

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to installing No Smoking signs in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Koretz – Cedillo):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), with cooperation of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), 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 (LAMC) Section 57.25.02, and determine if the proper number of signs has been installed, at the appropriate locations.
2. INSTRUCT the LAFD and the City Administrative Officer (CAO), with the assistance of the City Attorney, 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.
3. INSTRUCT the CAO, in conjunction with the LAFD and the Department of Recreation and Parks, to identify funding for the installation of No Smoking signs in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
4. INSTRUCT the LAFD, LADOT, and Department of Recreation and Parks to recommend strategies for enhanced enforcement, and to offer an opportunity for groups, such as Neighborhood Councils and Homeowners Associations, to sponsor the printing and installation of signs.

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

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For: Bel Air – Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council

SUMMARY

On May 30, 2015, Council considered Motion (Koretz – Cedillo) relative to installing No Smoking signs in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Citing concerns about area wild fire and the region's prolonged drought, Motion movers believe that the City must take wild fire preventive measures. The LAMC prohibits open flames and smoking in hillside and canyon Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. 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. Motion movers recommend that Council direct the LAFD, LADOT, and other departments report on this matter. Council referred Motion to the Public Safety Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held June 26, 2015, the Public Safety Committee discussed this matter with a representative of LAFD. The Department has worked with LADOT and the Department of Recreation and Parks and identified 351 locations in need of signs. LAFD estimates that \$79,000 is needed to install the new signs and to repair a number of existing signs.

Committee members expressed support for identifying funding to install the additional signs. Committee members also discussed options for enhanced enforcement on red flag day and creating opportunities for community stakeholders to defray program costs by sponsoring a new sign. Committee recommended that Council approve Motion, as amended to incorporate the additional instructions mentioned above.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
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ENGLANDER:	YES
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BUSCAINO:	YES
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BONIN:	YES
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O'FARRELL:	YES
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MARTINEZ:	YES
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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-