

Community Focus Statement E: Improve the delivery of essential services such as police and fire to the community.



Action Statement E.1: *Coordinate with Cal Fire to change the boundaries of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) by shifting the boundary line of the SRA south to include only federal lands along the San Bernardino Mountains.*

Benchmark: Discussions held with Cal Fire regarding a potential relocation of the SRA boundary line.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: None.

The jurisdictional boundary line separating San Bernardino County Fire Department responsibility from state responsibility (Cal Fire) primarily runs along Highway 247/Old Woman Springs Road as the route goes through Lucerne Valley. County responsibility largely lies to the north and Cal Fire responsibility to the south (State Responsibility Area or SRA). However, this boundary is blurred by the fact that Cal Fire does not typically respond to structure fires in San Bernardino County, necessitating that the County Fire Department routinely respond outside of its jurisdiction. An annual Fire Prevention Fee has been levied on Lucerne Valley homes since July 2014 for properties under Cal Fire jurisdiction. Many Lucerne Valley homeowners feel that the jurisdictional boundary was set arbitrarily and that the risk of wildfire is no greater on the south side of Highway 247 than it is on the north side.

The County amended the Fire Safety Overlay zone in the Development Code and the Fire Safety Overlay in 2017. The overlay within Lucerne Valley was moved south of Highway 247/Old Woman Springs Road. These changes still include non-federal lands.

The Lucerne Valley community could campaign to realign the jurisdictional boundary to the south to coincide with the Bureau of Land Management lands (Federal Responsibility Area or FRA), which start at the base of the San Bernardino Mountains. The community could partner with the County of San Bernardino, as the County Fire Department responds to calls outside of its jurisdiction. Lucerne Valley residents can coordinate with the federal and local agencies to develop consensus on a reasonable boundary that is mutually acceptable. Support of State Assembly and Senate representatives are also important.

Cal Fire conducts a statewide five-year review of SRA maps as required by Section 4125 of the Public Resources Code to capture changes in land use, such as conversion in or out of agriculture, densification due to development, and other relevant changes. In addition, SRA data is updated on a more frequent basis to capture annexations and changes in federal ownership that affect SRA status.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a community coalition to coordinate with the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services, the San Bernardino County Fire Department, and Cal Fire.	Champion	Months 1–6	Cal Fire SRA Information http://www.fire.ca.gov/firepreventionfee/sra_faqs
2. Schedule a meeting between local agencies and community members to determine a strategy for coordinating with Cal Fire. Prepare information regarding the San Bernardino County Fire Department responding to calls outside of its jurisdiction, along with any other supporting facts.	Lucerne Valley Coalition	Months 6–12	Informational Report for State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee http://www.pbcsd.org/news/2015_06_17_SRA_Information_Report_SRA_Fire_Prevention_Fee_Presentation.pdf Prevent Wildfire CA http://www.preventwildfireca.org/
3. Schedule a meeting with Cal Fire to discuss the SRA boundary line in Lucerne Valley. Determine the process for relocating the boundary.	Lucerne Valley Coalition	Month 13	Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County, Energy Education and Environmental Services Program http://www.sbcounty.gov/capsbc/eesheap.html
4. Begin the process with Cal Fire to redraw the SRA boundary in Lucerne Valley.	Lucerne Valley Coalition	Month 13	County Service Area 29, Meetings http://csa29.com/Meetings_Info.html
5. Coordinate with the San Bernardino County Fire Department, County Land Use Services, and Cal Fire to ensure that fire protection needs are adequately met and that the new SRA boundaries are not causing undue burden on any particular agency.	Lucerne Valley Coalition	Annually	