

14-0713

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

The nightly news is a continual reminder that Southern California is once again in the Wild Fire Season. With the lingering memory of the Station Fire, new reports from San Diego County and other parts of the South West, and the growing concerns of prolonged drought, the City must actively take wild fire preventive measures.

The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) provides for the establishment of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (LAMC Sec. 57.25.01), which incorporates the hillside and canyon areas of the City. The LAMC further provides the following:

- Prohibits open burning or smoking in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the Fire Chief will cause to be posted no smoking signs in such district (LAMC Sec. 57.25.02);
- No person shall throw or place any lighted match, cigar, cigarette, ashes or other flaming or glowing substance where it may directly or indirectly start a fire (LAMC 57.25.10); and
- It is unlawful for any person to light, ignite or smoke any cigar, cigarette, tobacco in a pipe or other form of smoldering substance within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (LAMC Sec. 57.25.14).

Now that the Wild Fire season is upon us, in May rather than October, it is important to reinforce that smoking in hilly canyon areas of the City is a fire waiting to happen. The posting of no smoking signs along canyon roadways, trail heads and other appropriate locations, is a direct and simple means of reminding the public of the dangers of smoking in fire prone areas.

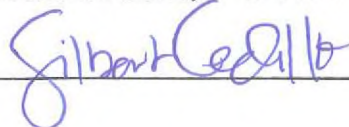
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Fire Department, with cooperation of the Department of Transportation, be instructed to review and report on the installation of "No Smoking" signs efforts in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone as provided in Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 57.25.02, and to determine if the proper number of signs have been installed, at the appropriate locations, which will serve as a deterrent to illegal smoking in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones; and,

I FURTHER MOVE that the Los Angeles Fire Department and the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the City Attorney, be instructed to report on the feasibility of establishing a \$1,000 fine for any person cited for smoking in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone and placing the fine amount on posted "No Smoking" signs.

PRESENTED BY:


 PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



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 MAY 30 2014

ORIGINAL