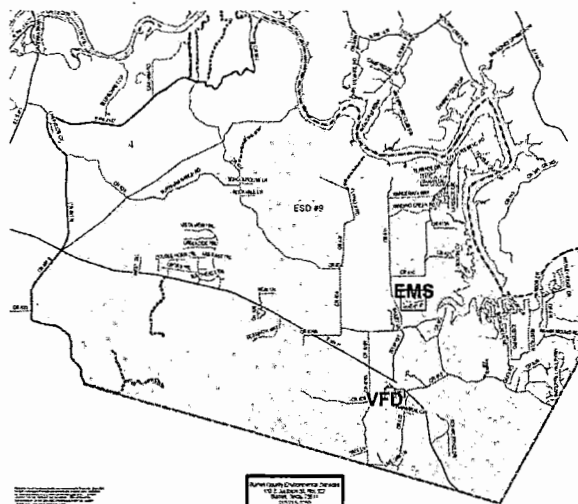


# Burnet County Emergency Services District No. 9

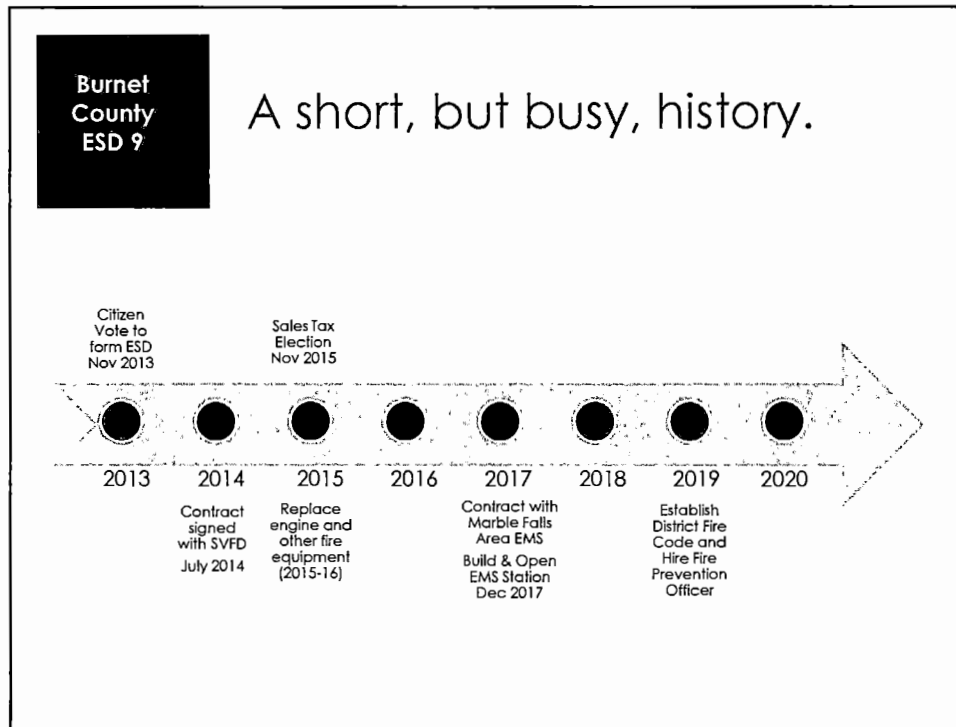
**Strategic Priorities;**  
2019 FIRE CODE - What, Why and How

## BCESD No. 9 Coverage Area

50 sq miles, serving 12,000+ people/yr  
Estimate +50% population growth in 5 years



- 55 sq miles
- 12 miles of Hwy 71
- 7500+ full time residents
- Plus 5000 seasonal residents & visitors
- 3% hydrant coverage
- 75% wild land
- 23% residential
- 2% commercial



## BCESD No. 9 Priorities:



- 1) Equipment/Apparatus
  - Do we have safe, reliable equipment?
- 2) EMS and Fire Response Time
  - How quickly can we get the right people and equipment on scene?
- 3) Workforce/Staffing
  - Are there people available and well trained to respond?
- 4) Fire Prevention/ Community Safety
  - What steps can we take can to reduce the risk of fire, improve water availability, educate the community?








## BCESD No. 9 Priorities & Actions:

|               | Priority            | Actions                                                                           | Building Organization Capacity                        |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 2015/<br>2016 | Reliable Equipment  | Updates with new tanker, SCBA & rescue equipment.                                 | Created a 10-yr asset replacement plan.               |
| 2017/<br>2018 | EMS & Fire Response | 1) Staffed a new, 24x7, EMS station.<br>2) Personal responder kits.               | Established expectations & built performance metrics. |
| 2019          | Qualified Personnel | 1) New recruitment and retention programs.<br>2) Address administrative workload. | Building staff to prepare for the future.             |
| 2019/<br>2020 | Community Safety    | 1) Fire Code Adoption<br>2) Water supply and transport                            | Processes and structures for future growth.           |

## WHAT do we hope to achieve by Adopting a Fire Code?

Burnet County ESD9 wants to support robust and **responsible growth and development** that does not place citizens or visitors at risk

- Neighborhoods that have 2 ways in and out, working fire hydrants, and accessible gates and roadways.
- Business that are safe for their customers, their workers and our firefighters.

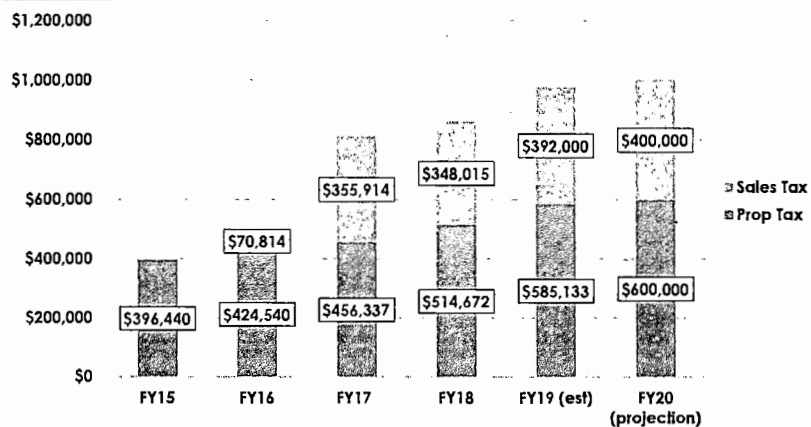
## WHY are we adopting a Fire Code now?

### 1) Prevention **more cost-effective** than Response

- Reliance on volunteer firefighters for the foreseeable future.
- Contracted fire marshal services are a fraction of the cost of paid responders.
- Fire Code builds immediate community awareness of fire prevention, fire safety, and other benefits until paid responders.

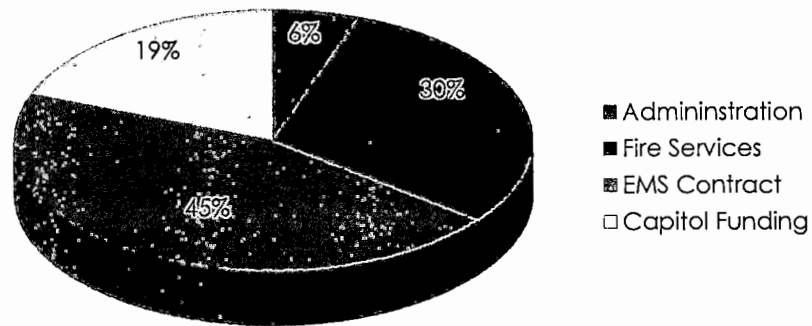
Burnet  
County  
ESD 9

## Enabled and Limited by Funding



Burnet  
County  
ESD 9

## How are funds spent today?

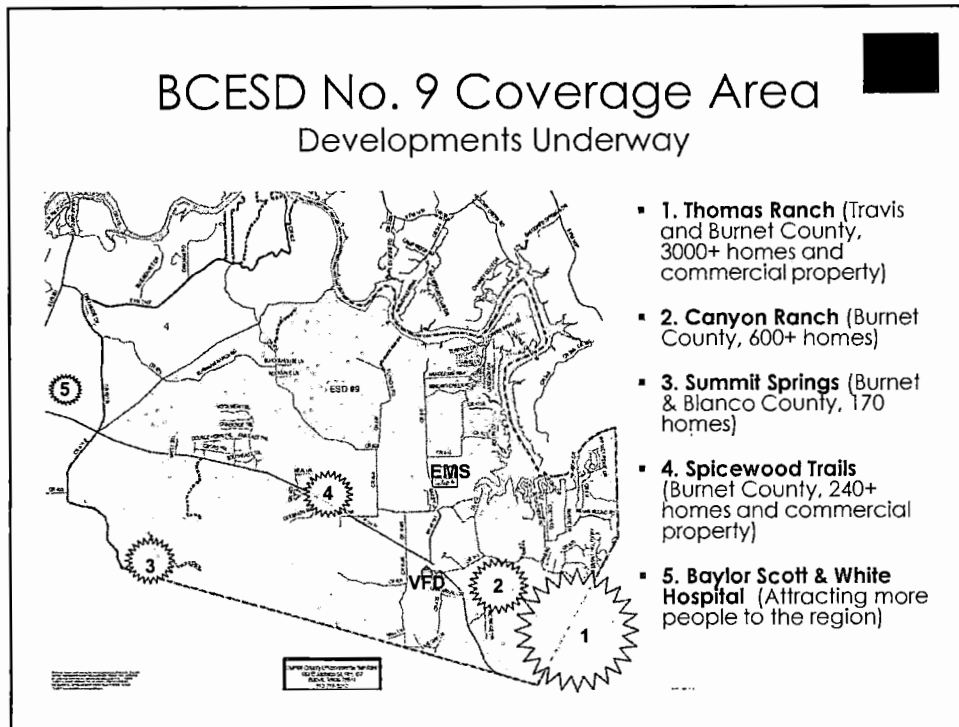


Based on 2020 Preliminary budget of approx. \$1.1M  
Fire Services include the office of Fire Prevention

## WHY are we adopting a Fire Code now?

- 1) Prevention *more cost-effective* than Response
- 2) **Growth is coming- Ready or Not**





## WHY are we adopting a Fire Code now?

- 1) Prevention *more cost-effective* than Response
- 2) Growth is coming - Ready or Not
- 3) Current work load is manageable**
  - >50 commercial structures
  - 3-5 new developments per year
  - 20-25 existing subdivisions

## HOW do we propose to do this?

- ✓ Education:
  - Community Outreach, HOAs & POAs
  - Firewise® Communities, ReadSetGo Plans
  - Business Community Forums and Workdays
- ✓ Engineering:
  - Development Review (Site Plans, Building Plans)
  - Building/Business Permitting
- ✓ Enforcement:
  - New construction inspections
  - Annual maintenance inspections
  - Fire investigations

## HOW do we propose to do this?

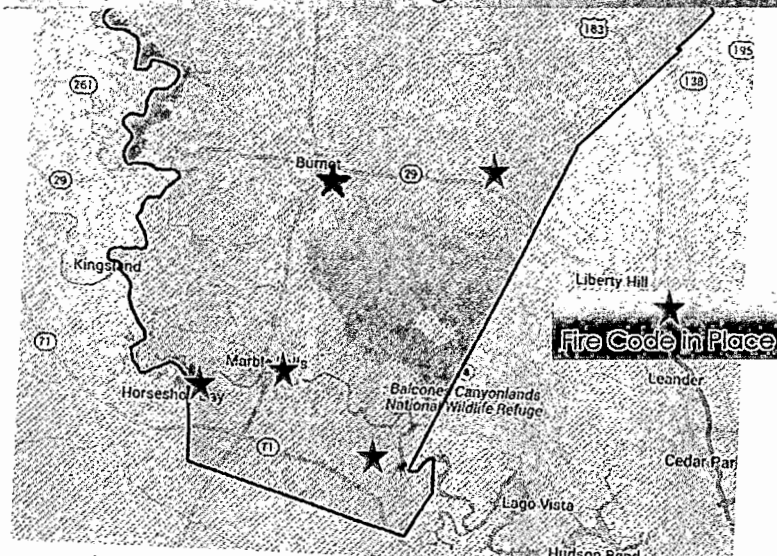
### The Adoption Order

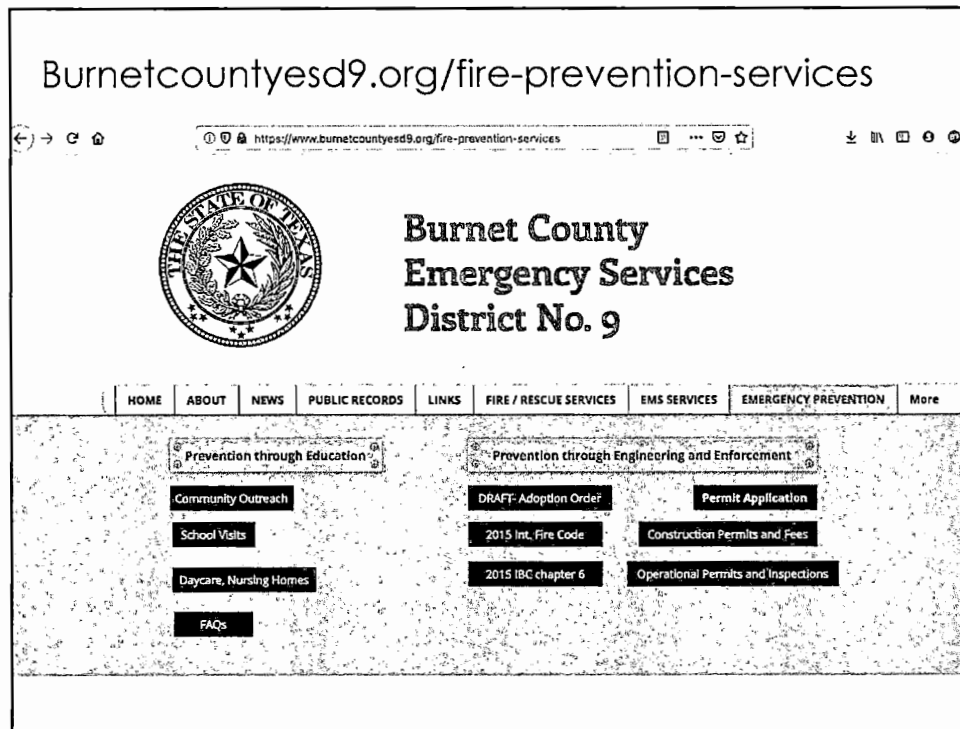
- ✓ Cites the authority to adopt and enforce  
(Tex. Health & Safety Code § 775.036)
- ✓ Identifies what code we are adopting.  
(2015 International Fire Code)
- ✓ Includes local amendments specific to the jurisdiction.
- ✓ Claims the right-to-entry for inspections, investigations.
- ✓ Establishes an appeals process.
- ✓ Publishes a fee schedule for permits.

## WORK we've done to get here

- ✓ The 1<sup>st</sup> ESD in Burnet County - no real template
- ✓ Taskforce of citizens, stakeholders, partners
- ✓ Outreach to businesses and community homeowner groups
- ✓ Researched the adoption order
  - Codes, Amendments, Fees of our neighbors
- ✓ Searched for candidates to work on a contract basis
  - Hiring process and selection.
- ✓ Multiple meetings with county officials to coordinate efforts
- ✓ What's NEXT ?????

## Need for Coordination In Burnet County: Fire Code, Permitting Process, Wildfire Mitigation, Communications, Asset Planning





## APPENDIX

How would a Fire Code affect you  
and your business?



Top 4 Questions for the Pre-Existing

- Would I have to pull a permit and pay fees?
- Would my business be inspected?
- Would I be grandfathered?
- Would there be an appeals process?