VENTURA STRONG

Deputy Mayor Matt LaVere

Thomas Fire By the Numbers

535 Structures destroyed
420 Structures damaged
27,000 Number of people evacuated
Plan for Wildfire Now

• FEMA Training
• FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan
• Emergency Procurement Policies and knowledge of federal guidelines
• Robust fire prevention and public safety resources
• Asset Management

Plan for Wildfire Now Cont’d

• Generators for pumping stations
• Fuel capabilities
• Hydrologic maps
• Clear debris basins
• Contact list for after-hours contractor’s
• Robust records for homeowners
• Notification system to reach employees
Disaster Resilience: Public Private Partnership

- Defensible space, fire landscaping, weed abatement
- Community Preparedness
- CERT Training

Build Strong Relationships Before a Crisis

- Partnering agencies, NGO’s, businesses, community groups, other officials
- Cross-Departmental training
- Need to develop strong relationships and collaboration between city, county, state and federal electeds/executive staff
Disaster Response

- Issue a Disaster Declaration early
- Unified Recovery Coordination

Disaster Response

- Be prepared to communicate with non English-speaking residents
- Establish a Local Assistance Center
Over-Communicate

It’s a Marathon Not a Sprint

- Praise your staff, and then praise them some more
Community Spirit

Recovery

212,000 Tons of fire debris removed

- 476 homes cleared by CalRecycle
- 64 participants in local debris removal program
Be Aggressive in Rebuilding
Streamline the Process

As of August 24, 2018:

311 Repair permits issued
199 Temporary water permits
116 homes under plan check review
22 residence approved and issued

Release Positive Stories

- Crisis Communication Plan
- Free parking downtown
- Continue to promote as a visitor destination
- Ventura is Open for Business

First Rebuild Permit issued on May 17th
Visit Ventura!