

January 9, 2012

Honorable Bill Campbell
Chairman
County of Orange
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd.
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: County of Orange Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

Dear Chairman Campbell:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Building Industry Association of Southern California, Orange County Chapter (BIA/OC) to address the adoption of updated boundaries for Orange County's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). As a primary stakeholder, BIA/OC has been actively engaged with the City, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL Fire), and local property owners for the last four years. Our shared goal has been to develop accurate maps that reflect the built environment and are aimed at increasing fire protection for the residents of Orange County.

BIA/OC concurs with County staff's recommended adoption of the proposed fire hazard zone maps consistent with the state statute regarding fire hazard mapping for local agencies. As the result of a lengthy review, comment, and revision process, BIA/OC is satisfied that the staff recommended VHFHSZ map is a fair representation of wildfire hazard in Orange County.

BIA/OC appreciates having had the opportunity to partner with County staff and all agencies involved in this process. Like you, BIA/OC places a high priority on promoting safe well-built communities. We look forward to our continued partnership in this regard.

Sincerely,

Bryan M. Starr
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Board of Supervisors
Jess Carbajal, Director, OC Public Works
Michael Balsamo, Manager, OC Community Development
Brett Petroff, Deputy Fire Marshal, OCFA



**Orange County
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