

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 4343**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE UNINCORPORATED PORTION OF SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONDITIONS HAZARDOUS TO LIFE AND PROPERTY, FIRE OR EXPLOSION; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND FOR THE INSPECTION AND SETTING THE FEES THEREFORE; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH, AND ADOPTING THAT CERTAIN DOCUMENT IN BOOK FORM ENTITLED 2007 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE.**

**The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin, State of California, do ordain as follows:**

**Section 1.** Commencing with Section 4-1000 of Division 1 of Title 4 of the Ordinance Code of San Joaquin County, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**DIVISION 1. FIRE PREVENTION**

**CHAPTER 1. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**Sections:**

4-1000	Adoption of the California Fire Code
4-1001	Bureau of Fire Prevention
4-1002	County Fire Warden
4-1003	Application for Permits
4-1004	Board of Appeals
4-1005	Definitions
4-1006	Access Roadways for Fire Apparatus
4-1007	Lumberyards, Pallet Yards and Woodworking Plants
4-1008	Fireworks
4-1009	Fees
4-1010	Reserved
4-1011	Reserved
4-1012	Reserved
4-1013	Reserved
4-1014	Reserved
4-1015	Reserved
4-1016	Reserved

**SECTION 4-1000. ADOPTION.**

That certain document in book form entitled 2007 California Fire Code, including Chapters 3, 5, 25, and Appendix Chapters 1, 4, B, C, and D, published by the California Building Standards Commission, 2525 Natoma Park Drive, Suite 130, Sacramento, California 95833-2936, and incorporates by adoption the 2006 International Fire Code of the International Code Council, one (1) copy of which is on file in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin, is hereby adopted and enacted by the Board of Supervisors as the Fire Code of the County of San Joaquin including those portions which are specifically amended or added hereinafter.

**SECTION 4-1001. BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION.**

The San Joaquin County Bureau of Fire Prevention is created under the direction of the County Fire Warden as directed by the Community Development Director.

**SECTION 4-1002. COUNTY FIRE WARDEN.**

(a) The Fire Warden is the Director of the Community Development Department and is the fire code official responsible for the administration and enforcement of the California Fire Code.

(b) The Fire Warden and members of the Fire Prevention Bureau shall have the powers of a peace officer in performing their duties under this code. When requested by the Fire Warden, the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office is authorized to assign such available officers as necessary to assist the Fire Warden in enforcing the provisions of this code. The Fire Warden may appoint deputies to assist in the enforcement of said laws, and such deputies shall include the Chief of all Fire Districts, and their authorized representatives within the County.

**SECTION 4-1003. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT.**

Section 105.1.2 and 105.7.1 of Appendix Chapter 1 of the 2007 California Fire Code, are hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 105.1.2 Operational Permits required by this Code shall be obtained from the County Fire Warden in such form, detail and procedures as the County Fire Warden may prescribe. Permit fees shall be paid prior to the issuance of such operational permits. Fees shall be set by a board resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin. Issued permits shall be kept on the premises designated therein at all times and shall be readily available for inspection by the fire code official. Such permits shall be issued on an annual basis unless otherwise noted. If a rural fire protection district has established a Bureau of Fire Prevention, it may issue permits and collect fees subject to this Code if it complies with County procedures set forth pursuant to this section.

Section 105.7.1 Construction Permits required by this code shall be obtained from the County Fire Warden in such form, detail and procedures as the County Fire Warden may prescribe. Fire plan check and inspection permit fees shall be paid prior to the issuance of a building permit. The fire plan check and inspection fees for construction permits associated with building permits and this Code shall be set by a board resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin. The Fire Warden shall certify plans of all occupancies requiring a permit from this Code. The determination of value or valuation under any of the provisions of this code for use in the computation of fees for construction permits shall be made by the Fire Warden and shall be based on valuation data supplied periodically by the International Code Council or market value based on local assessment ratios or any other data as may be made available for review to the Fire Warden.

**EXCEPTION:** The Fire Warden shall determine the valuation when no applicable data is available.

#### **SECTION 4-1004. BOARD OF APPEALS.**

Section 108.1 of Appendix Chapter One (1) of the 2007 California Fire Code, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 108.1 Board of Appeals Established: The San Joaquin County Building Board of Appeals, as created by Chapter 2, Building Board of Appeals, Division 1, Building Code of Title 8 of the Ordinance Code of San Joaquin County will determine the suitability of alternate materials and types of construction, and to provide a reasonable interpretation of the provisions of this code as previously adopted by San Joaquin County Ordinance Number 4262, July 19, 2005.

#### **SECTION 4-1005. DEFINITIONS.**

The following definitions shall be added to Section 201 General Definitions of the 2007 California Fire Code.

- (a) "Driveway" shall mean a vehicular access that serves buildings on a single parcel.
- (b) "Fire Road" shall mean a vehicular access that serves more than one parcel.
- (c) "Code" shall mean the California Fire Code, Title 24, California Code of Regulations, Part 9, incorporating the 2006 Edition of the International Fire Code of the International Code Council with necessary California amendments.
- (d) "Chief or Fire Code Official" shall mean the Fire Warden or designated representative as defined in Section 4-1002.

**SECTION 4-1006. ACCESS ROADWAYS FOR FIRE APPARATUS.**

Section 503.1 of the 2007 California Fire Code, shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 503.1 Where Required: Fire apparatus access roads shall be provided and maintained in accordance with Sections 503 and the San Joaquin County Fire Chiefs Association, Fire Access Road Standards.

**SECTION 4-1007. LUMBER YARDS, PALLET YARDS AND WOODWORKING PLANTS.**

Chapter 19, Lumber Yards and Woodworking Facilities Section 1909.1 is hereby amended by adding the following:

**PALLETS AND PALLETIZED PACKING BOXES AND BIN BOXES**

(a) A permit is required to store pallets, palletized packing boxes, bin boxes, including plastic bin boxes in excess of 30,000 board feet or 50,000 cubic feet.

(b) Pallets, palletized packing boxes and bin boxes shall be piled with due regard to stability of piles and in no case higher than 12 feet; where pallets are piled next to a property line, the distance from the property line shall not be less than one half the pile and in no case less than 5 feet.

**Exception:** Bin boxes may be stacked to a maximum height of 20 feet.

(c) Driveways between and around pallets, bin boxes and palletized packing crates shall be at least 15 feet wide and maintained free from accumulation of rubbish, weeds and equipment or other articles or materials. Driveways shall be so spaced that a maximum grid system unit of 50 feet by 50 feet is produced.

(d) Pallets, palletized packing boxes and bin box storage, operating under a permit, shall be surrounded with a suitable fence of at least 6 feet in height.

**Exception:** Storage is located inside the building.

(e) Approved water supply and fire hydrants capable of supplying the required fire flow shall be provided to within 150 feet of all portions of the storage area, in accordance with the applicable sections of the California Fire Code.

**SECTION 4-1008. EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS.**

Chapter 33, Explosives and Fireworks Section 3301.1 is hereby amended by adding the following:

(a) **Fireworks defined:** "Fireworks" means and includes any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances or articles prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or

detonation, including fireworks classified by the Health and Safety Code as “dangerous fireworks” and “safe and sane fireworks” and shall include firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, bombs, sparklers, chasers, snakes, or other fireworks containing any explosive or flammable substance. This definition does not include ammunition used for target shooting or hunting, nor does it include what is ordinarily known as cap pistol caps.

(b) **Fireworks prohibited:** It is unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, transport, or cause to be transported, give away, possess, use or discharge any fireworks as defined in this code in the un-incorporated portions of San Joaquin County.

**Exception:** This code shall not prohibit public fireworks displays providing a permit is obtained from the Fire Warden as prescribed in section 4-1003 of this code. Public displays shall be performed under the direct supervision of a California State Licensed Pyrotechnic Operator. Public displays shall be performed in accordance with Section 3308 of the 2007 California Fire Code. This code shall not prohibit the use by railroad or other transportation agencies, for signal or illumination purposes, torpedoes, flares, or fuses; nor the sale of blank cartridges for theatrical or ceremonial purposes, athletic events or military ceremonies or demonstrations.

(c) **Seizure and destruction of fireworks:** The Fire Warden or designated representatives including the San Joaquin County Sheriff and Fire Chiefs or their designated representatives in the un-incorporated portions of San Joaquin County shall seize, take, remove or cause to be removed and arrange for destruction at the expense of the owner, all stocks of fireworks offered for sale or exposed for sale, stored, possessed or transported or otherwise in violation of this code.

#### **SECTION 4-1009. FEES.**

Appendix Chapter 1 – Section 105.1.2 Permit Fees: The fee for each permit shall be as set forth from time to time by resolution of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors. The County may establish fees sufficient to recover its costs in administering this Code. No permit shall be issued until such fees have been paid.

(a) Public Agencies. Fees shall be required, pursuant to this section, of a municipal corporation, State of California, political subdivisions of the State of California, or the United States of America.

(b) Refunds. All fees shall be non-refundable, except where the County or Fire District does not have the jurisdiction to collect on an application. Fees that are inadvertently or incorrectly collected will be refunded 100%.

(c) Fees for Applications to Correct Violations. Applications made to correct violations of the requirements of this code shall pay a fee equal to two (2) times the application fee normally charged for the application, up to a maximum of five hundred dollars (\$500) over the application fee normally charged.

(d) Disposition of Fees. All fees collected under the provisions of this code shall be paid into the County Treasury, to credit of the General Fund.

## CHAPTER 2 FEES

### Sections:

4-1017	Operational Fees
4-1018	Construction Fees
4-1019	Reserved

### **Sections: 4-1017 OPERATIONAL FEES**

The following fees shall be charged at the time of applying for required operational fire permits as required by the 2007 California Fire Code and shall be annual, unless otherwise noted.

### **FEE SCHEDULE FOR OPERATIONAL FIRE PERMITS**

ARTICLE	TYPE OF PERMIT	FEE
105.6.1	Aerosol products level 2 or 3 in excess of 500 lbs	\$95
105.6.2	Amusement Buildings	\$95
105.6.3	Aviation Facilities	\$95
105.6.4	Carnivals and Fairs	\$95 per site
105.6.5	Cellulose Nitrate Film	\$95
105.6.6	Combustible Dust Producing Operations	\$95
105.6.7	Combustible Fibers more than 100 cu. ft.	\$95
105.6.8	Compressed gases in excess of Table 105.6.8	\$95
105.6.9	Covered mall buildings	\$95
	1.Displays of highly combustible goods in the mall	\$95 per inspection
	2.Liquid or gas fired equipment in the mall	\$95 per inspection
	3.Use open-flame or flame producing equipment	\$95 per inspection
105.6.10	Cryogenic fluids in excess of Table 105.6.10	\$95
105.6.11	Cutting and welding.	\$95
105.6.12	Dry cleaning plants	\$95
105.6.13	Exhibits and trade shows	\$95
105.6.14	Explosives and Fireworks (the hourly rate will also be charged for inspections performed during non business hours, 2 hr minimum)	\$95
105.6.15	Fire hydrants and valves	\$95
105.6.16	Flammable and combustible liquids	
	1.Use, operate, repair or modify a pipeline	\$95
	2.Class I-plus 5 gal inside or plus 10 gal outside	\$95
	3.Class II/IIIA-plus 25 gal inside or 60 gal outside	\$95
	4.Remove class I or II fluid from underground tanks	\$95
	5.Operate fuel dispensing stations, tank vehicles, equipment, wells, plants, terminals	\$95
	6.Temporarily place out of service F & C tanks	\$95
	7.Change the type of contents of F & C tanks	\$95
	8.Manufacture, process, blend, or refine F & C Liquids	\$95
	9.To dispense F & C liquids into motor vehicle tanks	\$95
	10.To use a site for dispensing F & C Liquids	\$95
105.6.17	Floor finishing	\$95
105.6.18	Fruit and crop ripening processes	\$95
105.6.19	Fumigation or thermal insecticide fogging	\$95
105.6.20	Hazardous materials amounts in excess of Table 105.6.20	\$95
105.6.21	HPM Facilities	\$95
105.6.22	High piled storage excess of 500 sq. ft.	\$95
105.6.23	Hot-work operations including:	
	1.Public exhibitions and demonstrations	\$95
	2.Inside a structure	\$95
	3.Fixed site such as welding booths	\$95
	4.Within a hazardous fire area	\$95
	5.Roof covering application with an open flame	\$95

6.Hot Works Programs	\$95
105.6.24 Industrial Ovens	\$95
105.6.25 Lumberyards, lumber in excess of 100,000 board ft	\$95
1. Pallets, crates, bin boxes, wood, plastic, 30,000 board ft, or 50,000 cu. ft	\$95
105.6.26 Liquid or gas fueled vehicles or equipment in assembly buildings	\$95
105.6.27 Liquefied petroleum gas	
1.Storage and use of LP gas	\$95
2.Operation of cargo tankers transporting LP gas	\$95
105.6.28 Magnesium working - more than 10 lbs	\$95
105.6.29 Miscellaneous combustible storage in excess of 2,500 cu. ft.	\$95
105.6.30 Open burning (regulated by A.P.C.D. except recreational)	\$95 per inspection
105.6.31 Open flames and torches	\$95 per inspection
105.6.32 Open flames and candles	\$95 per inspection
105.6.33 Organic coatings - manufacture +1 gal/day	\$95
105.6.34 Places of assembly	\$95
105.6.35 Private fire hydrants (removal from service)	\$95 per inspection
105.6.36 Pyrotechnical special effects material	\$95 per inspection
105.6.37 Proxylin plastics in excess of 25 lbs.	\$95
105.6.38 Refrigeration equipment, 220 lbs. group. A-1, 30 lbs of any other refrigerant	\$95
105.6.39 Repair garages and motor fuel-dispensing facilities	\$95
105.6.40 Rooftop heliports	\$95
105.6.41 Spraying or dipping - utilizing F/C liquids or powders	\$95
105.6.42 Storage of scrap tires and tire byproducts in excess of 2,500 cu ft	\$95
105.6.43 Temporary membrane structures, tents, and canopies	
Tents +200 sq ft or a canopy +400 sq ft	\$95 per inspection
105.6.44 Tire rebuilding plants	\$95
105.6.45 Waste handling (wrecking yards, junk yards, etc.)	\$95
105.6.46 Wood products; chips, hogged material, lumber +200 cu ft.	\$95
105.6.47 S.F.M. Movie Production Operations	\$95
1.Production facilities	\$95
2.Pyrotechnics and special effects	\$95
3.Live audiences	\$95

**SECTION 4-1018 Construction Fees:** The following fire plan check and inspection fees shall be charged at the time of applying for required construction permits as required by the 2007 California Fire Code or building permits as required by the 2007 California Building Code.

#### **FEE SCHEDULE FOR FIRE PLAN CHECK AND INSPECTION (\*\*)**

<u>Total Valuation</u>	<u>Fee</u>
\$1 to \$500	\$50.00
\$501 to \$2,000	\$50.00 for the first \$500 plus \$1.28 for each additional \$100 or fraction thereof, to and including \$2,000
\$2,001 to \$25,000	\$69.25 for the first \$2,000 plus \$14.00 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000.
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$391.25 for the first \$25,000 plus \$10.10 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000.
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$643.75 for the first \$50,000 plus \$7 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$100,000.
\$100,000 to \$500,000	\$993.75 for the first \$100,000 plus \$5.60 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000.
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	\$3233.75 for the first \$500,000 plus \$4.75 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$1,000,000.
\$1,000,000 and up	\$5,608.75 for the first \$1,000,000 plus \$3.65 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof.

The fire plan check and inspection fees will be sixty-five percent (65%) of the total calculated from the above valuation table. Fire plan check and inspection fees will be applicable to all building permits except those that are exempt. Fire plan check and inspection fees will also be applicable to the operational fire permits listed below when there is no building permit required

105.7.1	Automatic fire-extinguishing system	Valuation table
105.7.2	Battery systems in excess of 50 gal.	Valuation table
105.7.3	Compressed gas systems	Valuation table
105.7.4	Fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment	Valuation table
105.7.5	Fire pumps and related equipment	Valuation table
105.7.6	Flammable and combustible liquids	Valuation table
105.7.7	Hazardous materials	Valuation table
105.7.8	Industrial ovens	Valuation table
105.7.9	LP Gas	Valuation table
105.7.10	Private fire hydrants	Valuation table
105.7.11	Spraying or dipping installations	Valuation table
105.7.12	Standpipe systems	Valuation table
105.7.13	Temporary membrane structures, tents and canopies	Valuation table
105.7.14	Fire access roads, plan check and inspection	\$150.
Other inspections and fees:		

1.	Inspections outside of normal business hours (minimum charge, two hrs.)	\$100./hr(*)
2.	Re-inspection fees	\$50./hr(*)
3.	Inspections for which no fee is specifically indicated (minimum charge, one half hr.)	\$50./hr(*)
4.	Additional plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to plans (minimum charge, one hr.)	\$100./hr(*)
5.	For use of outside consultants for plan check and inspections, or both.	Actual cost (**)
6.	Appeals Fee: Any appeal application for the Fire Code Board of Appeals	\$250. or Actual cost (**)
7.	Fire Clearances: For any health care or educational facility	\$95. per clearance(**)
8.	Release of notice of code violation fee	\$41.or Actual cost(**)

(\*) Or the total hourly cost to the jurisdiction, whichever is the greatest. This cost shall include supervision, overhead, equipment, hourly wages and fringe benefits of the employee involved.

(\*\*) Actual cost to include administrative and overhead costs.

Exempt: One-family and two-family dwellings, agricultural buildings (per the definition of the 2007 California Building Code), signs, foundations only, equipment foundations, swimming pools, fences, and tanks not utilized for fire related projects.

**Exception:** Residential fire suppression systems or alarm systems are not exempt from fees. Fire access road plan check and inspections are not exempt from fees.

### **CHAPTER 3. ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS**

Sections:

4-1020	Intent
4-1021	Enforcement Procedures
4-1022	Notice of Code Violation and Release of Notice of Code Violation
4-1023	Disposition of Fines



**SECTION 4-1020. INTENT.** It is the intent of this chapter to specify enforcement proceedings for violations of Division 1 of Title 4.

**SECTION 4-1021. ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES.** The Fire Warden shall follow the procedures outlined below in the investigation and enforcement of violations of the title:

(a) Notice to Comply. When it is determined by the Fire Warden that a violation of this title exists, all known responsible person shall be notified by registered or certified mail of the nature of the violation. The Notice shall state that said responsible person have seven, (7) working days in which to correct the violation. The Fire Warden may extend the seven, (7) working day period if he determined that reasonable progress is being made to correct the violation.

(b) Notice to Appear Citation. The Fire Warden or authorized agent shall issue a Notice to Appear citation to the responsible party in the following instances:

- (1) When the seven, (7) working day period noted in Subsection (a) has lapsed and the violation has not been corrected.
- (2) When the extension period noted in Subsection (a) has lapsed and the violation has not been corrected.
- (3) Immediately upon observing the responsible party committing a violation of this title.

(c) Dismissal of Notice to Appear Citation. If after the “Notice to Appear” citation is issued, the responsible party has complied with all applicable provisions of this title, the Fire Warden may dismiss the citation. The responsible party shall provide the proof of correction by the Fire Warden to the Court Clerk.

(d) Infraction. The responsible person(s) shall be guilty of an infraction if the violation still exists after the seven (7) working day period, or any extension thereto, has lapsed, or immediately upon being observed in violation of any provision of this title. Each day, or portion thereof, the violation still exists shall be a new and separate offense. The first three (3) violations of the same section of this chapter on the same property shall be considered infractions and shall be punished as follows:

- (1) For the first violation, a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) plus any additional penalties assessed by the court.
- (2) For the second violation, a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200) plus any additional penalties assessed by the court.
- (3) For the Third violation, a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) plus any additional penalties assessed by the court.

(e) Misdemeanor. If the number of violations of the same section of this title on the same property exceeds three (3), the responsible person(s) shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable as follows:

- (1) By a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.); or
- (2) By imprisonment in the county Jail for a term of not more than six (6) months; or
- (3) By such fine and/or imprisonment, as noted in Subsections (e)(1) and (e)(2).

(f) Action by District Attorney. Notwithstanding Subsections (a) through (c), The District Attorney may file a misdemeanor for any violation of this title and shall take other steps and apply to such court as may have jurisdiction to grant such relief.

#### **SECTION 4-1022. NOTICE OF CODE VIOLATION AND RELEASE OF NOTICE OF CODE VIOLATION.**

(a) Recording Notice. Whenever the Fire Warden or authorized agent determines that a violation of the regulations specified in Title 4 exists, the Fire Warden or authorized agent may record a Notice of Code Violation with the Office of the County Recorder. The owner(s) of record of the property on which the violation is situated and any other persons responsible for the violation shall be notified of the recordation. Notice to the owner(s) shall be sent to the address shown on the most recent tax roll. An office hearing with the Fire Warden may be requested within twenty (20) days of receiving the intent to record a Notice of code Violation.

(b) Releasing Notice. The Fire Warden or authorized agent shall submit a Release of Notice of Code Violation to the county recorder when it is determined that non-complying conditions have been corrected or removed. A fee, as set forth in the San Joaquin County Fire Code Fee Schedule, may be charged to the property owner for submittal of a Release of Notice of Code Violation.

**SECTION 4-1023. DISPOSITION OF FINES.** All fines collected under the provisions of this title shall be paid into the county Treasury, to the credit of the General Fund.

### **CHAPTER 4**

#### **CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS**

##### **Sections:**

4-1030	Local Climatic, Geographic, and Topographic Conditions
4-1031	Reserved
4-1032	Reserved
4-1033	Reserved
4-1034	Reserved

4-1035	Reserved
4-1036	Reserved
4-1037	Reserved
4-1038	Reserved
4-1039	Reserved

4-1030      **LOCAL CLIMATIC, GEOGRAPHIC, AND TOPOGRAPHICAL  
CONDITIONS.**

In accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 17958.5, the adoption of amendments more restrictive than the requirements contained in the provisions published in the California Building Standard Code, are needed because of local conditions, as specified below:

(A)      Climatic

(1)      Conditions

Precipitation averages 18 inches per year, and can reach as high as 35 inches per year. Virtually all of the rain occurs during the months of October through April. The remaining months receive little or no rain. Temperatures during the summer months can reach as high as 110 and San Joaquin County averages 19 days over 100 each year. Relative humidity during these summer months is very low. San Joaquin County also averages 34 days of dense fog per year, and has had as many as 64 foggy days.

(2)      Impacts

The generally dry, hot summer months create extreme fire conditions. Adding to this situation is the dryness and extreme combustibility of roadside right of ways and private property. The cyclical uncertainty of weather events can cause rapid melting of the snow pack which causes flood potential in areas surrounding the San Joaquin County Delta areas. The foggy conditions can inhibit the dispatch and timeliness of emergency equipment reaching the site of a fire. During foggy periods it is common place for visibility to be near zero, which results in emergency equipment having to decrease their speed to less than 25 miles per hour.

(B)      Geographic

(1)      Conditions

The County of San Joaquin is subject to ground tremors from seismic events as the County is in seismic Zone 3. The County of San Joaquin also has different soil conditions which make fire access road construction vary throughout the various regions of the County.

(2)      Impacts

The geologic conditions in San Joaquin County have the potential of restricting access to structures, especially in remote or isolated areas. A moderate earthquake or extended periods or rain can impact local access roads.

(C) Topographic

(1) Conditions

The County of San Joaquin consists mainly of the San Joaquin Valley floor. The valley floor is typically a flat land area bisected by intermittent and year round stream and river systems. Much of the valley floor is irrigated agriculture. Low land areas protected by a complex and extensive levee system characterize the Delta area.

(2) Impacts

The valley floor is frequently subject to both general and localized flooding. Because the area is so flat and low, it is not unusual for local drainage systems to be inadequate during heavy rain periods. This condition can isolate areas where roads are flooded and thereby block access.

While it is clearly understood that the adoption of such amendments may not prevent the incidence of fire, the implementation of these various amendments to the code attempt to reduce the severity and potential loss of life, property and protection of the environment.

**SECTION 2.** This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on January 1, 2008; and prior to the expiration of fifteen (15) days from the passage thereof, shall be published once (1) in the Record, and newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Joaquin, State of California, with the names of the members of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the same.

Ordinance #4343

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin, State of California, on this 11/27/07 by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors, to Wit:

Ayes: VOGEL, RUHSTALLER, ORNELLAS, GUTIERREZ, MOW

Noes: NONE

Absent: NONE

VICTOR MOW

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victor Mow, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
County of San Joaquin  
State of California

Attest: LOIS M. SAHYOUN  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
of the County of San Joaquin,  
State of California

BY: AIDA PIZANO

