

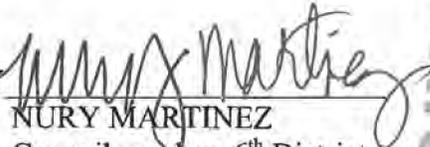
MOTION

On April 17, 2016, a massive fire broke out at an auto wrecking facility in Sun Valley, burning through dozens of cars and sending a massive cloud of dark smoke into the air over the eastern end of the San Fernando Valley. It took more than 150 firefighters from the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) over two hours to finally put the blaze out. Unfortunately, this was not an isolated incident. Over recent years, there have been other fires at recycling facilities or auto wrecking facilities in the Sun Valley and Pacoima areas, including one in December 2014 and one in October 2012 that each took over 70 firefighters to extinguish.

These recycling and auto wrecking facilities are often filled with hazardous materials, and residents are rightfully concerned about being exposed to toxic materials in the smoke released during these fires. If these types of fires are caused by code violations or lax safety standards, the City may need to implement changes in order to reduce the number of fires at these facilities and prevent any release of toxic smoke into the air. It is imperative that the Council gain an understanding of the scope of this problem and what has caused fires at these types of facilities in the past.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Fire Department (LAFD) report on fires that have occurred at metal recycling and auto wrecking facilities in Sun Valley and Pacoima over the last five years. The Department's report should include information on how many fires have broken out at these types of facilities, what caused these fires and whether or not there were any code violations or safety issues at facilities where fires have occurred, as well as any recommendations the LAFD may have on actions the City could take to reduce the number of these types of fires in the future. The report should also include information on any recommended updates to the fire, building and zoning codes that the City could enact to reduce or eliminate the release of toxic materials into the environment during fires at these types of facilities.

PRESENTED BY


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY



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