



Agenda Item Staff Report

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
For the Meeting of May 27, 2025

From: Brad McKinney, City Manager

Prepared by: Travis Sais, Assistant City Manager

Subject: Approve a Letter to the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus Requesting Support for the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District's Pursuit of State Funding to Address Public Health Risks Following the 2025 Eaton Fire.

SUMMARY

The attached letter requests support for the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District's (SGVMVCD) efforts to address a significant public health threat arising from the 2025 Eaton Fire. According to the SGVMVCD, the fire has created thousands of stagnant swimming pools that breed mosquitoes, posing an escalating risk of disease transmission throughout the San Gabriel Valley. The letter emphasizes the SGVMVCD's critical role and expertise in managing this risk, highlights the lack of funding mechanisms for this specific issue within disaster recovery, and urges immediate action to prevent a secondary public health emergency.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council:

- Approve a letter to the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus requesting support for the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District's pursuit of state funding to address public health risks following the 2025 Eaton Fire.

GOVERNMENT CODE §84308 APPLIES:

<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>

No

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact with respect to the recommended action.

BACKGROUND

The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (SGVMVCD), an independent special district, is responsible for protecting public health from mosquito nuisance and mosquito-borne diseases across its 26 member cities, including the City of San Dimas, and the County of Los Angeles. Governed by a board representing these entities, the District serves over 1.5 million residents. Primarily funded through local parcel assessments designed for routine operations, SGVMVCD has indicated that its fiscal capacity is insufficient to handle large-scale disaster responses.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

On April 29, 2025, the SGVMVCD reached out to the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce and the City of San Dimas to request letters of support for its efforts to secure state funding aimed at addressing the public health risks stemming from the 2025 Eaton Fire.

The SGVMVCD reported that the 2025 Eaton Fire resulted in 2,811 confirmed unmaintained swimming pools in the impacted area, a significant increase from the approximately 343 unmaintained pools the SGVMVCD typically monitors. Over 1,400 of these fire-damaged pools have been determined to be non-functional due to destruction, debris, or inaccessibility, creating an eightfold surge in unmanaged water sources near residential areas. This unprecedented situation, the SGVMVCD reported, has triggered an urgent and fundamentally different response beyond the District's standard operations. Field surveillance by the SGVMVCD has confirmed that over 80% of inspected fire-damaged pools are actively breeding mosquito larvae, an immediate and escalating public health threat that will worsen with rising temperatures. Each untreated pool can produce thousands of mosquitoes weekly, significantly elevating the risk of disease transmission in nearby communities at a rate exceeding pre-disaster levels.

Furthermore, the SGVMVCD communicated that these letters of support would not only be instrumental in their pursuit of state funding but could also assist with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement. For reference, the Chamber of Commerce submitted a letter of support to the SGVMVCD on May 13, 2025.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no proposed alternatives other than the City could choose not to send a letter of support.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), CEQA does not apply to this item because there is no potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, no additional environmental review is needed at this time.

Respectfully submitted,



Travis Sais
Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Letter to the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus