## RESOLUTION Ordinance 2008-1

## A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FALLEN LEAF LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, ADOPTING FINDINGS SUPPORTING AMENDMENTS TO THE 2007 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE

WHEREAS, the District intends to adopt an ordinance adopting the California Fire Code, 2007 Edition, and prescribing regulations governing conditions hazardous to life, property and the environment from fire, explosion, hazardous materials and hazardous uses; and

WHEREAS, the unique local climatic, geological, and topographical conditions existing within the boundaries of the District make it reasonably necessary for the District to impose more stringent requirements than set forth in the California Fire Code and pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 13869.7 and 17958.7, the District desires to make express findings to the effect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District hereby adopts the following findings concerning current unique local conditions that together make each modification to the California Fire Code, 2007 Edition, reasonably necessary to provide adequate and effective protection of life, property and the environment.

General. After due consideration, the Board of Directors of the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District hereby finds that due to local climatic, geologic and topographic conditions, as stated within this document, there is a need to provide the modifications and changes contained in the adoptive Ordinance of the 2007 California Fire Code. Such changes are deemed to be reasonably necessary to provide adequate and effective protection of life, property and the environment.

Climatic. The weather patterns within the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District are considered variable. The normal year's snowfall is approximately 180 inches and rainfall is approximately 30 inches, while the summer condition is often hot and dry with temperatures over 90 degrees at times. This combination often creates hazardous fuel conditions in the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District. Drying winds in the summer and fall months reduce fuel moisture and relative humidity to the minimum levels, thereby creating ideal fire weather conditions.

Geologic. The Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District is geologically mixed. Much of the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District is precipitous hilly areas where escape opportunities from residential structures are limited to one side of the home only. The steepness and uneven nature of the land often hinders, and sometimes prevents, the erecting of ground ladders at the side of a home on a hillside parcel. The Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District is located within a moderate activity seismic Zone Three. The seismic, geological conditions present a potential for multiple fires, major breakage of water mains, multiple electrical power failures, multiple collapsed structures and a large number of calls for emergency medical aid, all of which may occur simultaneously during a seismic event. Landslides have also been experienced in the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District in recent years. While stabilization of hillsides can sometimes be achieved, heavy rainfalls have caused failures. These slides

can close roadways, making accessibility to many locations in the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District impossible until properly cleared.

**Topographic.** The Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District is protected by a part-paid and part-volunteer fire department. The District is accessible only from the outside by one State Highway. Highway 89 corridor is closest to the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District and at times may be closed by snow or mudslides. This can make access to many parts of the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District difficult. Vehicular access is affected by steep hilly terrain and many secondary ridgelines. Many streets are narrow and winding, restricting the speed at which fire apparatus may safely respond which increases the time lapse between fire detection and apparatus arrival. This delayed response may increase the time a family will face the fire or other emergency on their own.

The Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District has many dead-end streets; this can restrict the ease of relocation of fire and other emergency equipment from one location to another, even though actual separating distance between two areas may be minimal. In addition to restricting access routed for fire apparatus, the dead-end streets also limit egress opportunities for residents. Most of the commercial buildings in the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District were built long before present code requirements existed. Consequently, many of these structures do not meet even minimal standards of fire protection and life safety. Wood frame construction of older buildings, especially those in mountainous areas, creates an adverse exposure problem, not only in being easily ignited by an adjacent structure fire, but also in contributing to the extension of fire to other buildings through radiation, actual physical heat conduction and flying embers. Fire history in the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District has shown flying embers will start secondary fires after being blown in the air. Though out the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District there are areas in which there are no water mains constructed at all,

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District at a meeting of said Board held on the 5/2008 by the following vote:

AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 0

ATTEST: 7/27/0

Administrative Assistant