

MEETING DATE: 06/17/2025

ITEM NO: 9

DATE: June 12, 2025

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt an Ordinance Approving the Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map to Comply

with State Government Code Section 51178. Adoption of this Ordinance is Exempt Pursuant to CEQA, Section 15268, in that it is Required by the State. Town Code Amendment A-25-03. **Project Location: Town Wide**. Applicant:

Town Of Los Gatos.

Ordinance Title: An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Los Gatos Adopting Revised Cal Fire Requirements for Local Responsibility Area Fire

Hazard Severity Zones.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an Ordinance (Attachment 1, with Exhibit A) to approve the Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map to comply with State Government Code Section 51178.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the new Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Updating the Town's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs) Map aligns with the Town Council's **Public Safety** Goal. Specifically, property owners and/or occupants of structures located within the three designated FHSZs will be subject to additional fire safety requirements, such as home hardening and vegetation management, which do not apply to areas outside the FHSZs.

BACKGROUND:

At the regular meeting on June 6, 2025, the Town Council held a public hearing to consider

PREPARED BY: Robert Gray

Chief Building Official

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, Finance Director, and Community Development Director

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Amendment A-25-03

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introducing an ordinance to update the Town's FHSZs Map in accordance with State Government Code Section 51178. The State Fire Marshal (SFM) provided the Town with an updated map of designated FHSZs on February 24, 2025. Staff evaluated the map provided by the SFM and created an updated version that included parcel and Town boundaries. Staff did not recommend changes to the map supplied by the SFM, except for those necessary to ensure that all complete parcels were included within a zone. The Town Council voted unanimously to approve the introduction of the ordinance.

This ordinance is returning to the Town Council for final adoption. The ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption.

COORDINATION:

This report was prepared in coordination with Community Development, the Town Attorney's Office, and the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This project is a ministerial action which is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15268 in that it is required by the State.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Ordinance, with Exhibit A, Los Gatos Fire Severity Zones Map