COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

July 28, 2009

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

HEARING ON 2008-2009
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
HAZARDOUS VEGETATION ABATEMENT COST
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3-VOTES)

SUBJECT:

Action pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code and required to collect Abatement Enforcement costs for the 2008 fire season. The costs are for non-compliant declared improved parcels for enforcement action beyond the annual inspection program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Confirm the 2008-2009 hazardous vegetation abatement costs in the total amount of $42,120.00 to be assessed to owners of improved parcels.

2. Instruct the Auditor-Controller to post the hazardous vegetation abatement costs as a direct assessment against the respective improved parcels of land as they appear on the current assessment roll.

PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Board's confirmation of hazardous vegetation abatement costs enables the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (the "Fire Department") to assess improved parcels in Los Angeles County which have been declared to be a seasonal recurrent public nuisance due to excessive hazardous brush, dry grass, weeds, combustible growth or flammable vegetation, to include native and ornamental vegetation, and which required hazard abatement enforcement by the Fire Department.

JUSTIFICATION:

Hazard abatement enforcement is necessary to ensure abatement of fire hazards on improved parcels that are not in compliance with local requirements. Enforcement of compliance on improved parcels is the responsibility of the Fire Department and is required by Part 5, Division 12 of the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 14875 to 14922, inclusive. Your Board's action on January 29, 2008 approved costs for non-compliant declared improved parcels at $648.00. Confirmation of the hazardous vegetation abatement costs will allow the Fire Department to recover costs for abatement action beyond the annual inspection program.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

Confirmation of the hazardous vegetation abatement costs allows for recovery of the Fire Department expenditures for hazard abatement enforcement. There is no impact to net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Abatement activities have been taken against improved properties found by inspection to be a seasonal recurrent nuisance due to hazardous brush, dry grass, weeds, combustible growth or flammable vegetation, including native and ornamental vegetation, which require Fire Department abatement enforcement action to provide fire protection to existing structures and adjacent properties under the provisions of Part 5, Division 12 of the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 14875 to 14922, inclusive.

The attached report contains an itemized account of the hazardous vegetation abatement costs. A copy of the report shall be posted for at least three days on or near the Board's chamber door and on the internet, with a notice of the time when the cost report will be submitted to the Board for confirmation after a public hearing.

A copy of the cost report, as confirmed, shall be turned over to the Auditor-Controller of the County, on or before the seventh (7th) day of August following such confirmation. The Auditor-Controller will enter the amounts of the respective assessments against respective improved parcels as they appear on the current assessment roll.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

This action will not have a significant effect on the environment and therefore is exempt from CEQA pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

The recovery of hazardous vegetation abatement costs is vital to the ongoing operation governing the identification and abatement of those properties that constitute a public nuisance and endanger the public safety.

CONCLUSION:

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, please instruct the Executive Officer to return adopted copies of this letter to:

1. Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County
   Prevention Services Bureau
   1320 N. Eastern Avenue
   Los Angeles, CA 90063
   Attention: Acting Deputy Chief John Todd

2. Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County
   Prevention Services Bureau
   1320 N. Eastern Avenue
   Los Angeles, CA 90063
   Attention: Frank Vidales, Acting Chief, Forestry Division

Very truly yours,

Daryl L. Osby for PMF

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

PMF:jt

Attachments

c: Chief Executive Officer
   Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
   Auditor-Controller

REPORT ON HAZARDOUS VEGETATION ABATEMENT COST

TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Dear Supervisors:

Pursuant to an order heretofore made by your Honorable Board instructing the Fire Department to enforce abatement of hazardous brush, dry grass, weeds, combustible growth or flammable vegetation, to include native and ornamental vegetation, under the provisions of Part 5, Division 12, of the California Health and Safety Code, Sections 14875 to 14922, inclusive, we respectfully submit for confirmation by your Honorable Board on July 28, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., the following report on the cost of hazardous vegetation abatement showing the cost of hazardous vegetation abatement on each separate lot or parcel of land, to-wit:

(see attached report titled "ABATEMENT ENFORCEMENT COST CHARGES")

Respectfully submitted,

Daryl L. D. Osby for PMF

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN
FIRE CHIEF

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
) SS
)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

KEVIN T. JOHNSON, Assistant Chief, Forestry, Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County, Manager of the Brush Clearance Unit of the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County, being duly sworn says:

That on or before the 16th day of July 2009, he posted or caused to be posted, on or near the chamber door of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and on the internet, the cost of hazardous vegetation abatement services for each and every parcel described in the report titled "Abatement Enforcement Cost Charges." A true and correct copy thereof is attached hereto, with a notice stating that the 28th day of July 2009, at 9:30 a.m., is the date and time upon which said report is to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles for confirmation.

By _____
Kevin T. Johnson
Assistant Chief, Forestry

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
this 15th day of July, A.D., 2008

SACHI HAMAI, EXECUTIVE OFFICER-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Los Angeles

By_____
Deputy

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
ABATEMENT ENFORCEMENT COST CHARGES - 7/01/09
2008-2009

MAPBOOK	PAGE	PARCEL	TOTAL CHARGES
2057	016	050	648.00
2058	015	014	648.00
2061	022	097	648.00
2818	028	015	648.00
3215	020	006	648.00
3225	026	013	648.00
4434	007	013	648.00
4434	016	012	648.00
4436	015	011	648.00
4438	002	010	648.00
4438	038	031	648.00
4440	036	005	648.00
4441	034	002	648.00
4442	001	005	648.00
4444	006	020	648.00
4444	009	026	648.00
4445	012	007	648.00
4445	026	007	648.00
4446	011	020	648.00
4447	029	001	648.00
4448	021	041	648.00
4450	007	019	648.00
4451	009	023	648.00
4451	011	032	648.00
4451	013	031	648.00
4451	018	046	648.00
4456	032	046	648.00
4457	009	011	648.00
4457	009	012	648.00
4457	009	043	648.00
4458	024	023	648.00
4462	006	020	648.00
4465	001	026	648.00
4466	018	034	648.00
4467	029	012	648.00
4467	033	024	648.00
4468	018	002	648.00
4469	009	013	648.00
4470	008	002	648.00
4470	008	014	648.00
4472	022	016	648.00
5012	021	016	648.00

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
ABATEMENT ENFORCEMENT COST CHANGES- 7/01/08
2007-2008

MAPBOOK	PAGE	PARCEL	TOTAL CHARGES
5760	007	015	648.00
5760	014	036	648.00
8243	041	010	648.00
8277	027	005	648.00
8360	035	006	648.00
8448	013	045	648.00
8670	028	004	648.00
8670	028	005	648.00
8702	003	027	648.00
8709	082	012	648.00
8712	013	001	648.00
8712	013	018	648.00
8718	027	016	648.00
8718	034	028	648.00
8718	034	032	648.00
5831	017	012	648.00
5831	017	028	648.00
5843	014	004	648.00
5843	015	033	648.00
5843	019	012	648.00
5860	014	007	648.00
5860	020	013	648.00
5860	036	008	648.00

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARCELS CHARGED: **65**

TOTAL CHARGES: **$42,120.00**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON 2008-2009
HAZARDOUS VEGETATION ABATEMENT COST

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on the Hazardous Vegetation Charges on July 28, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 381B, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple (corner of Temple Street and Grand Avenue), Los Angeles, CA 90012.

The complete list of abatement charges is available for review in the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, 381B Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer, Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors