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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
200 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 1840
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

COMMISSION OFFICE
(213) 978-3838 PHONE
(213) 978-3814 FAX

August 6, 2026

Honorable Karen Bass
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 303
Attn: Legislative Coordinator

Honorable Members of City Council
City of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 395
Attn: City Clerk

[BFC 26-040] – AMENDMENT TO RESTRUCTURE THE APSA CATEGORIES IN THE DEPARTMENT'S SCHEDULE OF COST OF SPECIAL SERVICES REPORT

At its meeting of August 4, 2026, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved the report and its recommendations. The report is hereby transmitted to the Mayor for consideration and the City Council for consideration and approval.

Should you need additional information, please contact the Board of Fire Commissioners' office at LAFDFireCommission@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

Neverly Ann Hill
Commission Executive Assistant II

Attachment

cc: Fire Chief Jaime E. Moore (via email)

August 4, 2026

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



JAIME E. MOORE
FIRE CHIEF

APPROVED: 8/4/26
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
BY: N.S.
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

July 20, 2026

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 26-040

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM:  Jaime E. Moore, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO RESTRUCTURE THE APSA CATEGORIES IN THE
DEPARTMENT'S SCHEDULE OF COST OF SPECIAL SERVICES
REPORT

FINAL ACTION:	☒ Approved	☐ Approved w/Corrections	☐ Withdrawn
	☐ Denied	☐ Received & Filed	☐ Other

SUMMARY

The Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Program, administered by the Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), regulates businesses within the City of Los Angeles that store petroleum in aboveground tanks. The program's primary purpose is to protect California's water resources and public safety by ensuring that facilities storing significant quantities of petroleum implement proper engineering controls, spill prevention measures, and regulatory compliance practices. This report recommends amending the APSA fee category structure to better align with regulatory activities, enhance transparency, and strengthen cost-recovery defensibility. The proposed change maintains fiscal neutrality, aligns with comparable CUPA programs statewide, and promotes equity by matching fee structure to facility complexity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

1. Approve the proposed APSA fee category structure (Page 3).
2. Transmit this report to the City Council and Mayor for consideration and approval.
3. Request that the Mayor and City Council direct the City Attorney to draft corresponding ordinances adding and/or amending provisions of the Fire Code, which are contained in the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), Chapter 5, Article 7.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed APSA fee category restructuring has no fiscal impact and maintains full revenue neutrality. The restructuring improves alignment between fee classifications and regulatory workload drivers, enhances transparency, strengthens cost-recovery defensibility, and improves tracking and reporting efficiency.

DISCUSSION

The LAFD CUPA is mandated by the State of California to implement six Unified Program elements. This report proposes a revised fee category structure for one of those elements, the Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) program, which regulates facilities that store petroleum in aboveground tanks.

The existing APSA program fee categories listed in LAMC Section 57.120.6 no longer reflect current regulatory activities or workload characteristics, including inspection frequency, facility complexity, and petroleum storage capacity. To better align with current regulatory requirements and improve transparency for regulated facilities, this report proposes a new fee category structure.

The proposed structure is intended to enhance billing, tracking, and reporting efficiency, particularly as facilities increase or decrease storage capacity and move in or out of the program. Additionally, the revised framework strengthens the defensibility of cost recovery in response to increasing facility complexity, higher technical expertise requirements, and the expanded time commitment required for oversight activities.

Furthermore, the new fee structure aligns the APSA program with comparable CUPAs, more specifically the Los Angeles County Fire Department CUPA (LACoCUPA) and Contra Costa County CUPA. These CUPAs use a facility's petroleum storage capacity as the primary and sole metric for determining the appropriate fee category, recognizing that increased storage volume corresponds to greater operational complexity and expanded compliance oversight requirements. Both CUPAs have implemented and currently utilize six fee categories based on storage capacity, which is the same framework proposed in this report. Aligning with this established model promotes consistency with peer agencies, reinforces the credibility of the methodology as a best practice, and reduces confusion for regulated businesses operating across multiple jurisdictions.

The new fee structure to be included in the Schedule adopted under LAMC Section 57.120.6 will be as follows:

<u>Current Code</u>	<u>Proposed Code</u>	<u>Current Category</u>	<u>Proposed Category by Storage Volume Capacity (gallons)</u>
<u>3002</u>	<u>3004</u>	<u>Tank in an underground area</u>	<u>Less than 10,000 gallons</u>
<u>3003</u>		<u>Greater than 1,320 gallons but less than 10,000 gallons</u>	
<u>3001</u>	<u>3005</u>	<u>10,000 gallons or more</u>	<u>10,000 to < 100,000 gallons</u>
<u>3001</u>	<u>3006</u>	<u>10,000 gallons or more</u>	<u>100,000 to < 1 million gallons</u>
<u>3001</u>	<u>3007</u>	<u>10,000 gallons or more</u>	<u>1 million to < 10 million gallons</u>
<u>3001</u>	<u>3008</u>	<u>10,000 gallons or more</u>	<u>10 million to < 100 million gallons</u>
<u>3001</u>	<u>3009</u>	<u>10,000 gallons or more</u>	<u>100 million gallons or more</u>

CONCLUSION

The proposed restructuring of the APSA program fee categories is necessary to ensure that the LAFD CUPA maintains a fee structure that accurately reflects current regulatory responsibilities, workload demands, and oversight requirements. The revised storage capacity framework improves administrative efficiency, enhances transparency, and strengthens the defensibility of cost recovery. By aligning with established models used by comparable CUPAs, the restructure promotes consistency and reduces confusion for regulated businesses.

Board report prepared by Royce Long, CUPA Program Manager, Fire Prevention and Public Safety Bureau.