



FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES REVISED BUDGET • FY 2020-21

REVISED BUDGET OVERVIEW

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

Fire Protection Services are comprised of the County Fire Department and CSA #4 Pajaro Dunes. Funding for the two divisions is required by law to be kept separate and one budget may not be used to provide services within the others boundaries. The County Fire Department budget includes funding from County Service Area (CSA) 48, Proposition 172 funding for the Fire Chiefs Association, and funding for Santa Cruz County Hazardous Materials Response Incidents Team.

COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The County Fire Department is responsible for structural fire protection, first responder emergency medical services, technical rescue, public fire safety education, and fire marshal services including inspection services for unincorporated areas of the County that are not included in an autonomous fire district.

Volunteer firefighters make up the bulk of County Fire Department staffing, with supplemental staffing from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). The department does pay for workers compensation and volunteer firefighter stipends for training and for paid-call response.

CSA 4 PAJARO DUNES

The County provides fire protection for Pajaro Dunes as a discretionary function through a contract with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). The fire

station at Pajaro Dunes is financed by County Service Area #4 assessments.

CSA 48 FIRE PROTECTION

CSA 48 was established to finance the costs of fire protection in the unincorporated areas of the County which are not within the boundaries of autonomous fire districts. An inter-fund transfer is made from this pass-through account to the County Fire Department annually. An additional assessment was passed by property owners in January 2020 that increases staffing from two-person to three-person per engine and also allows for continuous replacement of fire equipment and apparatus.

PROPOSITION 172

The County receives Proposition 172 funds for public safety in unincorporated service areas. Budget amounts are based on the policy recommended by staff and the Fire Chiefs Association and approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 10, 2013. The funds are not used for County Fire operations but instead are distributed to the Fire Chiefs Association, who utilize the money for training and/or equipment for use by all fire departments within the County.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM

Funding from Environmental Health, the Office of Emergency Services and the County Fire Department are combined to provide funding for the costs of the County providing emergency response to hazardous materials releases.

COUNTY FIRE

REVISED BUDGET OVERVIEW: COUNTY FIRE

2020-21 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

The 2020-21 recommended budget updates the Year Two projection provided in the 2020-21 Proposed Budget. The recommendation provides for an increase of \$1,025,595 in expenditures and a increase of \$1,698,769 in revenues, which results in a decrease of \$673,174 in use of fund balance. This leaves a reserve of \$3,793,777.

EXPENDITURES

The recommended increase of \$41,260 in Salaries and Benefits is due to increased Workers Compensation costs. The recommended increase of \$1,580,151 in Services and Supplies reflects an increase to the CAL FIRE for increased staffing from two to three persons per engine, as well as state salary, benefit, and retirement rates increases. The contract is scheduled to renew for another three years beginning July 1, 2020.

The \$44,262 increase in Other Charges is related to increased overhead costs and increased costs for the Santa Cruz County Hazardous Materials Team contribution. The Intra-Fund Transfer of \$1,196,578 represents anticipated Cal Fire contract savings, dependent upon the length of the Fire Season. Fixed Asset purchases will increase by \$556,500.

FIXED ASSETS

The recommended fixed asset purchases for 2020-21 consist of four vehicle extrication tools, one decontamination unit, two storage containers, ten thermal imaging cameras, one forcible entry door training prop, one positive pressure fan, one Masticator for mulching, one Type I fire engine, and two new utility vehicles.

REVENUES

The recommended increase of \$1,698,769 in all categories of revenue reflect increased property tax, benefit assessment and interest revenue. A proposed assessment in County Service Area 48 to increase fire protection services was approved by voters in January 2020, 56.29 percent to 43.71 percent. The increased revenue will provide funding to restore County Fire services to three-person staffing per engine and provide for replacement fire apparatus and equipment.

REVISED BUDGET DETAIL: COUNTY FIRE

Division: 3410

All Funds	Actual 2018-19	Adopted 2019-20	Projected 2020-21	Recommended 2020-21	Change from Projected	
Revenues						
Taxes	2,394,285	2,382,728	2,478,037	2,520,848	42,811	1.7%
Fines & Assessments	350	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Use of Money	122,555	87,001	90,457	130,669	40,212	44.5%
Intergovernmental	122,842	703,069	103,480	127,231	23,751	23.0%
Charges for Services	1,514,091	1,463,236	1,511,752	3,103,747	1,591,995	105.3%
Miscellaneous	10,704	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Other Financing	3,776	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Revenues	4,168,603	4,636,034	4,183,726	5,882,495	1,698,769	40.6%
<i>Other Funds</i>	<i>(741,891)</i>	<i>2,410,739</i>	<i>1,384,507</i>	<i>711,333</i>	<i>(673,174)</i>	<i>-48.6%</i>
Total Financing	3,426,712	7,046,773	5,568,233	6,593,828	1,025,595	18.4%
Expenditures						
Salaries & Benefits	99,116	130,470	131,546	172,806	41,260	31.4%
Services & Supplies	2,684,508	5,091,436	4,272,820	5,852,971	1,580,151	37.0%
Other Charges	230,253	295,867	238,867	283,129	44,262	18.5%
Fixed Assets	412,835	1,329,000	725,000	1,281,500	556,500	76.8%
Contingencies	0	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	0.0%
Subtotal	3,426,712	7,046,773	5,568,233	7,790,406	2,222,173	39.9%
<i>IntraFund Transfers</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(1,196,578)</i>	<i>(1,196,578)</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
Total Expenditures	3,426,712	7,046,773	5,568,233	6,593,828	1,025,595	18.4%

YEAR TWO REVISED FINANCING CHANGES: COUNTY FIRE

Financing Sources	Description/ Impact	Increase/ (Decrease)
Taxes	Increase in property tax distribution	42,811
Use of Money	Increase in interest earnings	40,212
Intergovernmental	Federal grant for fire protection equipment	23,751
Charges for Services	Increase in benefit assessment and new benefit assessment	1,591,995
Other Funds	Decrease in use of prior year fund balance	(673,174)
Total		1,025,595

YEAR TWO REVISED EXPENDITURE CHANGES: COUNTY FIRE

Financing Uses	Description/ Impact	Cost/ (Savings)
Salaries & Benefits	Increase in workers compensation costs	41,260
Services & Supplies	Increase in staffing encompassed in the CAL FIRE contract	1,580,151
Other Charges	Primarily related to increased county overhead charges	44,262
Fixed Assets	Increase in fixed asset purchase request from prior year	556,500
IntraFund Transfers	Offset for anticipated CAL FIRE contract savings	(1,196,578)
Total		1,025,595

PROGRAM DETAIL: COUNTY FIRE

	FY 2020-21 Financing					Δ
	Projected 2020-21	Revenues	Other Funds	General Fund	Total Financing	
Program Financing						
County Fire	5,372,845	5,687,107	711,333	0	6,398,440	19.1%
Prop 172—Fire Chiefs Assoc	93,388	93,388	0	0	93,388	0.0%
Haz Materials Response	102,000	102,000	0	0	102,000	0.0%
Total Financing	5,568,233	5,882,495	711,333	0	6,593,828	18.4%

PROGRAM DETAIL: COUNTY FIRE

Program Expenditures	Projected	Salaries &	Services &	Other	Total Expendi- tures	Δ
	2018-19	Benefits	Supplies			
County Fire	5,372,845	172,806	5,852,971	372,663	6,398,440	19.1%
Prop 172—Fire Chiefs Assoc	93,388	0	0	93,388	93,388	0.0%
Haza Materials Response	102,000	0	0	102,000	102,000	0.0%
Total Expenditures	5,568,233	172,806	5,852,971	568,051	6,593,828	18.4%

CSA 48 FIRE PROTECTION

REVISED BUDGET OVERVIEW: CSA 48

2020-21 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

The 2020-21 recommended budget updates the Year Two projection provided in the 2019-21 Proposed Budget. The recommendation provides for an increase of \$1,540,344 in expenditures and a matching increase in revenues.

EXPENDITURES

The increase of \$1,540,094 in Other Charges primarily reflects the transfer to County Fire operations of anticipated funds resulting from the newly passed CSA 48 ballot measure.

REVENUES

The recommended assessment for 2020-21 is \$82.41 per fire flow unit, an increase of 3.3%

based on the 2019 Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers for the San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose Metropolitan Area. Single-family dwellings are charged two fire flow units for a total of \$164.82.

An additional assessment in CSA 48 to increase fire protection services was approved by voters, 56.29 percent to 43.71 percent in January 2020.

The total expected combined revenue of the existing CSA 48 assessment with CPI increase and the new assessment resulting from the recently passed ballot measure is \$2,814,036.

REVISED BUDGET DETAIL: CSA 48

Division: 3440

All Funds	Actual 2018-19	Adopted 2019-20	Projected 2020-21	Recommended 2020-21	Change from Projected	
Revenues						
Taxes	1,183,267	1,229,595	1,268,942	2,809,285	1,540,343	121.4%
Use of Money	4,288	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
Total Revenues	1,187,555	1,235,095	1,274,442	2,814,785	1,540,343	120.9%
<i>Other Funds</i>	<i>8,836</i>	<i>8,362</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
Total Financing	1,196,391	1,243,457	1,274,442	2,814,785	1,540,343	120.9%
Expenditures						
Services & Supplies	713	500	500	750	250	50.0%
Other Charges	1,195,678	1,242,957	1,273,942	2,814,035	1,540,093	120.9%
Total Expenditures	1,196,391	1,243,457	1,274,442	2,814,785	1,540,343	120.9%

YEAR TWO REVISED FINANCING CHANGES: CSA 48

Financing Sources	Description/ Impact	Increase/ (Decrease)
Taxes	New benefit assessment and CPI increase of existing assessment	1,540,343
Total		1,540,343

YEAR TWO REVISED EXPENDITURE CHANGES: CSA 48

Financing Uses	Description/ Impact	Cost/ (Savings)
Services & Supplies	Increase in accounting and auditing charges	250
Other Charges	Increase in operating transfer for fire protection	1,540,093
Total		1,540,343

CSA 4 PAJARO DUNES

REVISED BUDGET OVERVIEW: CSA 4

2020-21 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

The 2020-21 recommended budget updates the Year Two projection provided in the 2019-21 Proposed Budget. The recommendation provides for an increase of \$601,092 in expenditures and a decrease of \$15,296 in revenues, which results in a \$616,388 increase in use of fund balance from a fire engine reserve account. This leaves a remaining reserve of \$85,677.

EXPENDITURES

The decrease of \$34,592 in Salaries and Benefits is due to a temporary suspension of the intern program pending reorganization.

The increase of \$173,870 in Services and Supplies reflects an increase to the CAL FIRE contract which is based on Bargaining Unit 1, 4, and 8 Memorandum of Understandings, as well as state salary, benefit, and retirement rates, and is scheduled to renew for another three years beginning July 1, 2020.

County Fire administrative staff positions will be split funded between County Fire and Pajaro Dunes in the new contract to more accurately offset costs, replacing the flat \$10,000 management fee annually transferred from Pajaro Dunes CSA 4 to County Fire.

Other Charges increase in the amount of \$2,134 reflect County overhead costs while the remaining net increase of \$580,100 is based on fixed asset purchases including replacement fitness equipment and a replacement Type I fire engine.

REVENUES

The recommended decrease of \$19,403 in taxes from projected is based on a more conservative 2% estimated tax increase than the previously 4% calculated. The increase of \$510 in Charges for Services was previously projected at 3.2% but was corrected to reflect the 2019 CPI of 3.3%.

REVISED BUDGET DETAIL: CSA 4

Division: 3430

All Funds	Actual 2018-19	Adopted 2019-20	Projected 2020-21	Recommended 2020-21	Change from Projected	
Revenues						
Taxes	745,996	766,279	796,930	777,527	(19,403)	-2.4%
Fines & Assessments	112	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Use of Money	27,844	20,409	21,225	25,000	3,775	17.8%
Intergovernmental	4,408	4,445	4,623	4,445	(178)	-3.9%
Charges for Services	494,733	513,191	529,613	530,123	510	0.1%
Total Revenues	1,273,093	1,304,324	1,352,391	1,337,095	(15,296)	-1.1%
<i>Other Funds</i>	<i>(53,262)</i>	<i>342,315</i>	<i>178,393</i>	<i>794,781</i>	<i>616,388</i>	<i>345.5%</i>
Total Financing	1,219,831	1,646,639	1,530,784	2,131,876	601,092	39.3%
Expenditures						
Salaries & Benefits	49,571	71,399	77,777	43,185	(34,592)	-44.5%
Services & Supplies	1,166,966	1,462,636	1,448,695	1,622,565	173,870	12.0%
Other Charges	3,294	4,104	4,312	6,446	2,134	49.5%
Fixed Assets	0	8,500	0	580,100	580,100	0.0%
Contingencies	0	100,000	0	100,000	100,000	0.0%
Subtotal	1,219,831	1,646,639	1,530,784	2,352,296	821,512	53.7%
<i>IntraFund Transfers</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(220,420)</i>	<i>(220,420)</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
Total Expenditures	1,219,831	1,646,639	1,530,784	2,131,876	601,092	39.3%

YEAR TWO REVISED FINANCING CHANGES: CSA 4

Financing Sources	Description/ Impact	Increase/ (Decrease)
Taxes	Increase in property tax distribution	(19,403)
Use of Money	Increase in interest earnings	3,775
Intergovernmental	Decrease in property tax relief earnings	(178)
Charges for Services	Increase in benefit assessment	510
Other Funds	Increased in use of prior year fund balance and fire engine reserve	616,388
	Total	601,092

YEAR TWO REVISED EXPENDITURE CHANGES: CSA 4

Financing Uses	Description/ Impact	Cost/ (Savings)
Salaries & Benefits	Reduced stipends and workers compensation costs	(34,592)
Services & Supplies	CAL FIRE contract increases	173,870
Other Charges	Primarily related to increased county overhead charges	2,134
Fixed Assets	Increase in fixed asset purchase request from prior year	580,100
Contingencies	Annual budgeted contingency	100,000
IntraFund Transfers	Offset for anticipated CAL FIRE contract savings	(220,420)
	Total	601,092