



FEBRUARY 2025
SOUTH VISTA NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

C4FA SUES THE COUNTY

Dear C4FA Friends,

Well, we had no choice. The statute of limitations on a CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act) lawsuit was running out for the County's Jan 8th decision to move forward with their contract with American Airlines service at Palomar Airport and their removal of a County policy that limited the size of aircrafts to having no more than 70 seats that could use Palomar Airport.



The decision became very clear – let the County get away with flouting the 2021 Court decision against them giving Carlsbad final authority on Airport Use and ignoring CEQA laws OR we could sue. So, we were forced to litigate. The complaint is posted on our website c4fa.org.

As many of you experienced first hand, petitioning the County, sending in eComments (over 500 in December and 1000 in January), writing emails, showing up at the PAAC meetings – all fell on deaf ears. And apparently following a judge's ruling in a Court order does too. We need your help to pay for this lawsuit to protect our community and to hold the County accountable to honor Court decisions that go against them.

[PLEASE DONATE](#) – Litigation is expensive.

Every donation counts, whether it's \$5, \$50, \$500 or \$5000.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who have donated. **We can't do this without you. We are a 100% Volunteer Organization.** Please help us to keep Palomar Airport small and friendly, as it was intended to be, and force the County to follow Court orders.

[Please click here to donate today.](#)

As always – Questions? Please email us at c4fa.info@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Your Friends and Neighbors at C4FA

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I attended the Vista Fire Rescue update presentation of its Emergency Preparedness Program to the City Council at their regularly scheduled Vista City Council Meeting of January 28th, 2025. Fire Chief Gerard Washington and Deputy Fire Chief Bret Davidson were very professional, well versed in the matter, and did an excellent job presenting the update. The chiefs stressed that preventing loss of life and property from wildfires doesn't happen by accident, and that proper planning can substantially mitigate or prevent fires, like the recent ones in Los Angeles County.

The **Comprehensive Wildfire Preparedness Program** has several highly integrated components including local preparedness measures, weed abatement program, regional fire support, use of Cal Fire resources, regional coordination, and City and District websites.

Vista Fire Rescue has updated its pre-planning coverage maps for all designated danger areas in the City and Fire district. New detection technologies with a heat detector located on San Marcos Peak detected two fires in its first week after installation. The Vista Fire Prevention Bureau through its Red Flag Protocol opens all emergency access gates and posts red warning flags throughout the district, including schools. Battalion Chiefs attend annual wildland attack drills with Cal Fire, the San Diego Sheriff's Office, and neighboring agencies.

The Weed Abatement Program increased City and District inspections from 1,900 (pre-2024) to 8,051 in 2024 identifying 6,468 properties requiring annual inspections. A total of 14 properties were forced into abatement processes (< than 1% of inspections), and 45 remain as open cases under management. For 2025 the weed abatement process will start on April 2025. Objectives for 2025 include an after-action summary to improve forms, letters, and processes, a new ordinance adding defensible *Cont.* →

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER *(Cont.)*

space requirements and requiring removal of all dead/dying fuels on properties including dead palm fronds, and the use of aerial inspections to improve mitigation efforts. Vista Fire Rescue works closely with the City Attorney's Office to ensure consistency and fairness in implementation of forced abatement is necessary.

The Vista Fire Rescue in collaboration with Cal Fire Resources has designated a Local Area of Responsibility (LRA), a State Responsibility area (SRA), and Mutual Threat Zones (MTZ). The latter provide Vista Fire Rescue with aircraft, crews and engines in up to a half-mile radius of the City at no cost.

Regional Coordination includes participation in county-wide wildland preparedness drills (in San Marcos this coming May), enhanced North Comm Dispatch Center (double resources during Red Flag events), aircraft resources (two air tankers stationed in Ramona, firefighting helicopters San Diego Sheriff's Office, SDG&E, US Forest Service and contracted aircraft via the County Master Mutual Aid program.

The City of Vista maintains 3,000 hydrants, while the Vista Fire Protection District oversees 956 hydrants. Chief Washington emphasized the importance of ongoing maintenance to ensure full functionality and water access during emergencies. Hydrants are inspected on an annual basis.

BE PREPARED!

City and District Websites

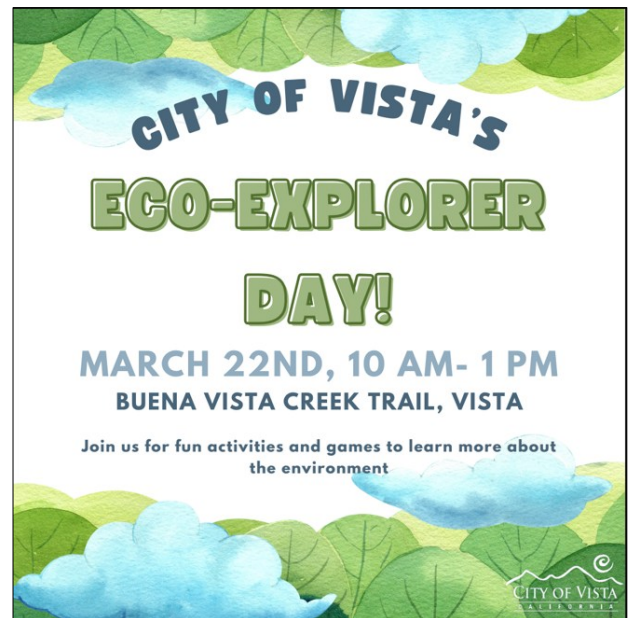
<https://vista.gov/fire>

<https://www.vistafireprotectiondistrict.org>

Francis Dumler, President
South Vista Communities



9 am to 12 pm at **Buena Vista Creek trail** — 1280 E. Hacienda Drive, Vista. Here is the link to register: [Creek To Bay - I Love A Clean San Diego](#) Registration opens on April 1st. All volunteers either need to bring their signed waiver with them or we will have waivers there the day for them to sign.



For more information:

[Kids' Education and Outreach | City of Vista](#)

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