



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING

La Honda Fire Brigade

On 73 years of exemplary service to the South Coast community

Whereas, the **La Honda Fire Brigade** is an all-volunteer fire department, founded in 1953, serving not only the community of La Honda and surrounding areas, but the entire South Coast and remains as one of the last all-volunteer fire departments in the area; and

Whereas, the heroic battle of the small **La Honda Fire Brigade** against the many fires ignited by lightning strikes the night of August 18, 2020 stopped the flames from spreading to the town of La Honda and those same lightning strikes engulfed the area just south of the town in what became the devastating CZU Complex Fires of 2020; and

Whereas, under the forward-looking leadership of Chief Ari Delay, the **La Honda Fire Brigade** has secured state-of-the-art firefighting technologies and equipment, allowing its force to efficiently respond to calls in the very challenging terrain of the Santa Cruz mountains; and

Whereas, the **La Honda Fire Brigade** is made up of 14 dedicated volunteer firefighters, all of whom have received the same training as a professional firefighter, and most have received Emergency Medical Training; and

Whereas, the **La Honda Fire Brigade** responds to all types of emergencies, not just fires, but also medical emergencies, car accidents, trees down, rescues, and downed electrical lines, with approximately 325 call outs in 2025; and

Whereas, approximately 80% of the responses of the **La Honda Fire Brigade** are to medical emergencies, and the presence of a fully equipped Fire Brigade reduces emergency medical response in La Honda by 10 - 15 minutes, precious time to someone suffering a heart attack, stroke or other dire medical emergency; and

Whereas, a local fire station is critical to keeping a small fire contained, as it is known that small fires can quickly develop into large destructive fires, whether it is a kitchen fire that turns into a house fire or a stray campfire that turns into a forest fire; and

Whereas, the presence of a local fire brigade considerably lowers house insurance premiums in the area and, in some cases, can prevent the cancellation of an insurance policy altogether.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby officially commends and congratulates the **La Honda Fire Brigade** on 73 years of exemplary service to the South Coast community and extends its deepest praise to Chief Ari Delay for his exceptional leadership, and wishes all the firefighters great success and safety in carrying out their duties.

Dated: June 7, 2026

SUPERVISORS:

NOELIA CORZO, PRESIDENT

JACKIE SPEIER

RAY MUELLER

LISA GAUTHIER

DAVID J. CANEPA

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS