

# Memorandum



**Date:** September 6, 2011  
**To:** Legislative Program Committee Members  
**From:** Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO  
**Subject:** Santa Maria Air Tanker Base

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## Summary

This item is on the Legislative Committee agenda to receive an overview of the Santa Maria Air Tanker Base re-establishment from Fire Chief Michael Dyer. The attached whitepaper provides background information regarding the potential reopening of the air tanker base at the Santa Maria Airport in order to provide enhanced initial attack capabilities on wildland fires in the region.

The Chief is requesting that the Legislative Committee make a recommendation to the full Board of Supervisors to engage the Santa Barbara County legislative delegation in their support of re-establishing the Santa Maria Air Tanker Base to its original full service status as soon as possible.