



City Council Agenda Report

Meeting Date: January 28, 2025

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Approved By: Gabe Engeland

Subject: Weed Abatement – Appeal Hearing

COUNCIL PRIORITY AREA

- ☐ Business Communities
- ☐ Circulation Safety and Efficiency
- ☒ Environmental Sustainability
- ☐ Housing
- ☒ Neighborhood Safety Infrastructure
- ☒ General Government

RECOMMENDATION

Conduct a Public Hearing considering any appeal requested for the removal of property identified on the 2025 Weed Abatement Program Commencement Report.

FISCAL IMPACT

No direct fiscal impact to the City of Los Altos is associated with participation in the Weed Abatement Program as the cost to perform the work is covered by a Property Tax Assessment to the Parcel of land where the violation occurs.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Not a project under CEQA.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

On June 25, 2024, the City Council authorized the City of Los Altos' participation in the County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Program.

On November 12, 2024, the City Council adopted a resolution declaring certain property as a public nuisance as identified by the County of Santa Clara and setting the appeal hearing date of January 28, 2025 (Attachment 2).

BACKGROUND

Participation in the County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Program was authorized on June 25, 2024. As part of the City's participation within the program, annually the City Council must adopt a resolution confirming the properties identified by the Santa Clara County Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency for abatement of known violations and setting a date for consideration of any appeal received for removal of property from participation in the program.

Adoption of this resolution is mandatory for County enforcement of the Weed Abatement Program; the resolution was adopted on November 12, 2024.

DISCUSSION

As a part of its partnership in the County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Program the City of Los Altos must hold one public hearing to hear any appeal(s) made by responsible parties for the removal of a subject site from participation in the Weed Abatement Program. January 28, 2025, is the noticed Public Hearing date for consideration of any appeal(s). Appeal(s) may be filed in writing, or in-person at the scheduled time of the public hearing.

Appeal Process:

- **Schedule of Hearing**, the January 28, 2025, public hearing was notified to all identified properties contained within the 2025 Weed Abatement Program Commencement Report (Attachment 1). Notifications were completed as first-class mail by the USPS sent by the County of Santa Clara.
- **Review of Appeal**, the City Council shall hold a De Novo review of any appeal received in writing or in-person at the scheduled time of the public hearing.
- **Decision by City Council**, the City Council may affirm the identification of subject properties on the 2025 Weed Abatement Program Commencement Report (Attachment 1), or it may direct the removal of the identified subject properties appealed by the responsible parties. The decision of the City Council shall be final.

ANALYSIS

The 2025 Weed Abatement Program Commencement Report contained 136 parcels within the City of Los Altos which were sent a Notice of Abatement for any weeds, brush and/or rubbish that must be resolved by the due date established by the Santa Clara County Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency. Any responsible party of the 136 parcels identified shall be able to request the removal of the subject site(s) at the January 28, 2025, Public Hearing.

ATTACHMENTS

1. **2025 Weed Abatement Program Commencement Report**
2. **Resolution No. 2024-84**