

Los Osos Community Services District Fire Mitigation Fund Policy

1. The Board of Directors of the Los Osos Community Services District is committed to providing our community with high quality fire protection and emergency response services. To accomplish this, the Board must establish reasonable reserve funds to ensure that fire protection related programs and events can continue and potentially increase in the community, even during times of lean public funds to support the service.

A Fire Mitigation Fund has been established by the District in an initial amount of \$165,405.37 on February, 4, 2016. The District has established a goal of maintaining this fund with a minimum balance of \$40,000 and the Board and staff of the District shall endeavor on a continuous basis to seek non-tax revenue in the form of grants, gifts, donations, and fundraising proceeds to maintain and increase the Fund balance.

The purpose of this policy is to describe in general the types of expenditures authorized from the Fire Mitigation Fund, and to establish foals for the Fund's perpetual nature.

2. The Fire Mitigation Fund may be used for the following types of expenditures:
 - A. **Fuel Management and Maintenance** for the purpose of abatement of hazardous vegetation (weeds and brush) in previously managed areas, and in areas determined necessary for future fuels management.

This is intended to be a joint effort between the Los Osos Community Services District and State and County resourced to provide defensible space for firefighters, and to prevent and protect lives and property from the threat of wildfire. The District Board of Directors declares that all weeds which endanger the public safety be creating a fire hazard, impedes access to fire protection systems or facilities and are further declared to be a public nuisance such as those that block the vision of drivers or pedestrians, as stated in **Section 3**, Chapter 4.04.00 of the District's Fire Prevention Code, shall be abated.

- B. **Community Health and Fire Safety Education Programs** which include a variety of outreach opportunities designed to equip, educate and train the public regarding health and safety related issues, such as Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation training, residential Carbon Monoxide Detector training and installation and like programs.
 - C. **Replacement of Emergency Equipment and Vehicles.** Although the priority expenditures for the Fire Mitigation fund are for fire fuel management and community health and safety education, the Fire Mitigation Fund may also be used to fund emergency medical equipment, firefighting equipment, vehicle extrication equipment, rope and cliff rescue gear, surf and swift water rescue gear and emergency response vehicles.