

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.1

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Greg Langworthy, Cyndie Allen, and Jim Niederecker spoke regarding the Prop 50 2025 audit results and the need for reconciliation.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.1**



**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to the Clerk of the Board (right of podium), Speakers are permitted to three (3) minutes, subject to Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form. The Board may limit the public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Greg Langworthy

Address: _____

City: Wildomar **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

Date: 1/26/2026 **Agenda #** Public Comment

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

Parking validations available for speakers only – see Clerk of the Board.

(Revised: 1/13/2026)

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

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Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

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SPEAKER'S NAME: CYNDIE ALLEN

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

Date: _____ **Agenda #** 24 PUBLIC COMMENT

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

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_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No X

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.2

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Veronica Langworthy spoke regarding ROV invoice issues and concerns of documentation accuracy.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.2**



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SPEAKER'S NAME: Veronica Langworthy

Address: _____

City: Wildomar Zip: _____

Phone #: 951-704-4210

Date: 1/27/2026 Agenda # 24 Public Comment

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

Parking validations available for speakers only – see Clerk of the Board.

(Revised: 1/13/2026)

BOARD RULES

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.3

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Jose Regueiro spoke regarding Spanish translation of the Board of Supervisor Meetings broadcasted on YouTube and not the English version.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.3**



Riverside County Board of Supervisors
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SPEAKER'S NAME: Jose Recueiro

Address: 23553 BENDING OAK CT

City: MORVIERA Zip: 92562

Phone #: 957-440-5522 24 PUBLIC COMMENT

Date: 1/27/2024 Agenda # See below

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

 Support Oppose Neutral

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

 Support Oppose Neutral

I give my 3 minutes to: JIM MEDERBECK

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes No

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(Revised: 1/13/2026)

BOARD RULES

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.4

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Errol Koshewitz spoke regarding PRA request for Riverside County's vendors list.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.4**



**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
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SPEAKER'S NAME: Errol Kosheo Jr

Address: _____

City: Public County **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

Date: _____ **Agenda #** _____

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

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(Revised: 1/13/2026)

BOARD RULES

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.5

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Tonya Gonzalez spoke in opposition to the Stone Ridge Commerce Center SP239 rezone and employment data.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.5**



**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
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SPEAKER'S NAME: Tonya Gonzalez

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____

Date: 01/27/25 **Agenda #** Public Comment

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

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I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

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(Revised: 1/13/2026)

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.6

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Roy Bleckert spoke regarding concerns of development projects funded by Riverside County.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.6**



**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
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SPEAKER'S NAME: Roy

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Date: _____ Agenda # PUBLIC COMMENT

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

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_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

Parking validations available for speakers only – see Clerk of the Board.

(Revised: 1/13/2026)

BOARD RULES

Requests to Address Board on "Agenda" Items:

You may request to be heard on a published agenda item. Requests to be heard must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board before the scheduled meeting time.

Requests to Address Board on items that are "NOT" on the Agenda:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these rules, member of the public shall have the right to address the Board during the mid-morning "Oral Communications" segment of the published agenda. Said purpose for address must pertain to issues which are under the direct jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. **YOUR TIME WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES.** The Board may limit the public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board.

Power Point Presentations/Printed Material:

Speakers who intend to conduct a formalized Power Point presentation or provide printed material must notify the Clerk of the Board's Office by 12 noon on the Monday preceding the Tuesday Board meeting, ensuring that the Clerk's Office has sufficient copies of all printed materials and at least one (1) copy of the Power Point CD. Copies of printed material given to the Clerk (by Monday noon deadline) will be provided to each Supervisor. If you have the need to use the overhead "Elmo" projector at the Board meeting, please ensure your material is clear and with proper contrast, notifying the Clerk well ahead of the meeting, of your intent to use the Elmo. Speakers are prohibited from bringing signs, placards, or posters into the hearing room.

Individual Speaker Limits:

Individual speakers are limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The Board may limit the public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board. Please step up to the podium when the Chair calls your name and begin speaking immediately. Pull the microphone to your mouth so that the Board, audience, and audio recording system hear you clearly. Once you start speaking, the "green" podium light will light. The "yellow" light will come on when you have one (1) minute remaining. When you have 30 seconds remaining, the "yellow" light will begin flash, indicating you must quickly wrap up your comments. Your time is up when the "red" light flashes. The Chair adheres to a strict three (3) minutes per speaker. ***Note: If you intend to give your time to a "Group/Organized Presentation", please state so clearly at the very bottom of the reverse side of this form.***

Group/Organized Presentations:

Group/organized presentations with more than one (1) speaker will be limited to nine (9) minutes at the Chair's discretion. The organizer of the presentation will automatically receive the first three (3) minutes, with the remaining six (6) minutes relinquished by other speakers, as requested by them on a completed "Request to Speak" form, and clearly indicated at the front bottom of the form.

Addressing the Board & Acknowledgement by Chair:

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PUBLIC COMMENT:

24.7

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Franco Pacheco spoke regarding concerns of ICE raids.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
24.7**

Online

Riverside County Board of Supervisors Request to Speak

Submit request to the Clerk of the Board (right of podium), Speakers are permitted to three (3) minutes, subject to Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form. The Board may limit the public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Franco Pacheco

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Date: _____ Agenda # Public Comment

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed for "Appeal", please state separately your position on the appeal below:

_____ Support _____ Oppose _____ Neutral

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

Do you need a Spanish translator? Yes _____ No _____

Parking validations available for speakers only – see Clerk of the Board.

(Revised: 1/13/2026)

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Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2026 11:01 PM
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission
Attachments: 2024-audit-results-1.pdf



Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use **Meeting ID # 864 4411 6015 . Password is 20260127**. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.

Submitted on January 26, 2026

Submitted values are:

First Name

Shari

Last Name

Franklin

Phone

714-743-1880

Agenda Date

01/27/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

public comments

Comments

I would like to use this graphic for my public comments--thank you!

Attachments (Must be .pdf, .doc, or .docx)

2024-audit-results-1.pdf

Riverside County Election Integrity



General Election 2024 Audit Results



Mail in Ballots + Drop Boxes + In Person ballots	932,783
Ballots rejected (mismatched sign, late arrival, etc)	-7573
TOTAL BALLOTS 'CAST' IN ELECTION	925,210
TOTAL BALLOTS COUNTED <u>per ROV</u>	959,098
Difference	+33,888

Riverside County Election Integrity



Prop 50 2025 Audit Results



Mail in Ballots + Drop Boxes + In Person ballots	627,802
Ballots rejected (mismatched sign, late arrival, etc)	-16,376
TOTAL BALLOTS 'CAST' IN ELECTION	<hr/> 611,426
TOTAL BALLOTS COUNTED <u>per ROV</u>	657,322
Difference	+45,896

Riverside County ScoreCard



2. Were the votes counted from eligible voters, as required by the US Constitution?

Registrations with material errors and omissions whose votes were counted	Number of Instances*	49.3% VOTE ERROR RATE
Illegal duplicate registrations	5,823	
Registrant with multiple votes	2,284	
Voted prior to "New Registration" date	330,858	
Questionable inactive status	984	
Voted while inactive	0	
Backdated registrations	136,192	
Registered on January 1st	3,842	
Invalid or illogical registration date	60,402	
Illegal or invalid registration changes	16,398	
Age discrepant registrants	287	
Registrants with questionable address	963	
TOTAL VOTING VIOLATIONS PROHIBITED BY LAW:	558,033	
UNIQUE VOTES PROHIBITED BY LAW:	473,056	



Riverside County ScoreCard

★ 2. Were the votes counted from eligible voters, as required by the US Constitution?

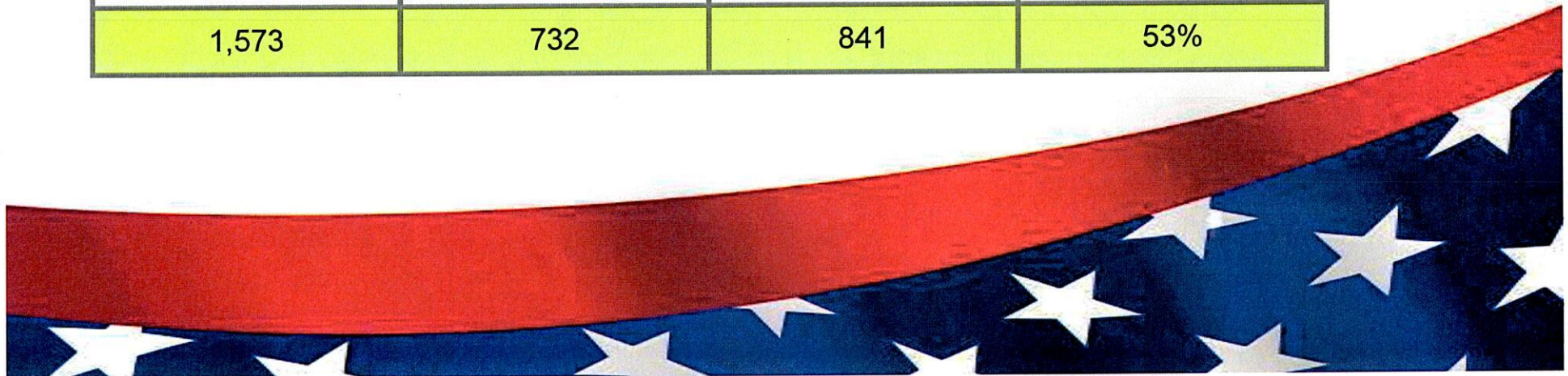
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Forgery Detection/Rejected Signatures

Auto Signature Verification Pilot Results

Signatures Reviewed	Signatures 'Passed' Forgery Detection Confidence Threshold 45%	Forgery Detected	Percent of Voters whose ballots were rejected
1,573	732	841	53%



Forgery Detection/Rejected Signatures

Law Enforcement

8,336 rejected ballots because the signatures DID NOT MATCH! And not one of them was referred to law enforcement!!!

Clearly they are keeping records of whose signatures did not match. Are there any repeat offenders?? Those would be the first ones to investigate!

Challenge Reasons

	No Signature	NoMatchSi g	Total
2nd - Counter	0	5	5
2nd - Mailed	6	37	43
Domestic Military	1	3	4
FPCA	0	1	1
Mail	764	8279	9043
Mail Pct	0	1	1
Nonprovisional CVR	0	1	1
Overseas	4	4	8
Overseas Military	3	4	7
Vote Center Issue	0	1	1
Total	778	8336	9114



Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 12:13 AM
To: franklinshari@gmail.com
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission
Attachments: 2025-audit-results-plus-unite4freedom-scorecard-info.pdf



Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use **Meeting ID # 864 4411 6015 . Password is 20260127**. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.

Submitted on January 27, 2026

Submitted values are:

First Name

Shari

Last Name

Franklin

Phone

714-743-1880

Email

franklinshari@gmail.com

Agenda Date

01/27/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

public comments

Comments

Please use this document for my public comments (not the previous one)
Thank you!!

Attachments (Must be .pdf, .doc, or .docx)

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Riverside County ScoreCard

Riverside County, CA 2024 General Election Validity Scorecard

★ 1. Were the voter rolls accurate, as required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993?

Registrations with material errors and omissions as per the Civil Rights Acts of 1964	Number of Instances*
Illegal duplicate registrations	10,766
Registrant with multiple votes in same election	3,140
Voted prior to "New Registration" date	428,047
Questionable inactive status	986
Voted while Inactive	59
Backdated registrations	250,393
Registered on January 1st	14,823
Invalid or illogical registration date	109,416
Illegal or invalid registration changes	16,390
Age discrepant registrants	1,018
Registrants with questionable address	4,486
TOTAL REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS PROHIBITED BY LAW:	839,524



Riverside County ScoreCard

★ 2. Were the votes counted from eligible voters, as required by the US Constitution?

Registrations with material errors and omissions whose votes were counted	Number of Instances*	49.3% VOTE ERROR RATE
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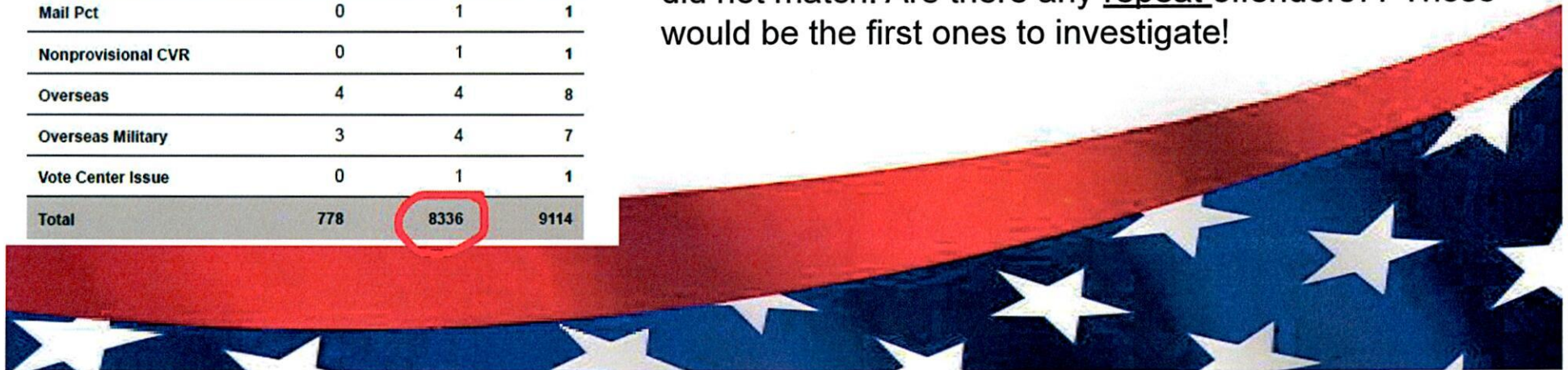
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Overseas Military	3	4	7
Vote Center Issue	0	1	1
Total	778	8336	9114



Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2026 2:35 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Public Comments Web Submission



The Clerk of the Board has received your public comments and will forward them to the Board of Supervisors. If you wish to call in and speak at the Board of Supervisors meeting, please select <https://rivcocob.org/request-to-speak> and fill out the request to speak form.

**Thank you,
Riverside County Clerk of the Board**

Submitted on January 26, 2026

Submitted values are:

First Name

Mary

Last Name

Davis

Phone

619-333-8424

Email

mary@publiceducationoversight.com

Agenda Date

01/27/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

Public Comment

State your position below

Neutral

Comments

I am writing with OSHA and overall safety concerns from the behavior and actions of protestors that occurred outside the Harvest Church in Riverside on Jan. 21, 2026.

In the video I saw (<https://vimeo.com/1157340850>), protestors are using megaphones and whistles directly by/at officers.

As a hearing-preservation advocate, I am alarmed that you would allow protestors to be positioned so closely to your officers if amplified/sound magnification tools are being utilized. This is a direct threat to your officers hearing longevity.

I urge you to develop a policy that if noise amplification devices are being utilized, that those protestors be staged at a distance in a designated 'Free Speech' zone, away from nearby contact with your officers.

This is a well-established practice with legal precedent.

Law Enforcement Officers sacrifice a great deal to protect the communities which they serve. They should not pay the price of hearing loss because disruptors put officers auditory health and safety at risk as well.

Sources: <https://www.osha.gov/noise>
<https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/noise-induced-hearing-loss>
<https://hearingandme.com/how-loud-is-too-loud-a-complete-guide-to-safe-noise-levels-in-decibels/>
<https://phys.org/news/2019-05-loud-sports.html>

Mary Davis
Founder
Public Education Oversight Project
www.PublicEducationOversight.com

Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 7:18 AM
To: mykguna@gmail.com
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission
Attachments: agenda-2.docx



Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use **Meeting ID # 864 4411 6015 . Password is 20260127**. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.

Submitted on January 21, 2026

Submitted values are:

First Name

Michael

Last Name

Guna

Address (Street, City and Zip)

Homeless

Phone

6267717756

Email

mykguna@gmail.com

Agenda Date

01/21/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

Public comment

State your position below

Support

Do you need a Spanish translator?

Yes

Attachments (Must be .pdf, .doc, or .docx)

agenda-2.docx

AGENDA ITEM NO. [Insert Number Here]

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Date: [Insert Meeting Date, e.g., February 15, 2026]

Department: Riverside County Fire Department / Department of Public Works / Office of Sustainability

Submitted By: [Insert Submitter Name, e.g., County Executive Officer]

Contact: [Insert Contact Info, e.g., Phone: (951) 955-1000; Email: ceo@riversidecounty.gov]

1. ITEM TITLE

Proposal for Ordinance Mandating the Implementation of Atmospheric Water Generation (AWG) Hydro Panels on Residential Properties to Enhance Fire Mitigation Capabilities and Alleviate Municipal Water Infrastructure Pressures in High-Risk Wildfire Zones Within Riverside County.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This agenda item proposes the adoption of a new county ordinance requiring the mandatory installation of atmospheric water generation (AWG) hydro panels on all new and existing residential structures located in designated high-risk wildfire areas of Riverside County. These hydro panels, which utilize solar-powered technology to extract potable water from ambient atmospheric humidity, serve a dual purpose: (1) providing an on-site, independent water source for fire suppression systems, thereby improving home defensibility against wildfires; and (2) reducing overall demand on municipal water lines (referred to herein as “landline water pressures”), which are increasingly strained due to population growth, drought conditions, and climate change impacts.

The ordinance aims to address Riverside County’s escalating wildfire risks, as evidenced by recent events such as the 2024 Cranston Fire and the ongoing California drought cycle, while promoting sustainable water management. Implementation would be phased over five years, with incentives for low-income households and exemptions for certain properties. Estimated county-wide benefits include enhanced public safety, reduced firefighting response times, conservation of up to 15% of residential water usage from municipal sources, and alignment with state mandates under California’s Wildfire Mitigation Plan (AB 38) and Water Conservation Act (SB 606).

Fiscal impact: Initial county administrative costs of approximately \$2.5 million annually for the first three years, offset by grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state wildfire resilience funds. Long-term savings projected at \$10-15 million per year in reduced infrastructure maintenance and emergency response expenditures.

Recommendation: Approve the ordinance in concept and direct staff to prepare the full legislative text for first reading at the next board meeting.

3. BACKGROUND

Riverside County, encompassing over 7,200 square miles with diverse terrains including deserts, mountains, and urban-wildland interfaces, faces perennial threats from wildfires exacerbated by climate change, urban sprawl, and prolonged droughts. According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire), Riverside County experienced over 1,200 wildfire incidents in 2025 alone, resulting in \$500 million in damages and the loss of 150 homes. Traditional fire mitigation strategies, such as defensible space requirements under Riverside County Ordinance No. 787, rely heavily on municipal water supplies for sprinklers, hydrants, and firefighting efforts. However, these “landline” water systems—defined as piped municipal water infrastructure—are under immense pressure, with the Eastern Municipal Water District reporting a 20% increase in demand since 2020, leading to frequent rationing and infrastructure strain during peak fire seasons.

Atmospheric Water Generation (AWG) hydro panels represent an innovative, decentralized solution. These panels, commercially available from providers like SOURCE Global or Zero Mass Water, use photovoltaic cells to power a hygroscopic process that condenses moisture from the air into liquid water, producing 2-5 gallons per panel per day in arid climates like Riverside’s (average humidity 30-50%). Unlike traditional rainwater harvesting, AWG systems operate independently of rainfall, making them reliable in drought-prone areas. Pilot programs in Arizona and Nevada have demonstrated a 30% improvement in home fire survivability rates by integrating AWG water into automated sprinkler systems.

This proposal builds on prior board actions, including the 2023 adoption of the Riverside County Climate Action Plan, which emphasizes resilient infrastructure, and aligns with Governor Newsom’s 2024 Executive Order N-10-24 on wildfire preparedness. Public input from community workshops in 2025 highlighted resident concerns over water scarcity and fire risks, with 65% of surveyed homeowners in high-risk zones supporting mandatory tech-based mitigations if subsidized.

4. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Fire Mitigation Benefits

Hydro panels would mandate integration with residential fire suppression systems, such as rooftop sprinklers or perimeter wetting devices, ensuring a dedicated water reserve (minimum 500 gallons per property) unavailable from strained municipal sources. In high-risk zones (e.g., areas rated 4-5 on the Cal Fire Fire Hazard Severity Zone map, covering 40% of Riverside County including Temecula, Lake Elsinore, and the San Jacinto Mountains), this could reduce structure ignition probabilities by 25-40%, based on NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) studies. Edge cases include multi-family dwellings, where shared panels could be installed on common areas, and rural properties with limited solar exposure, for which hybrid battery backups would be required.

Nuances: While effective in moderate humidity, performance dips below 20% humidity; thus, the ordinance includes performance standards (e.g., minimum output certification) and

allowances for supplemental systems. Implications include reduced reliance on aerial water drops during fires, freeing up resources for broader containment.

4.2 Water Infrastructure Relief

By generating on-site water for non-potable uses (e.g., irrigation, fire suppression), hydro panels could offset 10-20% of household municipal water demand, alleviating “landline pressures”—overloaded pipelines prone to leaks and failures, as seen in the 2025 Perris pipeline rupture affecting 50,000 residents. County-wide, this translates to conserving 1-2 billion gallons annually, per projections from the Riverside County Water Task Force. Related considerations: Integration with graywater systems for dual-use efficiency, and potential for excess water to feed community reservoirs in low-risk periods.

Edge cases: Properties in flood-prone areas (e.g., Coachella Valley) may require elevated installations to prevent contamination; exemptions for historic homes under cultural preservation laws.

4.3 Environmental and Sustainability Impacts

AWG technology is carbon-neutral when solar-powered, supporting Riverside County’s 2045 net-zero emissions goal. Life-cycle analysis shows a 5-7 year energy payback period, with minimal environmental footprint compared to desalination plants. Nuances: Panels use rare earth materials; the ordinance mandates recycling protocols. Implications: Enhanced biodiversity in fire-prone ecosystems by reducing post-fire erosion through better-prepared structures, and alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6 (Clean Water) and 13 (Climate Action).

4.4 Equity and Social Considerations

Mandatory implementation raises accessibility concerns. Low-income households (median income < \$60,000, affecting 25% of Riverside residents) could face \$5,000-10,000 installation costs per home. To mitigate, the ordinance proposes tiered subsidies via the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) extension, property tax rebates, and partnerships with nonprofits like Habitat for Humanity. Community outreach in underserved areas (e.g., Mecca, Blythe) would include bilingual workshops. Edge cases: Renters vs. owners—landlords required to install, with rent control safeguards. Implications: Reduced disproportionate fire impacts on vulnerable populations, as seen in the 2022 Fairview Fire displacing low-income communities.

4.5 Technical and Implementation Feasibility

Panels must meet UL (Underwriters Laboratories) standards for safety and efficiency. Phased rollout: Year 1 for new constructions; Years 2-5 for retrofits, with inspections by the Building and Safety Department. Enforcement via fines (\$500-2,000 for non-compliance) and liens. Related considerations: Training for 500+ county inspectors, and R&D grants for local innovations.

5. FISCAL IMPACT

- **Short-Term Costs:** \$2.5 million/year for administration, outreach, and subsidies (funded 50% by FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants).
- **Long-Term Savings:** \$10-15 million/year from reduced water infrastructure repairs (e.g., fewer pipe bursts) and fire response costs (e.g., 20% drop in mutual aid requests).
- **Revenue Sources:** State grants (\$5 million from Cal OES), federal incentives under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and potential carbon credit sales.
- **Break-Even Analysis:** Achieved within 4 years, per Deloitte modeling adapted for Riverside demographics.
Edge cases: Economic downturns could delay subsidies; contingency fund proposed at 10% of budget.

6. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- **Voluntary Program:** Incentives only, but projected 30% adoption rate insufficient for county-wide resilience.
- **Rainwater Harvesting Mandate:** Cheaper upfront but unreliable in droughts; rejected due to inconsistent yields.
- **No Action:** Maintains status quo, risking increased fire losses (estimated \$1 billion/decade) and water shortages.
- **Partial Mandate:** Limited to new builds; dismissed as inequitable and less impactful.

7. LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Compliant with California Building Code (Title 24), CEQA (environmental review waived for public safety ordinances), and ADA accessibility standards. Potential challenges: Preemption by state water laws; staff recommends legal review. Implications: Sets precedent for other counties (e.g., San Diego, Ventura).

8. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

- Workshops: 10 sessions held in 2025, with 500 attendees; 70% support.
- Stakeholders: Endorsements from Cal Fire, Sierra Club, and local HOAs; opposition from real estate groups citing costs—addressed via subsidies.
- Next Steps: Public hearing at adoption.

9. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Approve the concept of the ordinance.
2. Direct staff to draft full text, including exemptions and enforcement details.
3. Allocate \$500,000 for initial planning from the General Fund.
4. Schedule a public hearing for March 2026.

10. ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Map of High-Risk Wildfire Zones.
- Attachment B: Technical Specifications for AWG Hydro Panels.
- Attachment C: Fiscal Projections Spreadsheet.
- Attachment D: Public Comment Summary Report.
- Attachment E: Sample Ordinance Language Template.

This item supports Riverside County's strategic priorities of public safety, sustainability, and resilient infrastructure. Board action is requested.

Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 7:35 AM
To: mykguna@gmail.com
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission
Attachments: board-of-supervisors-proposal-copy-copy.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use **Meeting ID # 864 4411 6015 . Password is 20260127**. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.

Submitted on January 20, 2026

Submitted values are:

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Email

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Agenda Date

01/20/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

Public comment

State your position below

Support

Do you need a Spanish translator?

No

Comments

Please read attachment

Attachments (Must be .pdf, .doc, or .docx)

[board-of-supervisors-proposal-copy-copy.docx](#)

Updated Proposal to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors: Implementing a Complete Ban on Combustible Materials in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) High Fire Severity Zones with Zero-Tolerance Compliance for All Homes

Executive Summary

This updated proposal refines the original recommendation for a comprehensive ordinance by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to enforce a complete ban on combustible materials in all new construction, renovations, and existing structures within designated Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) high fire severity zones. It maintains zero-tolerance, 100% compliance for all homes, prioritizing non-combustible or ignition-resistant materials to combat wildfire risks. Informed by ongoing discussions on wildfire vulnerabilities, developer accountability, and regulatory enforcement, this revision incorporates enhanced deterrents: automatic demolition at the developer's expense after three project halts due to violations, and conditional fines for homeowners limited to cases of intentional dismantling of fire prevention measures. These changes address potential loopholes where initial compliance could be undermined post-construction, while distinguishing between innocent homeowners and those acting as developers.

Drawing from Riverside County's 2025 wildfire incidents, including the Wolf, Rosa, and Juniper fires that scorched over 4,650 acres and prompted widespread evacuations, this policy builds on California's Chapter 7A Building Code but imposes stricter, non-negotiable standards. Anticipated outcomes include an 80-90% reduction in structure losses, drawing from data showing post-2007 code-compliant homes experiencing only 2% loss rates compared to 13% for legacy structures. Additional benefits encompass lowered insurance costs, bolstered community resilience, and minimized environmental impacts from fires. Initial implementation costs remain estimated at \$5-10 million annually, potentially offset by grants such as the \$1.7 million CAL FIRE allocation to Riverside County Parks for fuel management. This aligns with Governor Newsom's 2025 executive order on wildfire hardening, emphasizing proactive measures in wind-prone regions.

Introduction and Reference to Prior Wildfire Discussions

This updated proposal evolves from a continuum of discussions on wildfire prevention, developer practices, and enforcement strategies, underscoring the necessity for ironclad policies in Riverside County. Prior analyses have dissected issues like utility companies' (e.g., PG&E) obfuscation in the 2018 Camp Fire and 2017 Tubbs Fire, involving hidden financial data and

delayed disclosures that exacerbated risks. Conversations highlighted developers' exploitation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions, disregard for fire marshal directives, and profit-over-safety priorities in WUI zones. Examples include "arson by permit" tactics, where firms like Thomas James Homes invoked 2025 executive orders (e.g., N-4-25) to expedite rebuilds, often skirting fire-resistant mandates and jeopardizing vulnerable populations like children.

Further dialogues advocated for investigative task forces with subpoena authority to probe non-compliant developments, addressing inter-agency conflicts between CAL FIRE and the Housing and Community Development (HCD) department. Scrutiny of post-wildfire rebuilding pioneers revealed misuse of AB 130/SB 131 exemptions, heightening vulnerabilities. Innovative suppression methods, such as acoustic firefighting (e.g., 48-60 Hz frequencies extinguishing flames in under half a second), were explored but reinforced prevention's superiority. References to the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force's 2025 ignition prevention updates and "summoning" mechanisms for developer accountability inform this revision.

These insights reveal entrenched systemic issues: lax enforcement, regulatory permissiveness, and incentivized non-compliance. In Riverside County's expansive WUI high severity zones, prone to ember showers and rapid fire spread, a total combustible ban with refined penalties is critical. This update refines enforcement to prevent post-build degradation, ensuring long-term integrity without unduly burdening compliant homeowners.

Background on Wildfire Risks in Riverside County

Riverside County confronts intensifying wildfire hazards driven by climate variability, sprawling development into wildlands, and accumulated fuels. The 2025 season recorded 47 fires exceeding 10 acres, notably the Wolf Fire (2,300 acres, one structure lost), Rosa Fire (1,600 acres, infrastructure disruptions), and Juniper Fire (750 acres, 9,000 evacuations). Statewide, 8,036 wildfires in 2025 consumed 525,223 acres, destroying 16,512 structures and claiming 31 lives. Neighboring counties' blazes, like the Eaton Fire (5,418 structures) and Palisades Fire (6,662 structures), illustrate cross-border threats to Riverside's interfaces.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) classifications—Moderate, High, Very High—are derived from fuel density, topography, meteorology, and fire history. The 2025 Local Responsibility Area (LRA) FHSZ maps, mandated by Government Code 51179, enforce WUI standards in elevated zones but permit local variances, fostering inconsistencies. WUI dynamics amplify dangers: Embers, responsible for 90% of ignitions, can traverse miles to spark combustibles like wooden exteriors. Nuances include riparian corridors or federal lands restricting defensible space, necessitating material-centric prohibitions.

Contextual factors: Prolonged droughts desiccate fuels, while Santa Ana winds (evident in early 2025 fires) accelerate ember dispersal into populated areas. Socioeconomic nuances affect disadvantaged communities, where retrofit affordability could widen disparities. Environmental implications: Material bans curb post-fire soil erosion and biodiversity loss, while reducing carbon releases from conflagrations.

Current Regulations and Identified Gaps

California's regulatory backbone—Public Resources Code 4201-4204 and Building Code Chapter 7A—stipulates ignition-resistant features in FHSZ: Class A roofing, ember-proof vents, non-combustible cladding in exposed areas, and defensible space zones (Zone 0: 0-5 ft ember-resistant; Zone 1: 5-30 ft low-fuel; Zone 2: 30-100 ft managed). Riverside County Ordinance No. 999 incorporates these, requiring 100 ft defensible space in Very High FHSZ and WUI compliance for new developments.

Gaps persist: Codes tolerate limited combustibles (e.g., fire-retardant wood meeting flame-spread thresholds), yet field failures abound, such as embers igniting untreated elements. Compliance lapses are widespread; research indicates zero full adherence to all mitigations, particularly maintenance-intensive ones like gutter clearing. Developers circumvent via CEQA waivers or marshal overrides, as observed in post-2017 reconstructions. Enforcement depends on inspections but suffers from understaffing—e.g., Ordinance 695 targets only specific abatement zones. Consequences: Pre-2004 codes saw 13% loss rates versus 2% post, but absolute zero-tolerance is vital for maximal protection. This update closes post-construction gaps by conditioning homeowner penalties on intent.

Proposed Policy: Complete Ban and Compliance Requirements

Ban on Combustible Materials

Enforce a total prohibition on combustible materials in WUI high severity zones (High and Very High FHSZ per 2025 mappings). “Combustible” encompasses materials exceeding ASTM E84 flame-spread index of 25 (e.g., untreated lumber, plastic siding, foam cores). Require alternatives:

- Roofs: Concrete, metal (excluding wood shakes, treated or otherwise).
- Exteriors: Fiber cement, masonry, stucco; wood only if SFM-certified ignition-resistant.
- Decks/Enclosures: Metal or Class A composites; non-combustible linkages.
- Openings: 1/16-inch mesh vents, tempered dual-pane glazing.
- Peripherals: Ban wood storage, gas tanks, or plants in Zone 0.

Applicable to all structures: New builds, significant remodels (>50% valuation), and phased retrofits for existing. Variances for heritage sites if equivalently fortified; multi-unit complexes mandate unified plans. Nuances: Disability accommodations (e.g., non-combustible ramps); renter protections via owner subsidies.

Zero-Tolerance 100% Compliance

- Annual inspector certifications.
- Tie to transactions: Compliance disclosures or retrofit escrows.

- Considerations: Equity for vulnerable groups; developer-homeowner overlaps trigger full developer penalties.

Enforcement Mechanisms

Delegate primary authority to Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) and Fire Marshals, in tandem with CAL FIRE.

- Inspections: Pre-build approvals, yearly random audits (10% coverage), post-incident reviews.
- Tools: GIS for zone monitoring, drones for assessments.
- Task Force: WUI Compliance Task Force with subpoena capabilities for developer scrutiny.
- Overrides: Felonize attempts to bypass marshals (e.g., coercion, fraud).
- Project Halts: If halted three times for violations (e.g., repeated combustible use discoveries), trigger automatic demolition at developer's sole expense. This "three-strikes" rule deters chronic offenders, with halts documented via formal notices. Nuances: Halts could stem from inspections, complaints, or audits; appeals limited to procedural errors. Implications: Prevents half-measures, ensures site restoration to pre-construction state, and imposes financial accountability (e.g., demolition costs averaging \$50,000-\$200,000 per structure, plus cleanup).

Multi-agency synergy minimizes overlaps; community tip lines foster vigilance. Edge cases: Temporary halts for weather don't count toward strikes.

Penalties and Punishments for Non-Compliance

Escalating sanctions to ensure deterrence:

- Homeowners: Fines (\$1,000-\$10,000 per violation) apply only if intentionally dismantling fire prevention precautions or constructions (e.g., removing ember vents or non-combustible siding post-occupancy). No penalties for unintentional wear or if homes remain as-built to code. Exception: If homeowner is also developer (e.g., self-builders or owner-developers), full developer penalties apply. Liens, forced abatements at owner cost for violations. Nuances: Intent proven via evidence like witness statements or surveillance; first offenses may warrant warnings with education. Implications: Protects good-faith owners from speculative fines, focusing on willful sabotage that could endanger neighborhoods.
- Developers/Contractors: \$50,000-\$500,000 fines per offense; suspensions/revocations for recidivism; civil liability for fire damages from non-compliance.
- Marshal Bypasses: Felonies (up to 5 years prison if fatalities occur); tripled damages.
- Examples: Unauthorized combustibles = \$100,000 + halt; falsification = revocation + \$250,000.

Gradations for minor vs. egregious acts; Board appeals. Hardship waivers with timed compliance.

Implementation Plan

- Phase 1 (2026): Enact ordinance; outreach (inclusive workshops).
- Phase 2 (2027-2028): Immediate new-build adherence; 5-year existing retrofits with CAL FIRE grants.
- Phase 3 (2029+): Rigorous enforcement; metrics reporting.
- Resources: \$5M budget, augmented by penalties, \$2.5B state funds. Rebates (20% costs), loans.
- Evaluation: Track compliance, losses; iterative refinements.

Challenges: Retrofit expenses mitigated by aid; developer pushback via consultations.

Benefits, Implications, and Related Considerations

Advantages: Superior survivability (6x pre-code); cost savings (billions avoided); eco-benefits (emission cuts). Implications: Initial 5-10% build cost hikes balanced by 30% insurance drops; equity through targeted support. Ties to Riverside's 2025 Mitigation Plan (fuel treatments). Edge cases: Farm exemptions if remote; phased commercial inclusion.

This refined, exhaustive proposal fortifies Riverside County's wildfire defenses, balancing stringency with fairness to protect communities sustainably.

Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 10:15 AM
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission



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Submitted on January 27, 2026

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Agenda Date

01/27/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

Not against it

State your position below

Support

Do you need a Spanish translator?

No

Flores, Kate

From: Acquia Mail
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:12 AM
To: Bludragonfly66@gmail.com
Cc: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Request to Speak Web Submission



Thank you for submitting your request to speak. The Clerk of the Board office has received your request and will be prepared to allow you to speak when your item is called. To attend the meeting, please call (669) 900-6833 and use **Meeting ID # 864 4411 6015 . Password is 20260127**. You will be muted until your item is pulled and your name is called. Please dial in at 9:00 am with the phone number you provided in the form so you can be identified during the meeting.

Submitted on January 27, 2026

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Agenda Date

01/27/2026

Agenda Item # or Public Comment

32.1

State your position below

Support

Do you need a Spanish translator?

No