

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-04  
RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF  
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
May 28, 2025

On Motion of Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, duly seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, in accordance with SB 1241 (2012), local jurisdictions are required to comply with the Safety Element requirements for State Responsibility Areas and very high fire hazard severity zones upon the next revision of the Housing Element; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Element identifies the County's natural and man-made hazards that have the potential to impact the population, property, and the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2019, the Planning Commission authorized OC Development Services/Planning to initiate General Plan Amendment S19-01 to incorporate the new State requirements into the Safety Element; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Element was reviewed, updated, and amended as appropriate to address new statutory considerations regarding the risk of fire in the State Responsibility Areas and in very-high fire hazard severity zones, in addition to other technical revisions; and

WHEREAS, the fire safety update to the Safety Element includes the additions of fire hazard severity zone maps from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; historical data on wildfires in Orange County; information about wildfire hazard areas available from the United States Geological Survey; the general location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones and in State Responsibility Areas, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities; the local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services (California Government Code Section §65302, subd. (g)(3)(A)); goals and policies that protect the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire; and references to any fire safety plans or other documents applicable to County Unincorporated areas regarding fire risk reduction; and

WHEREAS, the technical revisions to the Safety Element include addition of updated information regarding the County of Orange and Orange County Operational Area Unified Emergency Operations Plan, and addition of updated information about the Orange County Operational Area Emergency Operations Center; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Element Update was submitted for evaluation by the Board of Forestry Resources Protection Committee for review on April 11, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Forestry Resources Protection Committee approved the Safety Element with two minor revisions on May 13, 2025, and the recommended edits have been incorporated into the draft Safety Element Amendment S19-01 to bring the County into compliance with State requirements to incorporate the State Responsibility Areas and very high fire hazard severity zones.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (BOARD):

1. Find that Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) No. IP 22-0133, previously adopted by the Board on September 27, 2022, and Addendum No. 1 adopted by the Board on June 25, 2024, for the Housing-Related Updates to the County of Orange General Plan and Comprehensive Zoning Code, adequately address the effects of the proposed project, reflect the independent judgement of the County of Orange, and are approved for the proposed project based on the additional findings that the circumstances of the project are substantially the same, and IS/ND No. IP 22-0133 and Addendum No. 1 adequately address the effects of the proposed project; no substantial changes have been made in the project; no substantial changes have occurred in the circumstances under which the project is being undertaken; and no new information of substantial importance to the project which was not known or could not have been known when the IS/ND No. IP 22-0133 and Addendum No. 1 were adopted has become known; therefore no further environmental review is required.
  - a. IS/ND No. IP 22-0133 and Addendum No. 1 are adequate to satisfy the requirements of CEQA for General Plan Amendment S19-01.
2. Adopt General Plan Amendment S19-01 to the Orange County Safety Element for compliance with recent State mandated changes regarding fire safety and to make additional technical amendments.

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Orange County Planning Commission, on May 28, 2025, to wit:

Ayes:

Noes:

Excused:

Abstained:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 2025-04 was adopted on May 28, 2025, by the Orange County Planning Commission.

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Justin Kirk  
Executive Officer, Orange County Planning Commission

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Attachments:

- A. Proposed General Plan Amendment S19-01 (Safety Element) – Strikethrough Version
- B. Initial Study/Negative Declaration No. IP 22-0133 and Addendum No. 1

Date of Adoption: May 28, 2025