



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

### **CONTACT:**

Eric Foerster, City Manager

### **SUBJECT:**

Burn Permit Discussion

### **SUMMARY:**

Discussion regarding current policies and procedures for debris burning and the associated permitting process.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City's burn permit process has remained largely unchanged since its adoption in 1992, with minor revisions in 2000 and 2024, primarily related to permitting authority.

### **ISSUE:**

A recent incident involving a permitted burn that escaped containment and required Fire Department response has raised concerns. A resident questioned the continued viability of open burning for land clearing purposes given increasing residential density in areas such as Oakwood Shores. The issue of public safety, particularly under current development conditions, warrants further evaluation.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None at this time.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Conduct a policy discussion to evaluate potential improvements to the burn permit process, including consideration of site conditions (e.g., wind, soil and vegetation dryness), pile size limitations, and day-of-burn authorization protocols to enhance safety and risk mitigation.