

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BURNEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ADOPTING TITLE 24, PART 9 OF THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE OF REGULATIONS, NAMELY THE 2025 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE TOGETHER WITH NON-BUILDING STANDARDS OF THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONDITIONS HAZARDOUS TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM FIRE, HAZARDOUS MATERIAL, OR EXPLOSIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OR PERMITS FOR HAZARDOUS USES OR OPERATIONS.

WHEREAS, the State of California has adopted the 2025 Edition of the California Fire Code, codified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 authorize local jurisdictions to make changes or modifications to the California Fire Code based on local climatic, topographical, and geological conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Burney Fire Protection District (BFPD) has adopted by ordinance the 2025 Edition of the California Fire Code, including amendments and appendices as set forth in Sections 2 and 3 of said ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors is required to make express findings that such amendments are necessary due to local conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Burney Fire Protection District is in a region subject to significant wildfire risk, limited water supply infrastructure, rural and mountainous terrain, and extended emergency response times; and

WHEREAS, these conditions create an increased risk to life, property, and the environment, necessitating enhanced fire protection regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Burney Fire Protection District as follows:

SECTION 1. Adoption of Findings of Fact

The Board of Directors hereby adopts the Findings of Fact attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference. The Findings of Fact establish that the local amendments to the California Fire Code, 2025 Edition, are necessary due to local climatic, topographical, and geological conditions within the Burney Fire Protection District. Appendix A.

SECTION 2. Determination of Necessity

The Board of Directors hereby determines that the amendments to the California Fire Code including but not limited to provisions related to:

Fire apparatus access roads.

Fire protection water supply.

Automatic fire sprinkler systems.

Defensible space and vegetation management.

Premises identification; and

Adopted appendices governing fire flow, hydrant location, and access roads; are necessary to provide a reasonable degree of fire and life safety within the district.

SECTION 3. Filing with the State

The Fire Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this Resolution and the adopted Findings of Fact with the California Building Standards Commission as required by law.

SECTION 4. Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution or the Findings of Fact is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions.

SECTION 5. Effective Date

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 19th day of May, 2026, by the Board of Directors of the Burney Fire Protection District, by the following vote:

AYES: I. May, R. Valinoti, K. Vancleave, P. Grant, B. Ham's

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Irene May

Chair, Board of Directors

Burney Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

Kathy Newton

Clerk of the Board

EXHIBIT A

FINDINGS OF FACT

In accordance with Sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, the Burney Fire Protection District (BFPD) hereby makes the following findings of fact in support of amendments to the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9, known as the California Fire Code, 2025 Edition, including its appendices.

BFPD finds that such amendments are necessary due to local climatic, topographical, and geological conditions that create a unique and increased risk to life, property, and the environment within the District.

In connection with the amendments enacted by Section 2 and 3 relating to the California Fire Code and its appendices, 2025 edition, the BURNEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (BFPD) makes the following findings pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5. The changes are necessary because of local climatic, topographical, or geological conditions.

BFPD hereby adopts, pursuant to Section 18941.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, the following findings of fact:

Under this adopting ordinance, specific amendments have been established which are of a more restrictive nature than those adopted by the State of California (State Buildings Standards Code, State Housing & Community Development Codes), commonly referred to as Title 24 & Title 25 of the California Code of Regulations. The BFPD has recognized these amendments to the 2025 California Fire Code to address the fire problems, concerns, and future direction by which BFPD can establish and maintain an environment that will afford a level of fire and life safety to all who live and work within its boundary.

The International Code Council has assumed responsibility for the International Fire Code and International Fire Code Standards. The International Code Council provided a means for participation by all code enforcement officials from throughout the country and industry representatives, consultants, and other private parties interested in the International Fire Code.

The International Fire Code, being the 2024 edition thereof, published by the International Code Council, is a nationally recognized compilation of proposed rules, regulations, and standards of said Organization.

Said International Fire Code has been printed and published as a Code in book form within the meaning of Section 50022.1 of the Government Code of the State of California.

Under Section 18941.5 of the Health and Safety Code, local amendments are based on climatic, topographical, and geological conditions. The findings of fact herein address each of these situations and present the local situation, which, either singularly or in combination, caused the amendments to be adopted.

LOCAL CONDITIONS

BACKGROUND

The Burney Fire Protection District provides fire prevention, fire protection, advanced emergency medical and rescue services for unincorporated Shasta County areas within the Intermountain area. The Burney Fire Protection District has fire stations at Station 17, located at 37072 Main Street, Station 18, located at 38175 Main Street.

The fire environment of a community is primarily a combination of two factors: the physical geographic characteristics of the area and the historic pattern of development. These two factors create a mixture of environments that determine the area's fire protection needs.

This situation allows fire to travel easily from home to home, from forest to home, or home to forest by radiation, heat convection, and/or flying embers. Often, dwellings are surrounded by highly combustible vegetation, compounding the fire problem. Amendments are justified based on the local climatic conditions.

The Burney Fire Protection District is subject to a unique combination of:

- Severe wildfire climatic conditions.
- Challenging topography limiting access and evacuation.
- Geological constraints affecting infrastructure; and
- Limited water supply and emergency response capabilities.

These factors collectively create a higher-than-average risk of fire occurrence, rapid fire spread, and delayed suppression response.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The Burney Fire Protection District is in a region characterized by:

- Extended periods of low humidity and seasonal drought.
- High summer temperatures.
- Frequent and significant wind events; and
- Increasing wildfire severity and duration.

These climatic conditions contribute to extreme fire behavior, rapid fire spread, and increased ignition potential. The combination of dry fuels and wind-driven conditions significantly heightens the risk of structure-to-structure ignition and large-scale wildfires. Therefore, stricter fire protection measures, including enhanced defensible space, water supply requirements, and fire protection systems, are necessary.

SUMMARY

The Fire District is subject to precipitation, relative humidity, temperature extremes, and high velocity winds. These local climatic conditions affect the spread, acceleration, intensity, and size of a fire. Times of little or no rainfall and high temperatures create extremely hazardous conditions—mainly residential roof fires and wildfire conflagrations. Climatic conditions are one of the most significant impacts to fire behavior and other major emergency events due to their uncontrollable nature.

TOPOGRAPHICAL CONDITIONS

The District includes varied and challenging terrain, including:

- Steep slopes.
- Remote and rural areas.
- Limited access roads, often narrow, winding, and with limited ingress and egress; and
- Areas with dense vegetation and forested landscapes.

These topographical features hinder firefighting operations, delay emergency response times, and limit evacuation routes for residents. Fires in sloped areas spread more rapidly uphill, increasing danger to structures and occupants. As a result, modifications to fire apparatus access, road standards, and vegetation management requirements are necessary to mitigate these risks.

SUMMARY

The topographical conditions reduce accessibility and cause delays in emergency response. The Fire District is subject to terrain changes, steep slopes, surface features, hazardous building operations, and other terrain risk factors. As an example, responding to an emergency on a steep and winding mountain road along with a multitude of visitors and travelers during fire season delays response to the scene. Wildland fire can double in size every two minutes, and the Fire District has seen some significant changes in spread dynamics due to drought and other climatic conditions in the area.

GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

The Burney Fire Protection District is subject to geological conditions that impact fire protection, including:

- Volcanic soils and rock formations may complicate water system installation and reliability.
- Areas prone to seismic activity.
- Potential for ground instability affecting infrastructure.
- Limited groundwater availability in certain areas.

These conditions can impair the installation, maintenance, and reliability of fire protection infrastructure such as hydrants, water storage systems, and underground piping. Enhanced standards are necessary to ensure adequate and reliable fire protection water supplies and system performance during emergencies.

SUMMARY

The geological conditions increase the magnitude, exposure, accessibility problems, and fire hazard the District must manage. As an example, fire following an earthquake has the potential to cause greater loss of life and damage to property than an earthquake itself. The response delays caused by the earthquake damage will allow fire to spread uncontrolled until fire department arrival.

OTHER CONDITIONS

Water Supply and Infrastructure Limitations

Many areas within the District lack:

- Municipal water systems.
- Adequate fire flow.
- Hydrant coverage; and
- Redundant or reliable water infrastructure.

Rural and unincorporated portions of the District rely heavily on static water supplies, such as tanks and ponds, which require additional regulations to ensure accessibility and adequacy for firefighting purposes. Local amendments are necessary to establish minimum water supply requirements and fire protection features.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Conditions

A significant portion of the District is located within the Wildland-Urban Interface, where structures are intermingled with fire-prone vegetation. These areas are particularly vulnerable to:

- Wildfire exposure.
- Ember intrusion.
- Limited evacuation capacity; and
- Increased firefighter risk.

Enhanced construction standards, ignition-resistant materials, and vegetation management requirements are necessary to reduce structure ignition potential and improve survivability during wildfire events.

Emergency Response Capabilities

Due to:

- Geographic size of the District.
- Limited staffing and resources.
- Distance between fire stations and remote areas; and
- Mutual aid response time constraints.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing climatic, topographical, and geological conditions, the Burney Fire Protection District finds that the modifications and amendments to the California Fire Code, 2025 Edition, are necessary to provide a reasonable degree of fire and life safety within the district.

These findings are adopted pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 and shall be filed with the California Building Standards Commission as required by law.