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**MOTION**

The recent wildfires around the Los Angeles region have killed at least 28 people, destroyed more than 15,000 structures, and burned around 63 square miles of land. The largest of them, the Palisades Fire and the Eaton Fire continue to burn today. Wildfire mitigation measures generally involve reducing the risk of fire and managing vegetation. Risk reduction is generally accomplished by building or renovating with the use of non-combustible materials and designing landscapes that are defensible against wildfires.

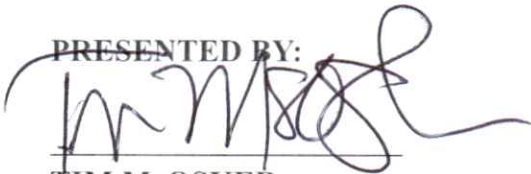
Vegetation management involves tree pruning and removal, brush removal, and weed abatement. This is commonly done around electrical infrastructure, though clearings in vegetation are also made in the wilderness in what are called "fire breaks," to slow—or ideally halt—an active wildfire by denying it fuel to burn. Another form of vegetation management is "prescribed fires" (also known as "controlled burns") to clear an area of fuel ahead of anticipated wildfire conditions, such as the Santa Ana winds.

Under Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 57.322, the presence of uncontrolled hazardous vegetation presents an increased danger of fire and thus constitutes a public nuisance. Where such a condition exists, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), after notifying the property owner, may enter the property to remove or otherwise eliminate the nuisance. Annually, the Los Angeles Fire Department and Board of Fire Commissioners propose decisions and recommendations for brush clearance assessment appeals. Appellants may appeal decisions by the Board of Fire Commissioners to the City Council, and they have been notified of their right to appear before the Public Safety Committee.


The extent to which the City can undergo a more proactive approach to brush clearance throughout the year, ensuring more aggressive vegetation management, would greatly enhance our fire mitigation efforts.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to report on the feasibility of developing and implementing a proactive, semi-annual brush clearance program or process that goes beyond the established procedures, complies with State law, and meets local needs to mitigate the impact of future wildfires. This program or process would need to include brush clearance compliance for both private and public properties.

**I FURTHER MOVE** that the City Council instruct the LAFD and the City Administrative Officer to report on additional resources needed that would ensure timeliness and consistent enforcement of brush clearance rules.

**PRESENTED BY:**

**TIM McOSKER**

Councilmember, 15th District


**JOHN LEE**

Councilmember, 12th District

**SECONDED BY:**

**JAN 31 2025****ORIGINAL**