

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the proposed decisions and recommendations for the 2016 Brush Clearance Assessment Appeals.

Recommendation for Council action:

CONFIRM the 2016 Brush Clearance Assessments, as recommended by the Board of Fire Commissioners at its meeting held on September 5, 2017, and as contained in the 2016 Brush Clearance Assessment Hearings, Report, Proposed Decisions, and Recommendations, attached to the Council file, with the following amendments:

- a. Continue the assessment for the parcel identified as Assessor Identification No. 4385006044 for 14 days.
- b. Approve the appeal of the assessment for the parcel identified as Assessor Identification No. 5209028008.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) reports that property owners are assessed an administrative fee of \$1,168, plus the cost of clearance to abate the hazard for failure to comply with brush clearance requirements. The average cost of clearance is \$900 to \$1,200. For the 2016 brush season, 78 appeal requests were received from property owners electing to appeal their assessments. Of the 78 appeals received, 38 were granted or reduced. The Brush Clearance Assessment Hearings estimated total revenue is \$160,000.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

At a regular meeting held on September 27, 2017, the Public Safety Committee considered a report from the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding the 2016 Brush Clearance Assessments. An opportunity for public comment was held. Staff from the LAFD Brush Clearance Unit was in attendance and provided the Committee with information about the appeals. Five appellants testified before the Committee relative to their appeals of the LAFD's decisions. After listening to the appeals and viewing the documents submitted by the appellants in Committee, the Committee recommended to approve the appeal for the parcel identified as Assessor Identification No. 5209028008, continue the parcel identified as Assessor Identification No. 4385006044 for 14 days, and sustain the decisions of the LAFD for all other parcels and approve the 2016 Brush Clearance Assessments. This matter is now submitted to the Council for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

SD

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-