall have required access routes along a minimum of two (2) entire sides of such buildings. Overhead utility and power lines shall not be located within the aerial fire apparatus access road(s) and/or driveway(s) and yard area between the required access and the building. Trees planted between the access route and the building shall be spaced so there will be a minimum 30 feet separation between canopies at maturity. Parking is prohibited on the required width of the road and/or driveway.

O107 Public School Buildings. On-site access roads and driveways shall be provided with a minimum 20-foot wide paved access. Buildings exceeding 30 feet in height shall provide access road and driveways in accordance with Section O106.4

ARTICLE 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective 30 days from the date of its final passage or January 1, 2011, whichever is later.

In addition, upon ratification by the legislative body of the County of Ventura or of any city where Appendix L is adopted to apply, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Health and Safety Code Section 13869.7, Appendix L shall apply upon the effective date of this Ordinance or upon the date of said ratification or adoption by the County or any city, whichever is later.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of November 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors

BENNETT, PARKS, FOY.

ZARAGOZA AND LONG.

NOES:

NONE

ABSENT:

NONE

Hathey Long
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
County of Ventura, State of California,

By [Signature]
Deputy Clerk of the Board

