

TO: Public Health & Safety Committee
FROM: Brian Hurley, Fire Chief
DATE: August 9, 2022
SUBJECT: Ordinance No. O2022-018, Habitat Conservation – Prescribed Burning

1) Recommended Action:

Recommend to the City Council adoption of Ordinance No. O2022-018 at the September 6, 2022 Council meeting.

2) Background:

The City was contacted by representatives of two property owners requesting permission to conduct prescribed burning on lands designated for habitat conservation. To meet the standards outlined in their Habitat Conservation Plans, one of the main things missing is the ability to do prescribed burning which would eliminate non-native plants and allow native seed to be planted in its place. The City is also in the process of working with the Port of Olympia to develop a Habitat Conservation Plan which may require prescribed burning as part of the plan. Ordinance No. O2022-018 is proposed to amend Chapter 8.16 of the Tumwater Municipal Code to establish a permit process for approving prescribed habitat burning.

3) Policy Support:

Strategic Priorities and Goals 2023 – 2024
B. Be a Leader in Environmental Sustainability
9. Complete and Implement Habitat Conservation Plan

4) Alternatives:

☐ N/A

5) Fiscal Notes:

None

6) Attachments:

- A. Draft Ordinance No. O2022-018
- B. Request letter, including maps of proposed burn areas