



BILL HORN
CHAIRMAN
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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THOMAS J. DE LUZERA
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: April 12, 2011
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBJECT: THE ADVANCED POST-DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE
(DISTRICTS: ALL)

SUMMARY:

Overview

Although San Diego County is in many ways an ideal place to live, it is also a region at risk for several natural disasters, including wildfires and earthquakes. As Chair in 2006, disaster preparedness was highlighted as my top priority for that year. Public safety has always been important to this Board of Supervisors, and our County has implemented strong and aggressive programs and projects to ensure that our region is as resilient as possible. As Chairman of the region's Unified Disaster Council I have seen many examples of how County government and jurisdictions throughout our region are focused on disaster response. We must now begin taking new and innovative steps to accelerate disaster recovery as well.

Today's action will take our region's efforts to the next level through the establishment of an "Advanced Post-Disaster Recovery Initiative" that will support region-wide actions that can be taken in advance of a disaster and prepare us for a more rapid recovery. Key elements of this initiative will include establishing contracts in advance for post-disaster activities, establishing programs for rapid restoration of lifelines (water, communication, power, transportation), planning for rapid economic recovery, and a focus on having the tools in place to quickly assist individual victims.

Recommendation(s)

CHAIRMAN BILL HORN:

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board of Supervisors within 60 days on an "Advanced Post-Disaster Recovery Initiative", encompassing any efforts currently under way and any new initiatives necessary in order to provide a comprehensive program that the County can adopt pre-disaster, to accelerate recovery after a catastrophic event.

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Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

BACKGROUND:

Public safety and disaster response have always been a top priority for this Board of Supervisors. The County has implemented strong and aggressive programs and projects to ensure that our region is as resilient as possible. While many of these activities and programs are focused on disaster “response”, we have learned through observing catastrophic events such as Hurricane Katrina, the recent earthquakes in Haiti and Japan, and firsthand during the firestorms of 2003 and 2007, that disaster recovery can be a long and arduous process for our communities and citizens.

In the years following these firestorms, the County took several steps to improve recovery efforts, such as helping to create and fund the Red Guide to Disaster Recovery, the most comprehensive disaster recovery guide ever produced for our region and now available for free at fire stations throughout San Diego County. The Board action proposed in the recommendation above will connect any and all of the County’s advanced recovery efforts currently underway to several new efforts, thereby establishing a single, comprehensive, and coordinated initiative. The objective of this initiative is to make recovery from our disaster more efficient, rapid, and effective through pre-planning recovery activities.

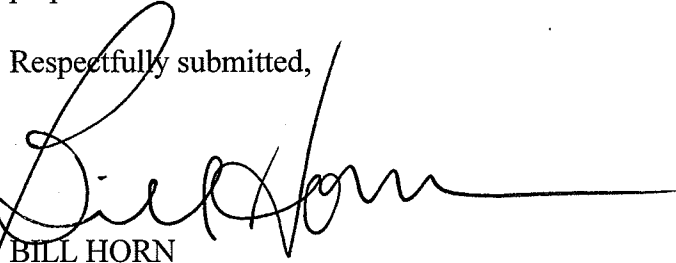
The “Advanced Post-Disaster Recovery Initiative” should cover four key components of recovery: helping individual citizens recover, restoring community lifelines, rebuilding community fabric, and readying a trained workforce to conduct recovery activities in our community. In accordance with those four components, there are relatively simple and inexpensive steps that can be taken now that will ensure a faster and smoother recovery. Such steps include pre-qualifying vendors that will be needed for post-disaster cleanup, developing detailed plans for citizen post-disaster Local Assistance Centers, working with banks to establish mobile ATMs in areas left without power, and training staff to perform post-disaster activities.

San Diego County will always have significant risks from wildfires, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. While we focus much of our disaster preparedness effort on ensuring we have the best disaster response possible, it is prudent to also anticipate the needs of a disaster recovery. This initiative is an important effort to provide our communities with additional tools they need to accelerate recovery when the next disaster strikes our County. In our region it is not a matter of

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“if” another disaster will occur; it is a matter of “when” the next disaster will occur. We must prepare to recover.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Horn", written over a horizontal line.

BILL HORN
Chairman
Supervisor, Fifth District

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**

CONCURRENCE(S)

COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW Yes
Written Disclosure per County Charter Yes No
Section 1000.1 Required

GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR Yes N/A

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Yes N/A
Requires Four Votes Yes No

**GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR** Yes N/A

COUNTY TECHNOLOGY OFFICE Yes N/A

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES Yes N/A

Other Concurrence(s): N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Chairman Bill Horn

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AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: _____

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**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET
(continued)**

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

CONTRACT NUMBER(S):