



County of Ventura  
**Supervisor Linda Parks**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Office of Supervisor Parks (805) 214-2510**

**FIRE SAFETY TOWN HALL – Hosted Outdoors  
ON JULY 22, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

**OAK PARK, CA (July 9, 2021)** – Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks will hold a Fire Safety Town Hall on Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm. The Town Hall will focus on preparation and fire-resiliency as we head into months of hot dry weather and Santa Ana winds that increase the risk of wildfire. The Town Hall will take place at the Oak Park Community Center at 1000 N. Kanan Rd. in Oak Park with outdoor seating on the patio.

Ventura County Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen will start off the evening with an overview of fire prevention measures in Ventura County. Special guest Richard Halsey, Director of the California Chaparral Institute, will give a presentation on safe living in wildfire country and how fire impacts our natural environment. Wayne Nakaoka, Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Director of Planning and Maintenance, will present their local vegetation management program that recently was awarded funding from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The Town Hall will also feature Richard Jones, Triunfo Water and Sanitation District Director of Operations, discussing water supply during a fire emergencies and lessons learned from the Woolsey Fire. Elaine Himelfarb will talk about home safety, prevention, and the community-led Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council. The Director of Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services, Patrick Maynard, and California Highway Patrol Lt. Jeremy Key will discuss emergency response and evacuations, and Oak Park's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) leader Diane Starzak will offer ways residents can get engaged in community preparedness and response.

Supervisor Parks invites all interested residents to attend and hear from the experts on fire safety. "We are so fortunate to live near open space, but with that comes a heightened threat of wildfire and a greater need to be prepared. This Town Hall will offer valuable information including additional ways to be fire safe."

Residents will have an opportunity to ask questions during the Q & A session following the presentations.

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