

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Venable

SUBMITTAL DATE: August 11, 2003

SUBJECT: Allocation of Third District Developer Agreement Funds to the Idyllwild Fire Protection District.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board join with me to:

- 1) Approve the use of \$500,000 of Third District Public Facilities Developer Agreement Fund No. 30558 to give to the Idyllwild Fire Protection District for the purchase of critically needed fire equipment;
- 2) Direct the Executive Office to process payment of \$500,000 from Third District Public Facilities Developer Agreement Fund 30558-1103500000 to the Idyllwild Fire Protection District.

BACKGROUND: The forested area in and around the community of Idyllwild is facing an unprecedented fire hazard due to drought and insect infestation. This Board supported my request to declare a Local Emergency for the mountain communities of Idyllwild and Pine Cove in March 2002. The Governor concurred with that declaration and proclaimed a State of Emergency for the area in March 2003. This Board also was instrumental in backing my request for countywide public facility dollars to help private property owners remove dead and dying diseased trees.

Now I am asking for Board support to use Third District public facility dollars to help our partners, Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD), purchase needed fire equipment. In spite of the great fire threat, the area is still experiencing growth, a trend we obviously want to support. There are already structures in town that could use the capabilities of more advanced equipment than IFPD currently owns, and with projected new building, the need for this equipment will only continue to grow. For example, Idyllwild Arts, (formerly Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts) a world-renowned school with students from around the globe, is planning on building a number of new facilities in the future, including a large dining hall and theater. Also, Idyllwild School, a K-12 facility, recently built a large gymnasium and a two-story classroom wing. These are just two examples of facilities that house large numbers of children and youth and which need a certain level of fire fighting capability. At this time, IFPD is researching what type of equipment would be best suited to their mountainous environment, i.e. a ladder truck, a "tele-squirt," or some other type of equipment. I want to give them the option, as fire fighting experts, to buy what they determine they need, up to \$500,000. I urge the Board to support this extremely important request.

Jim Venable, Supervisor Third District

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CLERK COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
SUPERVISOR JIM VENABLE