



For posting to CF#09-1977-S2 Brush Clearance Requirements/Fire Prevention Recommendations Thank you.

A A <islandpavilion@yahoo.com>

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Reply-To: A A <islandpavilion@yahoo.com>

To: "Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rye@lacity.org" <councilmember.rye@lacity.org>, "councilmember.englander@lacity.org" <councilmember.englander@lacity.org>, "councilmemberofarrell@lacity.org" <councilmemberofarrell@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org" <councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org>

Cc: "david.ryu@lacity.org" <david.ryu@lacity.org>, "Nicholas.Greif@lacity.org" <Nicholas.Greif@lacity.org>

Please note that there is a much more dangerous issue in the Very High Fire Severity Zone Hillside.

Hedges at fences next to homes and at roads/driveways over 20 feet in height are not cited by the fire department, and are low (fourth) priority for Building and Safety code compliance. I compare the hedge at my next door occupants property and others in Stone Canyon as hazardous as the non-flame retardant cladding of the London Apartment fire, as the two story tall hedges will feed any fire.

When I ask the neighbors why they are not cutting their hedge to Municipal Code height - they answer: the fire department didn't say we had to. The last two years, prior to completion of brush clearance inspections, two (2) inspector/ brush clearance supervisors have made appointments with me and viewed the hedge over 23 feet tall within 5 or less feet of our chimney, on a driveway, and advised it was not in their fire safety requirements, but they thought they could do something about it. Nothing has been done.

Municipal Code Chapter 1 Article 2 Section 12.22C.20 (f) (1 to (3) specifically advises hedges as fences in hillside are not to be taller than 6 feet.

The defensible space is the reason for hillside height.

This is an easy fix to make our hillside homes safer in the event of a wildfire. Add municipal code hedge height of 6 feet to the fire department brush clearance requirements flyer. This is already an ordinance and the fire department code will allow it to be used for fuel reduction fire safety.

(f) Fences and Walls in the A and R Zones. (Amended by Ord. No. 154,798, Eff. 2/20/81.)

(1) **Fences and Walls.** For the purposes of [Article 2](#) through [6](#) of this chapter, the terms “**fence**” and “**wall**” shall include latticework, ornamental fences, screen walls, hedges or thick growths of shrubs or trees. Fence and wall height shall be measured from the natural ground level adjacent thereto.

(2) **Front Yards. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,754, Eff. 3/5/01.)** In the R Zones, fences, walls, and landscape architectural features of guard railing around depressed ramps, not more than three and one-half feet in height above the natural ground level adjacent to the feature, railing or ramp, may be located and maintained in any required front yard. In the A Zones (including the RA Zone), a fence or wall not more than six feet in height may be located and maintained in the required front yard. In both the A and R Zones, a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located and maintained in the required front yard when authorized by a Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section [12.24 X.7](#).

In both the A and R zones, an unobstructed chainlink fence not more than ten feet in height may be located and maintained in all yards when required by the Department of Building and Safety pursuant to the provisions of Sections [91.3303](#) and [91.6103](#) and [Division 89 of Article 1 of Chapter IX](#) of this Code.

(3) **Side Yards, Rear Yards and Other Spaces. (Amended by Ord. No. 173,492, Eff. 10/10/00.)** A fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located and maintained within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of any lot in an RW Zone and within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of a lot within any other A or R zone which is 40 feet or more in width, provided the lot is not located within the boundary of a “**Hillside Area**”, as defined in Section [91.7003](#) of this Code.

A fence or wall not more than six feet in height may be located and maintained within the required side yard, rear yard or other open space of any lot in an A or R Zone, other than an RW Zone, which is less than 40 feet in width or which is located within the boundary of a “**Hillside Area**”, as defined in Section [91.7003](#) of this Code, except that in either case a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located in the yards or other open space when authorized by a Zoning Administrator pursuant to Section [12.21A2](#).

In the A Zones (including the RA Zone), a fence or wall not more than eight feet in height may be located on the side street lot line of any reversed corner lot; provided, however, that if the lot is located within the boundary of a "Hillside Area", as defined in Section [91.7003](#), the fence or wall shall not exceed six feet in height.

In the R Zones, other than the RW Zones, a fence or wall located within five feet of the side street lot line of a reversed corner lot may not exceed three and one-half feet in height. In the RW Zones, a fence or wall located within three feet of the side street lot line of either a corner lot or a reversed corner lot may not exceed three and one-half feet in height.