THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Office of Emergency Services/Fire Warden BOARD AGENDA: 5.B.13
AGENDA DATE: November 3, 2026

SUBJECT:
Approval to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance Adding Section 2.52.160 to Chapter 2.52 of the Stanislaus County Code Designating Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as Recommended by the Office of the State Fire Marshal

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS: **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-0584**

On motion of Supervisor Grewal **Seconded by Supervisor** C. Condit
and approved by the following vote,
Ayes: Supervisors: B. Condit, Withrow, Grewal, C. Condit, and Chairman Chiesa
Noes: Supervisors: None
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None
Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X **Approved as recommended**
2) _____ **Denied**
3) _____ **Approved as amended**
4) _____ **Other:**

MOTION:

INTRODUCED AND WAIVED THE FIRST READING OF C.S. 1422

ATTEST: MARY E. HARTSFIELD, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No. ORD-59-J-2

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM

DEPT: Office of Emergency Services/Fire Warden BOARD AGENDA:5.B.13
AGENDA DATE: November 3, 2026

CONSENT: ☑

CEO CONCURRENCE: YES 4/5 Vote Required: NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Introduce and Waive the First Reading of an Ordinance Adding Section 2.52.160 to Chapter 2.52 of the Stanislaus County Code Designating Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as Recommended by the Office of the State Fire Marshal

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance adding Section 2.52.160 to Chapter 2.52 of the Stanislaus County Code, designating Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as recommended by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

DISCUSSION:

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is mandated by Government Code section 51178 to identify levels of fire hazard in Local Responsibility Areas (LRA) based on consistent statewide criteria and the expected severity of fire hazards. Government Code section 51179 requires the OSFM to make recommendations for Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) to local agencies for designation by cities and counties and adoption by ordinance.

The 2025 LRA FHSZ maps evaluate “hazard,” not “risk,” and identify areas or zones of Very High, High, and Moderate fire hazard based on consistent statewide criteria and the expected severity of fire hazards in those areas (Government Code section 51178).

“Hazard” is based on the physical conditions that create a likelihood of fire and expected fire behavior over a 30- to 50-year period without considering mitigation measures such as home hardening, recent wildfire, or fuel reduction efforts.

“Risk” is the potential damage a fire can cause to an area under existing conditions, accounting for modifications such as fuel reduction projects, defensible space, and ignition-resistant building construction.

The OSFM FHSZ Rollout Plan included Stanislaus County in Phase 2 of the statewide rollout, beginning February 25, 2025. LRAs in Stanislaus County are those where local government is responsible for wildfire protection, which, in Stanislaus County, is the responsibility of local fire protection special districts.

The LRAs in unincorporated Stanislaus County are within the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, Westport Fire Protection District, Woodland Avenue Fire Protection

District, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District, and Oakdale Rural Fire Protection District.

Areas designated as Moderate fire hazard are located within the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, Westport Fire Protection District, Woodland Avenue Fire Protection District, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District, and Oakdale Rural Fire Protection District.

Areas designated as High fire hazard are located within the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District, and Oakdale Rural Fire Protection District.

Areas designated as Very High fire hazard are located within the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District.

Pursuant to Government Code section 51178.5, information regarding the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs) was made available for public review and comment. Stanislaus County also posted notice at the offices of the County Clerk-Recorder, County Assessor, and Office of Emergency Services identifying the location of the map provided by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Additionally, a web address (https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/5065c998b4b0462f9ec3c6c226c610a9) has been included in this Board Agenda Item to provide the public with convenient access to the 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map.

Government Code section 51179 requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, Moderate, High, and Very High FHSZ within its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the OSFM.

The proposed ordinance would add Section 2.52.160 to Chapter 2.52, Disaster Council and Emergency Services, of the Stanislaus County Code to formally designate the FHSZ and the 2025 Stanislaus County FHSZ Map as recommended by the OSFM.

Approval of the recommended actions would introduce and waive the first reading of the proposed ordinance. Staff will return to the Board at the November 17, 2026, meeting for consideration of adoption.

Following adoption, the Office of Emergency Services will prepare a summary of the ordinance for publication by the Clerk of the Board pursuant to Government Code section 25124. The ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption.

POLICY ISSUE:

Government Code sections 51178 through 51179 require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to identify and recommend Fire Hazard Severity Zones within Local Responsibility Areas and require local agencies to designate Moderate, High, and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones within their jurisdictions by ordinance. Approval of the recommended actions will initiate the County's ordinance adoption process to comply with these requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no General Fund impact associated with the recommended actions.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended actions are consistent with the Board's priorities of *Supporting a Strong and Safe Community*, *Delivering Efficient Public Services,* and *Enhancing Community Infrastructure* by complying with state requirements for the designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones and formally designating areas of Moderate, High, and Very High fire hazard within unincorporated Stanislaus County.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Office of Emergency Services/Fire Warden staff will administer the actions associated with the proposed ordinance. There is no additional staffing impact associated with the recommended actions.

CONTACT PERSON:

Erik Klevmyr, Fire Warden	(209) 552-3600
Christopher Parnell, Deputy Fire Warden	(209) 552-3600
Matthew Jenkins, Fire Marshal	(209) 552-3700

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. C.S. _____

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 2.52.160 TO CHAPTER 2.52 OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY CODE DESIGNATING FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES AND THE 2025 STANISLAUS COUNTY FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP AS RECOMMENDED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 2.52.160 is added to Chapter 2.52 of the Stanislaus County Code to read as follows:

"2.52.160 - FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP.

A. TITLE.

This section shall be known as the "Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map Ordinance."

B. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this section is to designate, pursuant to Government Code Section 51179, the Moderate, High, and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the unincorporated County based on the recommendations of the Office of the State Fire Marshal under Government Code Section 51178.

C. AUTHORITY.

The Authority and requirements for the designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones are set forth in Government Code Sections 51175 et seq., including Sections 51178 and 51179.

D. MAP.

The 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map for the unincorporated Local Responsibility Area, as identified and recommended by the Office of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Government Code Section 51178, is hereby adopted by reference and incorporated into this section as Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance. The Stanislaus County Fire Marshall is hereby directed to comply with Government Code Section 51179(g).

E. DESIGNATION.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 51179, the Board of Supervisors hereby designates the areas identified and recommended by the Office of the State Fire Marshal, as depicted on the 2025 Stanislaus County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map, as Moderate, High, and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the unincorporated areas of Stanislaus County."

Section 2. Within 15 days after adoption of this Ordinance, the Office of Emergency Services shall prepare a summary of the Ordinance, and provide it to the Clerk of the Board, who shall cause the required publication to occur within 15 days after adoption in accordance with Government Code Section 25124.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the date of its adoption.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, the foregoing ordinance was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, this ___ day of _____, 2026, by the following called vote:

AYES: Supervisors:

NOES: Supervisors:

ABSENT: Supervisors:

ABSTAINING: Supervisors:

_____
Vito Chiesa, Chairman of the
Board of Supervisors of the County of
Stanislaus, State of California

ATTEST:

MARY E. HARTSFIELD,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Stanislaus, State of California

By _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Thomas E. Boze
COUNTY COUNSEL

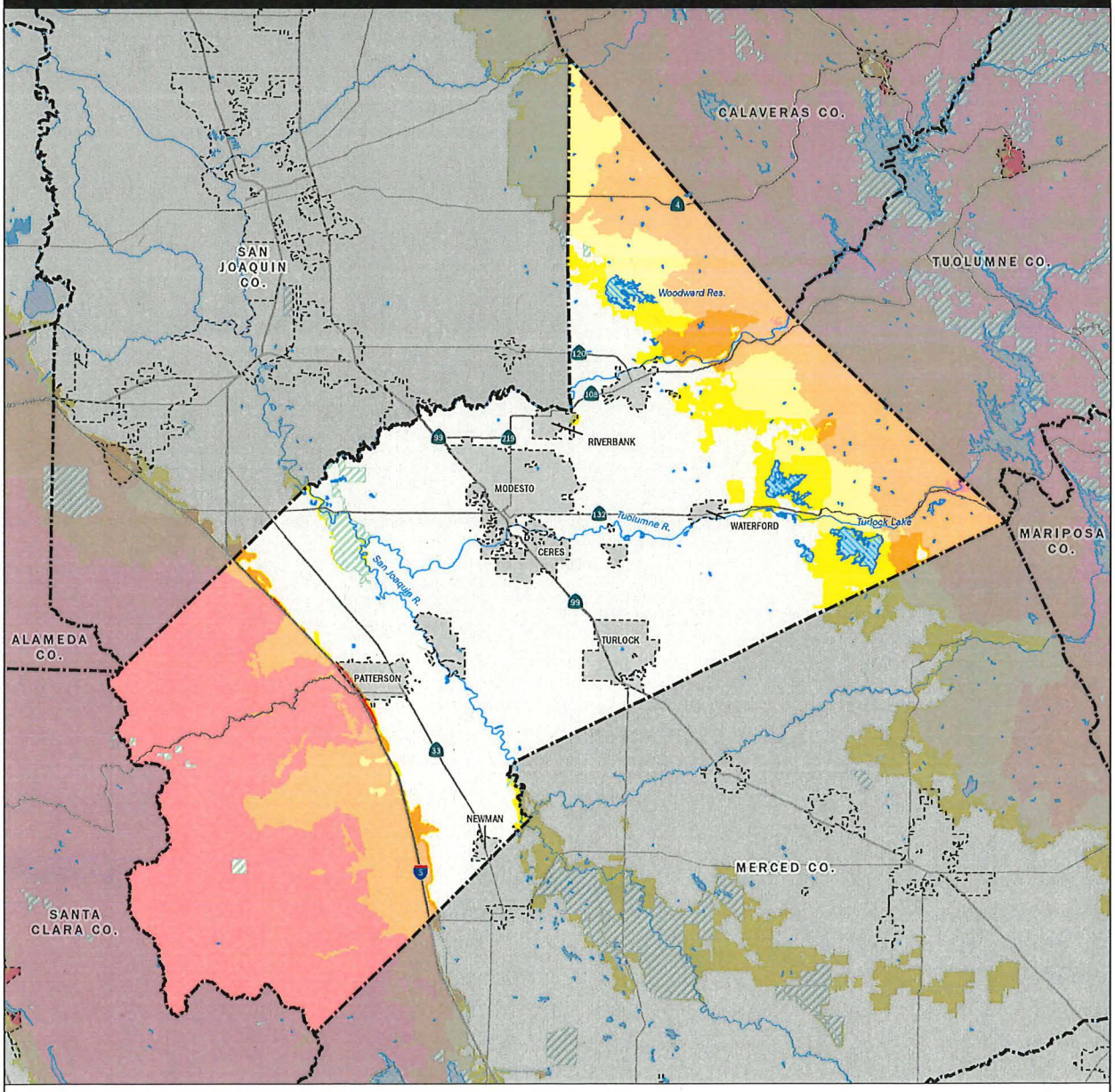
BY _____
Rob Taro
Assistant County Counsel

STANISLAUS COUNTY – UNINCORPORATED LRA

Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones

As Identified by the State Fire Marshal

February 24, 2025



Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in Local Responsibility Area (LRA), as Identified by the State Fire Marshal

Very High | High | Moderate

Fire Hazard Severity Zones in State Responsibility Area (SRA), Effective April 1, 2024

Very High | High | Moderate

Mi 0 10 20

Km 0 10 20 30

Projection: NAD 83 California Teale Albers
Scale: 1:454,000 at 11" x 17"

Incorporated City | Waterbody | Unzoned LRA | Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)

Government Code section 51178 requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. Moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones shall be based on fuel loading, slope, fire weather, and other relevant factors including areas where winds have been identified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal as a major cause of wildfire spread.

The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California
Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources, CA Natural Resources Agency
Joe Tyler, Director/Fire Chief, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Daniel Berlant, State Fire Marshal, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Data Sources:
CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZSRA23_3, FHSZLRA_25_1)
CAL FIRE State Responsibility Areas (SRA25_1)
City and County boundaries as of 10/22/24 (CA Board of Equalization)