



Information and General Services Department

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Steve Monaghan – IGS-Emergency Services**

SUBJECT: (Introduce/Waive Further Reading) An Urgency Ordinance amending Article 7 of Chapter IV of the Nevada County General Code regarding Hazardous Vegetation Abatement (4/5 Affirmative Vote Required).

RECOMMENDATION: Introduce and waive further reading of the attached Ordinance amending Article 7 of the Nevada County General Code regarding “Hazardous Vegetation Abatement.”

FUNDING: Not Required.

BACKGROUND: As part of the past and current Nevada County Board Objectives –the Board of Supervisors has continued to “Reduce the risk of local wildfire and the effects of wildfire on life, property and the environment by providing leadership and support to community partners, pursuing State and Federal funding, implementing county policies and programs, and assisting the public to be “wildfire ready.” Explore other ways to reduce the threat and damage from wildfires.”

To support this objective the Board of Supervisors approved on May 13, 2014, Ordinance 2380 adding Article 7 to Chapter IV of the Nevada County General Code regarding Hazardous Vegetation Abatement that became operative on June 12, 2014. This Ordinance provides mechanisms for inspections, notices, enforcement, and abatement as well as recovery of abatement costs.

The Board of Supervisors approved on June 10, 2014, Ordinance 2381, and on May 10, 2016 approved Ordinance 2411 which contained amendments that addressed (1) the appeals process; (2) cost sharing between home owners; (3) the clearance of combustible vegetation along roadways; (4) all parcels, regardless of size or improvement must comply with the requirements of Article 7 Chapter IV of the General Code; (5) addressing the requirements of a 50 foot wide fuel modification on certain parcels; (6) the authority for the Local Fire Official to mandate additional fuels management; (7) delineating the responsibilities of both the Local Fire Official and Code Compliance throughout the enforcement and abatement processes.

Per the Board of Supervisors direction and input from Nevada County Code Enforcement and Local Fire Officials, this proposed amendment in addition to

numerous administrative updates, principally addresses (1) clarification on abatement of adjacent parcels to supplement PRC Section 4291; (2) abatement process and cost recovery; and (3) administrative enforcement of the ordinance.

Item Initiated by: John Gulserian

Approved by: Steve Monaghan