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City Council Agenda Report

Meeting Date: May 27, 2025 Prepared By: Jon Maginot Approved By: Gabe Engeland

Subject: Fire Hazard Severity Zone Ordinance

COUNCIL PRIORITY AREA

⊠Public Safety

☐Business Communities

☐ Circulation Safety and Efficiency

☐ Environmental Sustainability

□Housing

⊠General Government

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt an ordinance to designate Fire Hazard Severity Zones

FISCAL IMPACT

Not Applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Not Applicable.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Not Applicable.

BACKGROUND

California Government Code 51178 requires the State Fire Marshal to identify moderate, high and very high fire hazard severity zones within the State. These zones are determined based upon a number of criteria including, but not limited to, fuel loading, fire weather and other factors that are a major cause of wildfire spread. The State Fire Marshal distributes maps to local agencies identifying those areas of the agency that have been identified as fire hazard severity zones. Within 120 days of receiving a map, a local agency must adopt an ordinance designating moderate, high and very high fire hazard severity zones within its jurisdiction. The State Fire Marshal created an updated map for Los Altos on February 24, 2025.

DISCUSSION

On May 13, 2025, the City Council introduced an ordinance designating Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the City of Los Altos. Adoption of an ordinance is required by law.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ordinance No. 2025-xx