



Information and General Services Department

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: May 12, 2020

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Steve Monaghan – IGS-Emergency Services

SUBJECT: (Introduce/Waive Further Reading/Adopt) 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, waive further reading, and adopt the attached urgency Ordinance amending Article 7 Chapter IV of the Nevada County General Code regarding Hazardous Vegetation Abatement. 4/5 Affirmative Vote Required.

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.”

Of paramount importance to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Nevada County is the protection of lives and structures from the threat of wildfire, and the safety of fire and law enforcement during wildfires. To support this objective the Board of Supervisors approved, on March 26th, 2019, Ordinance 2463, which established Defensible Space standards throughout the County and authorized the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to enforce such standards. The proper establishment of defensible space benefits property owners, public safety personnel and all citizens of Nevada County by dramatically increasing the likelihood that structures will survive a wildfire provide for firefighter safety during a firestorm and generally aids in the protection of lives.

The current amendment before the Board follows in accordance with Fire District recommendations. This amendment further incorporates additional state-wide fire safety standards language pertaining to defensible space as well as streamlines the enforcement process.

Item Initiated by: Paul Cummings
Approved by: Steve Monaghan