

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to an updated survey of Council District One Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) and the installation/reinstallation of new Red Flag Day parking restriction signs to ensure public safety.

Recommendations for Council action pursuant to Motion (Hernandez – Lee):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to survey within 30 days Council District One VHFHSZs hillside communities of 90031 and 90065 to identify locations that need new and/or reinstalled Red Flag Day parking restriction signs posted and to provide those locations to Council District One and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT).
2. DIRECT the LADOT to process and install the signs at requested locations in 30 days from receipt and approval of the LAFD survey report.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

Summary:

On January 23, 2024, your Committee considered a Motion (Hernandez – Lee) relative to an updated survey of Council District One VHFHSZ and the installation/reinstallation of new Red Flag Day parking restriction signs to ensure public safety. According to the Motion, in an attempt to increase public safety, in 2005 Council adopted an Ordinance to prohibit or limit parking on certain streets on Red Flag Alert days. The LAFD and LADOT created a program to remove illegally parked vehicles in posted locations within the City's VHFHSZs.

The program's goal was to identify critical areas where parked vehicles could delay people trying to evacuate and fire companies attempting to gain access during a fire incident. Through the development of this Program, Station Commanders were asked to identify areas such as very narrow roads, hairpin turns, tight curves, and key intersections that, if not cleared of vehicles, would create a choke point. These intersections were highlighted and given to the LADOT.

Since January 1, 2006, the LADOT has made 1700 new signs and posted them in these aforementioned identified areas to ensure safety for residents in these VHFHSZs. Council District One hillside communities in the VHFHSZ have seen a boom in new residential development since the original signs were installed in 2006. The increased hillside population has brought more vehicles to streets making them narrow, creating hairpin turns, tight curves, and choke points raising the risk to the public and our first responders on Red Flag Days.

Council District One hillside communities of Montecito Heights (90031), Lincoln Heights (90031), Mt Washington (90065), and Glassell Park (90065) have a critical need for the LAFD to do a updated assessment of these areas and the LADOT to install new Red Flag Day parking restriction signs to ensure public safety. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

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