

3/19/2026

Council Business A

Correspondence 6

**Maria Morris**

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**From:** Jerry Chrisco <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2026 8:04 PM  
**To:** Jerry and Kanya Chrisco  
**Cc:** Lukasz Czerwinski; Maria Morris; Brian Berkson; Chris Barajas; Armando Carmona; Guillermo Silva; Veronica Sanchez; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: RVC FHSZ

Dear Mayor Berkson and Jurupa Valley City Counsel,

I would like to echo the concerns Dr. Chrisco's email outlines and I implore the city to reconsider the classification of the site for this proposed project in order that our community and prospective neighbors are kept safe and all needed precautions are taken in the layout and the materials used in this proposed project to avoid a disaster in the future. As our elected officials and neighbors, the mayor and counsel clearly understand the dangers that wild fire brings to our community and we trust that your future decisions will place the safety of the citizens of Jurupa Valley, both current and future, at the forefront of any decisions made.

Best regards,

Jerry Chrisco  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 16, 2026, at 7:45 PM, Jerry and Kanya Chrisco <thechriscos@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Berkson and Jurupa Valley City Council,

Again, thank you for everything you do for Jurupa Valley. Below and attached are responses from the Office of the State Fire Marshal that address key questions and issues I shared with you in my [email dated March 12, 2026](#). In the attached letter, page 2 includes the following statement regarding the reduced Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) classification of our area, including the proposed site of the Camino Terrace project:

“While there are open areas with natural fuels they are limited in extent, and in this particular case do not meet that model size limit (50 acres). The City of Jurupa Valley could amend their ordinance to include this area as FHSZ under their authority in Government Code statute.”

Please also refer to my March 12 email in which I cited an email from Assistant Fire Marshal Kylie Tillema, who indicated that the wildfire safety construction standards applied to the Camino Terrace project may change due to the property no longer being classified within an FHSZ.

In addition, during my telephone conversation on March 12, 2026, with Frank Bigelow, Deputy Director – Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, he confirmed that the construction standards applied to the Camino Terrace project would not reflect wildfire-specific safety requirements because the property is no longer classified as being within an FHSZ. As a result, the development may not be constructed to meet Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) standards that are more appropriate for the area’s environmental characteristics.

This situation raises an ongoing public safety concern. If the project proceeds without WUI-aligned wildfire safety construction standards, the community – including the new residents at Camino Terrace, our community, Indian Hills, and homes off Lakeside – will face long-term wildfire hazards and risks that could otherwise be mitigated through appropriate FHSZ classification prior to project approval and construction. It must be underscored that once this project is approved by the City, the construction standards applied will automatically be those for areas not in an FHSZ; this approval will give the green light for construction of buildings at Camino Terrace with deficiencies for a Very High or High Severity hazard zone, which, if constructed in such a manner, will create a perpetual increased wildfire risk.

Therefore, I respectfully ask the City to follow up on Mayor Pro Tem Chris Barajas’ comments during the last public hearing. As he stated, the mountains, topography, winds, and fuel sources that contribute to wildfire risk still exist despite the recent CAL FIRE map change.

Based on the information provided in the attached letter from CAL FIRE, the City has the authority to conduct its own risk assessment and potentially amend its ordinance to designate this area as an FHSZ and restore its historic classification to Very High Severity. I respectfully request that the City consider exercising that authority and place the Camino Terrace project on hold while a thorough wildfire risk evaluation and potential reclassification is completed in order to address these public safety concerns.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kanya Chrisco

[REDACTED]

Jurupa Valley, CA 92509

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bigelow, Frank@CALFIRE** <[Frank.Bigelow@fire.ca.gov](mailto:Frank.Bigelow@fire.ca.gov)>

Date: Mon, Mar 16, 2026 at 4:41 PM

Subject: RVC FHSZ

To: [thechriscos@gmail.com](mailto:thechriscos@gmail.com) <[thechriscos@gmail.com](mailto:thechriscos@gmail.com)>

Kanya,

Thank you for reaching out with your questions. I'm glad we had a chance to connect last week. After reviewing your emails, our FHSZ team has provided a response, which I have attached. Please reach out if you have further questions.

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q0fmr3pp.png>

**Frank Bigelow**

Deputy Director - Community Wildfire  
Preparedness and Mitigation  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
855 M St., Fresno, CA 93721  
(559) 259-5591 Cell

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For wildfire preparedness and prevention tips, visit:

[ReadyForWildfire.org](https://www.readyforwildfire.org).

<Kanya Chrisco\_ Riverside Unit\_ 3\_26.pdf>

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION****OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

P.O. Box 944246  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460  
(916) 568-3800  
Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



March 11, 2026

Kanya Chrisco  
7480 Mountain Shadow Drive  
Jurupa Valley, Ca 92509

Dear Kanya Chrisco,

Thank you for reaching out about your concerns about the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) maps and the planning of Camino Terrace.

As discussed in your email, the concerns of wind factors, Fire History and Access/Egress in Camino Terrace.

Wind is used extensively in the FHSZ model but only for days that are conducive for fire spread (i.e., fuels are dry enough to support fire spread).

These are used as inputs to impact both expected fire behavior and ember production from wildland areas, as well as drive the transport of embers into non-wildland/developed areas. The data provided from the weather aggregation source Visual Crossin includes both measured and modeled data, but does not filter for dryness, and appears to be spatially generalized but assigned to very specific parcels. Downscaled winds at this level present false precision. That said, this area is characterized by both very high magnitude dry winds and more generally extreme fire weather conditions at high relative frequencies when compared to the average conditions across the state.

Fire history is used in FHSZ modeling to estimate burn probability. Records of small fires that are not within the state or federal protection areas can be missing, but individual fires influence the model by their areal size and are averaged over hundreds of thousands of acres within a given fire rotation stratum, and over the entire period of record (30 years). All large fires are captured and used. The 2022 fire referenced is a) an LRA fire that is not required for reporting but are desirable to include and b) outside the time domain for records used (1991-2020).

The specific area defined for the Camino Terrace Development Project as determined from the project plan (<https://www.wakelandhdc.com/camino-terrace.html>) has not changed due to recent 2025 FHSZ map recommendations.

Access/Egress and safety related to individual development are controlled via local zoning and building requirements.

The area in question is unzone in FHSZ due to not meeting the model requirement for area size of embedded wildlands (i.e., islands of wildlands fully surrounded by non-wildland/urbanized land cover). While there are open areas with natural fuels they are limited in extent, and in this particular case do not meet that model size limit (50 acres). The city of Jurupa Valley could amend their ordinance to include this area as FHSZ under their authority in Govt. Code statute.

Per GC 51179(b) (1) A local agency may, at its discretion, include areas within the jurisdiction of the local agency, not identified as very high fire hazard severity zones by the State Fire Marshal, as very high fire hazard severity zones following a finding supported by substantial evidence in the record that the requirements of Section 51182 are necessary for effective fire protection within the area.

(2) A local agency may, at its discretion, include areas within the jurisdiction of the local agency, not identified as moderate and high fire hazard severity zones by the State Fire Marshal, as moderate and high fire hazard severity zones, respectively.

(3) A local agency shall not decrease the level of fire hazard severity zone as identified by the State Fire Marshal for any area within the jurisdiction of the local agency, and, in exercising its discretion pursuant to paragraph (2), may only increase the level of fire hazard severity zone as identified by the State Fire Marshal for any area within the jurisdiction of the local agency.

If your local agency has adopted the maps as recommended by the State Fire Marshal, this concern needs to be addressed with them as this is their discretion. You can contact your local agency by utilizing these websites:

<https://jurupavalley.org/>  
[CityClerk@jurupavalley.org](mailto:CityClerk@jurupavalley.org)

Thank you again.

Sincerely,



Emily Smith  
CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Staff Chief, Wildfire Planning and Statistics