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News Release

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Board to Vote on Emergency Proclamation for Loma Fire

Ratification will help County receive mutual aid from other jurisdictions

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors will vote on ratifying a Proclamation of a Local Emergency at its meeting on Tuesday, October 4, which would allow the County to receive mutual aid in repairing damage caused by the Loma Fire and firefighting efforts.

The Board action is necessary to extend a proclamation of emergency issued by County Executive Jeff Smith, acting as Director of Emergency Services, on Thursday, September 29. Within 14 days of its ratification, the Board can review the proclamation to determine if it is still warranted.

As of Monday morning, the fire which had spread to 4,474 acres, was 81 percent contained.

“Even after the fire is 100 percent contained, there will be a lot of work to do,” said Board President Dave Cortese. “We will need help with recovery and rehabilitation of the land. This proclamation will allow us to request mutual aid for work in those areas.”

The Loma Fire broke out in the Santa Cruz Mountains on Monday, September 26, and destroyed 12 homes and 16 outbuildings. A mandatory evacuation was

ordered residents who live on the Loma Prieta ridgeline, but was lifted on Monday for some of the areas. The County has established shelters for displaced residents in Morgan Hill and Los Gatos, which remain open. In addition, the County has assisted residents with large animal evacuations.

Nearly 2,000 fire personnel have been deployed to fight the fire, including 179 fire engines, 61 fire crews, six air tankers and 16 helicopters, at a cost of about \$3 million per day. For updated information, visit www.fire.ca.gov.

While containment is expected soon, it will take much longer for fire suppression repair and rehabilitation. For example, clearance of the affected areas caused by the fire will likely result in runoff and flooding that threatens to damage additional homes, businesses and waterways. Destruction of hazardous materials and marijuana growing operations discovered in the region will also have environmental impacts. And, the fire threatened critical communications infrastructure in the County.

The Tuesday meeting will begin at 9 a.m. in the Board Chambers of the County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose. Click [here](#) for a report on the resolution the Board will consider.

For more information, call the Office of Supervisor Dave Cortese at 408-299-5030.