

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to recommended amendments to the Los Angeles Fire Code and Los Angeles Municipal Code regarding brush clearance.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. REQUEST the City Attorney, and INSTRUCT the Fire Prevention and Public Safety (FPB) of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to provide a draft document amending or adding ordinance to Sections 57.305.2.1, 57.305.5.2, 57.305.5.2.2, 57.305.5.2.2.1 and 57.305.5.2.3 of Article 7, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to regulate unwanted fire ignitions by use of metal cutting blades.
2. REQUEST the City Attorney, and INSTRUCT the FPB, LAFD to provide within the body of the aforementioned amendments, specific language addressing equipment, safety mitigation procedures, requisite permits and restrictions, penalties, designated applicable areas, known as VHFHSZ where such measures will be implemented. These safety measures would include the following:
 - a. Brush clearance operations shall not be conducted on red flag days.
 - b. A fire safety person shall observe the operation for which the permit was granted and be on fire watch.
 - c. Safety personnel shall use the appropriate extinguishing agent to immediately extinguish a fire.
 - d. All fires, regardless of size, shall be reported immediately via the 9-1-1 system to the appropriate fire department personnel.
 - e. A class 2A fire extinguisher; 2 1/2 gallon water fire extinguisher shall be immediately accessible and within reach, and at no time greater than 10-feet away at any time during the operation.
 - f. A minimum 4A 60 BC dry chemical fire extinguisher shall be within 10-feet of the brush clearance operation, from the work area. Safety personnel shall have immediate access to all extinguishers.
 - g. A cell phone capable of dialing 911 shall be readily accessible to the brush clearance operation.
 - h. Provide public outreach and education measures immediately to ensure all current and ongoing brush clearance activities have proper instructional provisions provided.
 - i. Brush contractors shall not use metal cutting blades that have an inherent risk of causing sparks while clearing grass or flash fuels. If the clearance of areas of brush necessitates the use of metal cutting blades, only non-ferrous/non-sparking cutting blades shall be used.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the LAFD. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

At the meeting held on June 27, 2018, your Public Safety Committee considered a June 20, 2018 LAFD report relative to the recommended amendments to the Los Angeles Fire Code and the LAMC regarding brush clearance. An opportunity for public comment was held. After discussion of the matter, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
O'FARRELL:	ABSENT
BUSCAINO:	YES
RYU:	YES
RODRIGUEZ:	YES

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-