

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to reducing the risk of rapidly spreading wildfires.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Krekorian – Rodriguez):

INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Emergency Management Department (EMD), and Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to report on the following:

- a. What measures the City has taken to reduce the risk of rapidly spreading wildfires.
- b. What measures are in place to ensure a rapid response that will reduce the impact of such a fire if it does occur.
- c. What additional resources and actions are needed to better prepare the City for such an occurrence.
- d. What members of the public need to know to promote their own safety in such an event.
- e. Recommendations on better informing the public on these issues and improving the public's safety against the risks of wildfire.

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

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On September 12, 2023, your Committee considered a Motion (Krekorian – Rodriguez) relative to reducing the risk of rapidly spreading wildfires. According to the Motion, in the past few weeks, the deadliest domestic wildfires in more than a century have devastated Maui, Hawaii. As of August 18, 2023, at least 111 people have died, and another 1,000 people remain unaccounted for. Thousands of buildings, mostly homes, have been destroyed. Insured property losses have climbed to over three billion dollars.

Due to the planet's warming, the risk of such wildfires will grow higher, including in Los Angeles. In California, nine of the 20 largest wildfires ever recorded have occurred in the last three years, costing tens of billions of dollars in damages and hundreds of lives. Despite this past year's extensive rain, just last month, three brush fires burned hundreds of acres in Southern California, including in north Los Angeles County. Although the LAFD, EMD, and LAPD have done much to prepare for such a scenario, the City should consider what more can be done, especially in the City's hillside areas with very little ingress and egress. Also, the public needs to understand how Los Angeles residents can

help prevent such fires, and how best to protect themselves in the event of such fires. Further outreach efforts must be made so the public can quickly respond to potential emergency situations. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

<b>COUNCILMEMBER</b>	<b>VOTE</b>
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

ARL

9/12/23

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