



March 7, 2013

TO: LOCSD Board of Directors
FROM: Margaret Falkner, Interim General Manager *MLF*
SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 111 – 03/07/2013 Board Meeting**
Approve Letter of Support Regarding Assembly Bill 124

President
Leonard A. Moothart

Vice President
Craig V. Baltimore

Directors
David S. Vogel
Marshall E. Ochylski
R. Michael Wright

Interim General Manager
Margaret Falkner

District Accountant
Amparo Haber

Fire Chief
Robert Lewin

Battalion Chief
Phill Veneris

DESCRIPTION:

Assembly Bill 124 Morrell is a bill to repeal the Fire Prevention Fees as structured.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board approve the letter and direct staff to forward to Assembly Member Achadjian.

Motion: I move the Board approve the letter and direct staff to forward to Assembly Member Achadjian.

DISCUSSION:

Assembly Bill x129 was signed into law on July 7, 2011 establishing an annual fee to pay for fire prevention services within the State Responsibility Area (SRA). The Fire Prevention Fee applies to owners of habitable structures on property located within the SRA. The fee funds a variety of important fire prevention services within the SRA.

Homeowners within the jurisdiction of the LCOSD brought their questions and concerns to the Emergency Services Committee in January 2013. The boundaries are not intuitive and the fee does not come back to the community but goes to Sacramento. Assembly Bill 124 is a bill addressing some of these concerns.

The LOCSD provides fire protection and emergency services as one of its core functions. LOCSD is also contracted with CAL FIRE through a special fire tax paid by local property owners. Maps of the SRA and Local Responsibility Area (LRA) are attached.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this item.

Attachments

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 6064
Los Osos, CA 93412

Offices:
2122 9th Street, Suite 102
Los Osos, CA 93402

Phone: 805/528-9370
FAX: 805/528-9377

www.locsd.org



March 8, 2013

The Honorable Katcho Achadjian
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 94249

President
Leonard A. Moothart

RE: ASSEMBLY BILL 124 MORRELL

Vice President
Craig V. Baltimore

Dear Assembly Member Achadjian:

Directors
Marshall E. Ochylski
David E. Vogel
R. Michael Wright

At the Los Osos Community Services District Board of Directors meeting on March 7, 2012, the Board voted to send a letter in support of Assembly Bill 124 introduced by Assemblyman Morell.

Interim General Manager
Margaret Falkner

As you know, Los Osos is a small coastal community in the County of San Luis Obispo. Fire Protection and Emergency Services is one of our core functions. The LOCSO is under contract with Cal Fire to provide our community with fire protection, the cost of which is paid by our local property taxes and a special fire tax enacted by the voters of my District.

District Accountant
Amparo Haber

Unfortunately, many of our residents have been negatively impacted by the recent Fire Prevention Fee enacted by the California legislature.

Fire Chief
Robert Lewin

We are not only concerned about the financial impacts on these residents, but we are also concerned about how the State Responsibility Area (SRA) was defined and applied in assessing that fee. Public Resources Code §§4201-4204 and Government Code §§51175-89 direct the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather and other relevant factors. Both the mapping of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) were completed prior to the formation of the LOCSO in 1999, and is quite evident in reviewing those areas that the information is outdated because of changed conditions and changed responsibilities for fire protection.

Battalion Chief
Phill Veneris

For this reason, and others, the LOCSO supports AB 124 and the complete repeal of the Fire Prevention Fees as currently structured.

Sincerely,

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 6064
Los Osos, CA 93412

Leonard A. Moothart
President, Board of Directors
Los Osos Community Services District

Offices:
2122 9th Street, Suite 102
Los Osos, CA 93402

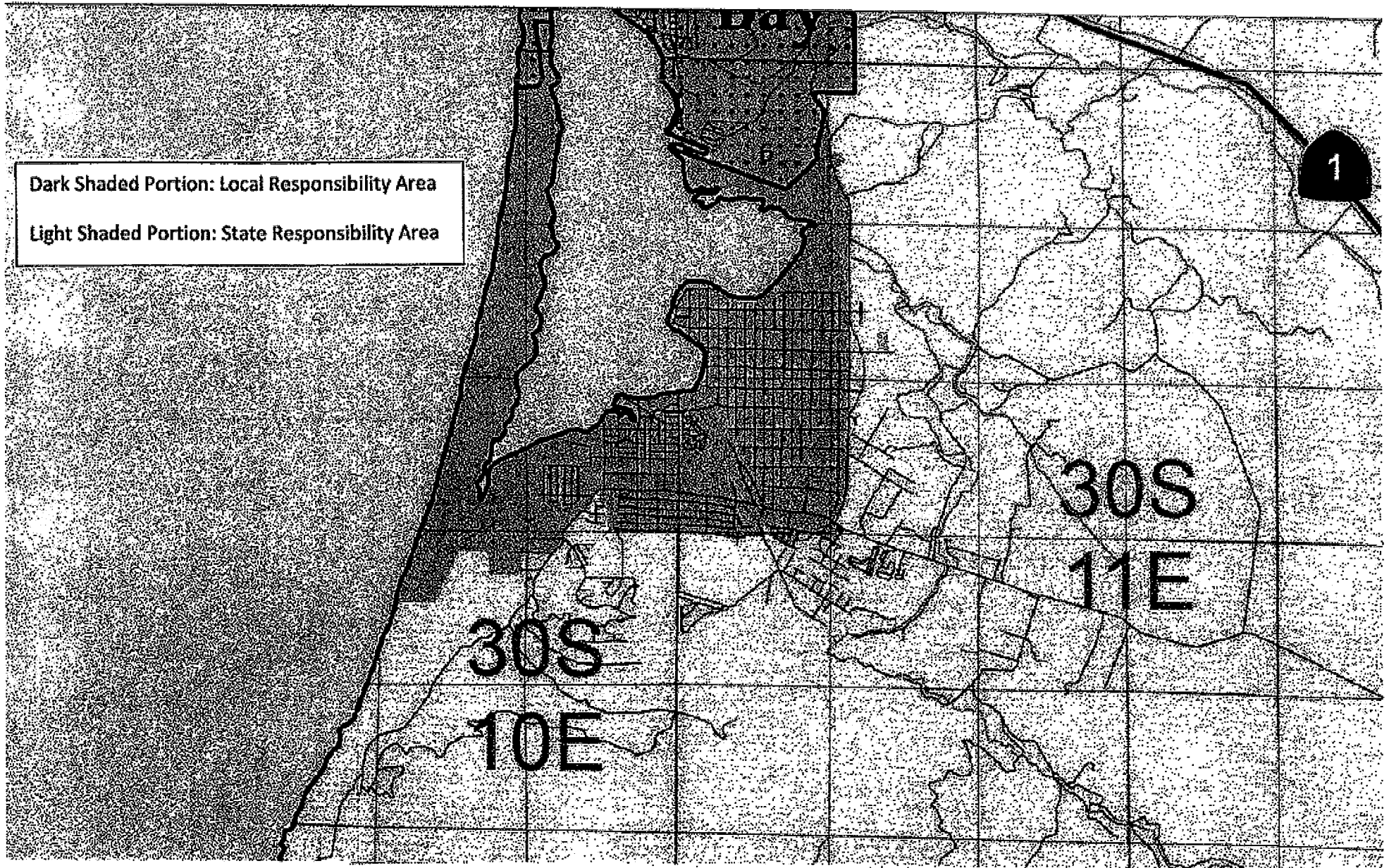
Phone: 805/528-9370
FAX: 805/528-9377

cc: Assemblyman Morrell
California Special Districts Association

www.locsd.org

Attachments

State Responsibility Area and Local Responsibility Area



B-15 & B-16: South Bay Fire Department District Boundaries

