



## **News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (7/1/21)**

### **Postponed Policy Hearing**

**When:** Monday, July 5, 2021

**Time:** Upon Adjournment of Assembly Floor Session

**Where:** State Capitol, Room 437

### **Map: Wildfires Now Burning in California**

[Mercury News has shared](#) the #FireMappers wildfire map, which draws on multiple sources including satellite imagery and agency websites to provide updated information on wildland fires in California and other Western states.

The size of each round icon correlates to the acreage burned, and the red-on-yellow icons mark the newest fires. Areas of solid pink are under red-flag warnings, indicating heightened risk of wildland fires. The full legend for the map can be found by clicking the list icon at the upper right.

This is not an evacuation map. Residents in wildfire areas should follow the evacuation instructions of law enforcement agencies and fire managers.

To view the interactive map, [visit Mercury News' full article](#). To learn more about #FireMappers, [click here](#).

### **CAL FIRE: Resources for Peak Wildfire Season**

CAL FIRE has issued a reminder of some of their great online tools to remain informed during an incident. The various resources include:

- **Media Advisories:** The Communications Bureau at CAL FIRE constantly releases updated incident information to the public via media advisories and press releases. You can sign up to receive releases for your area by following this [link](#).
- **Wildfire Cameras:** California has hundreds of wildfire alert cameras that we use for initial fire validation and situational awareness during an incident. The live feeds from these cameras can be accessed by anyone, anywhere using this [link](#).
- **Incident Dashboards:** Comprehensive statewide wildfire incident information is available on CAL FIRE's Incidents webpage, [linked here](#). Incident related impacts to

transportation, housing, air quality, and the power grid is gathered together at California's statewide response clearinghouse, [linked here](#).

- Satellite Heat Detection: This tool from the National Wildfire Coordinating Group allows you to see where the hotspots are in active fires, and gives a rough estimation of fire perimeters, [linked here](#).
- Preparedness/Returning Home: The [ReadyForWildfire.org](#) website provides resources to help constituents not only plan for wildfire, but also includes tips and advice on what to do when you return home after being evacuated.
- Detailed Incident Information: If you have a major wildfire in your area, CAL FIRE can help you get the detailed information you need to inform and engage your community without burdening their on-site incident management teams. If you need specific information that goes beyond our public-facing dashboards and websites, chances are CAL FIRE can get it for you.

### **Why FEMA Aid is Unavailable to Many Who Need it the Most**

[NPR reports](#) FEMA analyzed 4.8 million aid registrations submitted by disaster survivors between 2014 and 2018 and compared applicants' income. The findings include:

- The poorest renters were 23% less likely than higher-income renters to receive housing help.
- The poorest homeowners received about half as much to rebuild their homes compared with higher-income homeowners – disparities that researchers claim cannot be explained by relative repair costs.
- FEMA was about twice as likely to deny housing assistance to lower-income disaster survivors because the agency judged the damage to their home to be “insufficient.”
- FEMA has not analyzed whether there are racial disparities in who receives money after disasters despite a growing body of research showing that people of color are also less likely to receive adequate disaster assistance.

FEMA's own assessment shows it often fails to help those most in need. The agency did not respond to follow-up questions about its analyses, including whether it has completed additional income-based analyses since 2019. Disaster experts and local officials have warned for decades that FEMA's approach to disaster assistance is fundamentally unfair.

For years, FEMA defended its programs. The agency initially withheld its internal analyses from NPR and academic researchers. FEMA now acknowledges it may not be serving everyone equally after disasters, although it has not said how it plans to address the disparities beyond studying them more. To learn more about FEMA's analyses of their programs and read stories from actual survivors, [please visit NPR's full article](#).

### **Governor Newsom Signs Nation-Leading Rent Relief Program for Low-Income Tenants, Eviction Moratorium Extension & Additional Legislation**

[Governor Newsom](#) signed legislation to extend the state's eviction moratorium through September 30, 2021 and clear rent debt for low-income Californians that have suffered economic hardship due to the pandemic on Monday.

Under AB 832, California will significantly increase cash assistance to low-income tenants and small landlords under the state's \$5.2 billion rent relief program, making it the largest and most comprehensive COVID rental protection and rent relief program of any state in the nation.

In an agreement forged between the Governor, the Senate and the Assembly, AB 832 increases the value of the reimbursement the state's emergency rental assistance program provides to now cover 100 percent of past-due and prospective rent payments, as well as utility bills for income-qualified tenants. AB 832 also allows tenants to access rental funds directly if their landlord chooses not to participate and ensures landlords can receive compensation even if their otherwise income-qualified tenants have already vacated a unit.

On Friday, Governor Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon [announced](#) an agreement on the legislation, which also ensures rental assistance dollars stay in California by prioritizing cities and counties with unmet needs and makes temporary reforms to the judicial process to ensure tenants and landlords have attempted to obtain rental assistance.

Visit the full press release from the Governor's office to view a full list of bills that were signed on Monday, [linked here](#). For full text of the bills, visit [California Legislative Information](#).

### **Cal/OSHA Reminds Employers to Protect Outdoor Workers from Heat Illness**

[The California Department of Industrial Relations reports](#) Cal/OSHA is reminding all employers to protect outdoor workers from heat illness as [excessive heat warnings](#) have been issued throughout the state with high temperatures forecast through this Thursday. Employers in California must take steps to protect outdoor workers from heat illness by providing water, rest, shade and training.

Cal/OSHA's [heat illness prevention standard](#) applies to all outdoor worksites. To prevent heat illness, the law requires employers to provide outdoor workers fresh water, access to shade at 80 degrees and whenever requested by a worker, cool-down rest breaks in addition to regular breaks and maintain a written prevention plan with training on the signs of heat illness and what to do in case of an emergency.

- Plan – Develop and implement an effective written heat illness prevention plan that includes emergency response procedures.
- Training – Train all employees and supervisors on heat illness prevention.
- Water – Provide drinking water that is fresh, pure, suitably cool and free of charge so that each worker can drink at least 1 quart per hour and *encourage workers to do so*.
- Rest – Encourage workers to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least five minutes when they feel the need to do so to protect themselves from overheating. *Workers should not wait until they feel sick to cool down*.
- Shade – Provide proper shade when temperatures exceed 80 degrees. Workers have the right to request and be provided shade to cool off at any time.

Cal/OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention special emphasis program includes enforcement of the heat regulation as well as multilingual outreach and training programs for California's employers and workers. Details on heat illness prevention requirements and training materials are available online on Cal/OSHA's [Heat Illness Prevention web page](#) and the [99calor.org](#) informational website. A [Heat Illness Prevention online tool](#) is also available on Cal/OSHA's website.

Cal/OSHA helps protect workers from health and safety hazards on the job in almost every workplace in California. Employers who have questions or need assistance with workplace health and safety programs can call [Cal/OSHA's Consultation Services Branch](#) at 800-963-9424. Workers who have questions about heat illness prevention can call 833-579-0927 to speak with a Cal/OSHA representative during normal business hours. Complaints about workplace safety and health hazards can be filed confidentially with [Cal/OSHA district offices](#).

### **An Entire California Town is Without Running Water – In a Heat Wave**

[ABC News 10 reports](#) the only functioning well in the rural community of Teviston broke in early June, leaving more than 700 residents without running water as temperatures in the Central Valley soared to triple-digits in a drought.

“It’s day to day” for the people of Teviston, said Frank Galaviz, a board member of the Teviston Community Services District, in an interview with The Fresno Bee.

Teviston residents are relying on limited bottled water for necessities such as staying hydrated, cooking, bathing and flushing toilets. Some residents, like Galaviz, are traveling to neighboring towns to stay with family or friends to shower and wash clothes.

Galaviz shared news of the well’s breakdown during a [virtual conference on drought](#) organized by state Sen. Melissa Hurtado, a Democrat from Sanger. The district found sand in the pump, which led to the breakdown.

In response to the well’s failure, the district is delivering cases of bottled water and five-gallon jugs to its residents. Tanker trucks haul water from Porterville, 23 miles away, to fill Teviston’s two water storage tanks.

“It’s just barely enough, and in some cases, not enough,” said Galaviz. “Some families are larger than others.”

Teviston is an unincorporated community in Tulare County that lies off Highway 99, between Pixley and Earlimart. The community’s first residents were primarily Black migrants from the Cotton Belt and Dust Belt states. Today, the majority of its residents are Latino farmworkers.

It may take weeks to get running water back in Teviston households, said Galaviz, who is waiting on the pieces needed to repair the pump.

But fixing the pump may not fix the problem. Galaviz said he fears the well may have dried up.

### **News Release: City of San José, CAL FIRE, and SJ Conservation Corps Mitigate Wildfire Risk in Alum Rock Park**

[The City of San José](#) Fire Department (SJFD) and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department (PRNS), in partnership with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), San José Conservation Corps and the California Conservation Corps (CCC), are working on a hazardous fuels reduction project in Alum Rock Park.

In addition to reducing wildfire risk in and around the park, the project aims to improve wildlife habitat, promote the health of native vegetation and remove invasive species. Work includes thinning of dense vegetation, removal of ladder fuels and implementing fuel breaks along the park boundaries.

Fuel breaks are instrumental in helping slow or stop the progression of a wildfire from encroaching upon values at risk. Nearby values at risk include homes in the Wildland Urban Interface, the Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve and ranchlands near the park. Other values at risk include utility infrastructure, historical and cultural relics, and native plant and wildlife species.

San José Fire Department worked carefully to identify areas most at risk of wildfire along with a proposal for mitigation efforts that would be most beneficial to protecting the surrounding community. CAL FIRE is providing valuable resources in the form of hand crews recently certified to perform wildfire mitigation work.

Crews began working along Crothers Road today, Monday, June 28 and will continue along the park boundaries for 8 to 12 weeks. The project will not impact Alum Rock Park visitors and service vehicles will be on the fire roads.

For more information about how to prepare for a wildfire, visit [www.cafiresafecouncil.org](http://www.cafiresafecouncil.org).

### **Southern California to See Elevated Fire Weather, Possible Monsoon Storms This Week**

[\*The Los Angeles Times\* reports](#) monsoonal thunderstorms loom this week, bringing the potential for dangerous lightning strikes and elevated fire conditions, forecasters said.

The high temperatures of the last several days were expected to peak Monday before tapering off later in the week, meteorologists with the National Weather Service said.

Much of the region was under excessive heat warnings until 9 p.m. Monday. Temperatures climbed into the triple digits Monday in several cities, including Palm Springs (117) and Indio (113).

The weather service said downtown Los Angeles reached 81 degrees Monday, while a high of 84 was recorded in Anaheim and Burbank. The coastal area was cooler, with a high of 70 at the Santa Monica Pier.

Lancaster reached 109 — one degree less than on Sunday, when it tied a record set in 1956.

Several other heat records were tied or broken Sunday, the weather service said. Sandberg hit 107, breaking its previous high of 106, set in 2013. Palm Springs came in at 121, breaking its previous daily record of 120, set in 1979. Palmdale tied its record-high temperature of 109, set in 1973; Campo tied its 1994 record of 106; Idyllwild tied its 1956 record of 94; and Palomar Mountain tied its 1994 record of 94.

Forecasters warn that monsoonal thunderstorms could follow the feverish temperatures between Tuesday and Thursday, with the worst expected Wednesday. The thunderstorms could bring isolated lightning strikes, erratic wind gusts and brief, heavy downpours, with the possibility of flash flooding. The National Weather Service recommended that campers and hikers keep a close watch on forecasts before venturing out.

The erratic weather is causing an elevated fire risk through Thursday, forecasters said. With the heat and drought, stray lightning or other sparks could ignite a fire. The weather service advised extreme caution when using flammable materials.

The high temperatures — coming barely a week after a blistering early-season heat wave — underscore the likely danger of this year’s wildfire season, which is coming earlier and promises to spread faster than in previous years. Southern California fire officials warned last week that conditions are already comparable to August and September in typical seasons.

Additionally, a drought is plaguing the state and much of the rest of the Western U.S., enhancing the extreme weather conditions. In California, there has been record-high evaporation and record-low runoff into streams and reservoirs this year, state climate leaders said. Some rivers are so low they’ve begun to heat up, becoming uninhabitable for many fish species, according to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

As temperatures rise, so too does evaporation, said Benjamin Zaitchik, a professor in Johns Hopkins University’s Earth and Planetary Sciences Department. Because the ground is so parched, there isn’t as much cooling, he explained, so temperatures ramp up and, in turn, create a cyclical effect: Hotter temperatures cause increased evaporation, more evaporation leads to drier climates, and a drier climate spawns hotter temperatures.

Libraries and senior and community centers are open for visitors to take advantage of air conditioning. Some facilities, such as Lancaster Library, Quartz Hill Library and Acton Agua Dulce Library, will be open until 10 p.m. Monday to serve as cooling centers.

A list of other cooling centers can be found at [L.A. County’s emergency preparedness website](#).

### **Earthquake: 3.9 Quake Rattles Bay Area**

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) a 3.9 magnitude earthquake rattled the Bay Area Monday evening.

The temblor was felt across a wide swath of the region, but there were no reports of damage.

The earthquake occurred less than a mile from Ashland, Calif., less than a mile from San Leandro, Calif., one mile from Cherryland, Calif. and one mile from Hayward, Calif.

In the last 10 days, there have been no earthquakes of magnitude 3.0 or greater centered nearby.

An average of 25 earthquakes with magnitudes between 4.0 and 5.0 occur per year in California and Nevada, according to a recent three-year data sample.

The earthquake occurred at a depth of 6.6 miles. Did you feel this earthquake? Consider [reporting what you felt](#) to the USGS.

Find out what to do before, and during, an earthquake near you by signing up for our [Unshaken newsletter](#), which breaks down emergency preparedness into bite-sized steps over six weeks.

### **ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon**

- **Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program Round 2;** *housing, community, and economic development*
  - Funded by: Department of Housing and Community Development
  - Deadline: **Tuesday, July 6, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$74 million
  - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)

- **Infill Infrastructure Grant Program Round 7;** *housing, community, and economic development*
  - Funded by: Department of Housing and Community Development
  - Deadline: **Monday, July 12, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$160 million
  - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program;** *disadvantaged communities; environment and water*
  - Funded by: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
  - Deadline: **Wednesday, July 14, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$20 million
  - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **2021-22 Bullying and Violence in School Advocacy (XB) Program RFP;** *consumer protection; education; health & human services*
  - Funded by: Governor's Office of Emergency Services
  - Deadline: **Monday, July 14, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$575k
  - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **2021 Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program Entitlement and Non-Entitlement Local Government Formula Component Notice of Funding Availability**

[The Department of Housing and Community Development](#) has created this program with the principal goal of making funding available to eligible Local Governments in California for housing-related projects and programs that assist in addressing the unmet housing needs of their local communities.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Tuesday, November 30, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$342.4 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

### **Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks Grant**

[The State Water Resources Control Board](#) has created the RUST grants that may be used to finance up to 100 percent of the costs necessary to upgrade, remove, or replace UST project tanks to comply with the requirements of Health and Safety Code sections 25284.1, 25292.05, 25292.4, 25292.5, or 41954.

Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) grants are available to assist small business underground storage tank (UST) owners and operators in financing up to 100 percent of the costs necessary to upgrade, remove, or replace project tanks to comply with the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 25284.1, 25292.05, 25292.4, 25292.5, or 41954. Please note that removal-only projects are now eligible for RUST grants.

Grants are available for between \$3,000 and \$70,000 to eligible UST owners/operators. An additional \$140,000 in RUST grant moneys above the \$70,000 maximum is available for remote public fueling stations for the purpose of removing and replacing a single-walled UST. (See Health and Safety Code § 25299.107(e) for more information.)

Grant applicants must be a UST owner and/or operator and meet all of the following requirements:

- The applicant is a small business that employs fewer than 20 full-time and part-time employees, is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation;
- The grant applicant's principal office and its officers must be domiciled in California;
- The facility where the project tank is located was legally in business retailing gasoline after January 1, 1999.
- All of the tanks owned and operated by the grant applicant are subject to compliance with Health and Safety Code chapter 6.7 and implementing regulations;
- The facility where the subject tank is located has sold, at retail, less than 900,000 gallons of gasoline annually for each of the two years preceding the submission of the grant application; (Gallonage is based upon taxable sales figures provided to the State Board of Equalization (BOE) on the grant applicant's BOE 401 GS including Schedule G.)
- The grant applicant meets either of the following:
  - The grant applicant is in compliance with Health and Safety Code sections 41954 and 25290.1, 25290.2, 25291, or subdivisions (d) and (e) of section 25292; (The facility must provide a current UST permit, a current Permit to Operate, and proof of EVR compliance as evidence of compliance with the permit compliance requirements.) or
  - The grant applicant meets the requirements for a waiver from the RUST grant permit compliance requirements. (The project is for removal-only and the grant applicant does not qualify for a RUST loan.)

This is not a reimbursement program. Work cannot begin until you have an agreement executed by the State Water Board.

The applicant is a small business that employs fewer than 20 full-time and part-time employees, is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation.

The grant applicant's principal office and its officers must be domiciled in California.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, December 31, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$70k. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

### **Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks Loan**

[The State Water Resources Control Board](#) has created RUST loans that may be used to finance up to 100 percent of the costs necessary to upgrade, remove, or replace project tanks, including corrective actions, to meet applicable local, state, or federal standards, including, but not limited to, any design, construction, monitoring, operation, or maintenance requirements adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 25284.1, 25292.05, 25292.4, or 41954.

Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) loans are available to assist small business underground storage tank (UST) owners and operators in financing up to 100 percent of the costs necessary to upgrade, remove, or replace project tanks, including corrective actions, to meet applicable local, state, or federal standards, including, but not limited to, any design, construction, monitoring, operation, or maintenance requirements adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25284.1, 25292.05, 25292.4, or 41954



## Loan Terms

Low-interest loans are available for between \$10,000 and \$750,000, for a term of 10 or 20 years.

- Ten-year loans are secured by the Uniform Commercial Code Financing Statement on business assets.
- Twenty-year loans are secured by a deed of trust on real estate with adequate equity.
- A loan fee of 2 percent must be paid at final loan closing.
- Please contact the State Water Board or your local Financial Development Corporation for the current interest rate.

Loan applicants must be a UST owner and/or operator and meet all of the following requirements:

- The loan applicant is a small business that employs fewer than 500 full-time and part-time employees, is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation;
- The loan applicant's principal office and its officers must be domiciled in California;
- All of the tanks owned and operated by the loan applicant are subject to compliance with Health and Safety Code chapter 6.7 and the regulation adopted pursuant to that chapter;
- The loan applicant must provide financial and legal documents necessary to demonstrate the ability to repay the loan and availability of adequate collateral to secure the loan; and Revised 8/2020
- The loan applicant must have complied, or will comply, with the financial responsibility requirements specified in Health and Safety Code section 25299.31 and the regulations adopted pursuant to this section.

This is not a reimbursement program. Work cannot begin until you have an agreement executed by the State Water Board.

The loan applicant is a small business that employs fewer than 500 full-time and part-time employees, is independently owned and operated, and is not dominant in its field of operation.

The grant applicant's principal office and its officers must be domiciled in California.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, December 31, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$750k. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

## **Beverage Container Redemption Pilot Project Grant Program (2019-20)**

[The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery \(CalRecycle\)](#) administers a program to provide opportunities for California local government and recycling center operators to improve redemption opportunities for eligible beverage containers and increase recycling rates in unserved convenience zones statewide.

- Jurisdictions are eligible to apply for pilot project funding. A "Jurisdiction" for the purposes of the Pilot Project Program (CCR Section 2750(a)(2)) means a city or county, or combination of cities or counties, that has the authority to issue or grant permission for certified pilot project recyclers to operate in the designated pilot project area.
  - Jurisdictions must have received approval from CalRecycle to operate a pilot project through the pilot project approval process.

- Authorized Pilot Project Recycler
  - A Pilot Project Recycler must be authorized by the Pilot Project Jurisdiction to operate in the pilot project area.
  - A Pilot Project Recycler must be certified by CalRecycle to operate in the pilot project area.
- The request for funding will consist of a proposed Budget and Work Plan.

Pilot projects may be at residential, commercial, or public locations in an approved pilot project area.

- The pilot project program allows for numerous possibilities and flexibility for methods of redemption, including, but not limited to:
  - Stationary drop off locations that allow consumers to deposit beverage containers in a locked and secure drop off bin and pay consumers the California Redemption Value after the containers have been inspected.
  - Mobile pilot projects.
  - A pilot project rotating between a few specific locations during the week.

The deadline to apply is **Saturday, January 1, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$5 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

### **Future Funding Opportunities**

#### **State Secures Federal Assistance to Support Response to Lava Fire in Siskiyou County**

[Governor Newsom announced Tuesday](#) that California has secured a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help ensure the availability of vital resources to suppress the Lava Fire burning in Siskiyou County.

The FMAG, which is provided through the President’s Disaster Relief Fund on cost-share basis, will assist local, state and tribal agencies responding to the fire to apply for 75-percent reimbursement of their eligible fire suppression costs.

The Lava Fire has burned more than 13,330 acres, forcing evacuations in the communities of Lake Shastina and Juniper Valley.

The Siskiyou County Emergency Operations Center has been activated and Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) staff are on site to support local agencies as they respond to the emergency. Cal OES is also mobilizing mutual aid strike teams and firefighters to support the response.

CAL FIRE, the Siskiyou County Sheriff’s Department and other mutual aid resources are also on scene working in Unified Command with the United States Forest Service.