

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Sections 57.4908.4, 57.4908.8, and 57.4908.8.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code relating to unauthorized presence in restricted areas within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The first paragraph of Section 57.4908.4 of Article 7, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

SEC. 57. 4908.4. AUTHORITY IN STATE AND FEDERAL FORESTS.

All lands within the limits of the City of Los Angeles and lying within the boundaries of any State or Federal forest lands may be closed to the public by the Chief or by any duly authorized State or Federal officer, provided such closure is not in conflict with any State or Federal law. No person shall enter upon any lands so closed except by valid Special Permit from the Chief pursuant to Section 57.105.8 of this article. Notice of such closure shall be deemed sufficient where provided pursuant to Section 57.4908.8.1 of this article.

Sec. 2. The first paragraph of Section 57.4908.8 of Article 7, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

SEC. 57.4908.8. RESTRICTED ENTRY OR PRESENCE IN THE VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE.

Any person who enters or is present in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in violation of Section 57.4908.4 of this article, except upon public roadways, inhabited areas, or established trails and campsites open to the public, is committing a trespass. Notice of said offense shall be deemed sufficient where provided pursuant to Section 57.4908.8.1 of this article.

Sec. 3. Section 57.4908.8.1 of Article 7, Chapter V of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SEC. 57.4908.8.1. NOTICE.

For purposes of Sections 57.4908 through 57.4908.9.1, notice may be given as follows:

1. **Posted Property.** By posted signs identifying the property closed to the public within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, bearing the words "PROPERTY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC – TRESPASSING FORBIDDEN BY

LAW” in letters not less than 3 inches in height, at the entrance thereto and along all exterior boundaries at equal intervals not less than three to the mile, and at all roads and trails entering the property; or

2. **Personal Notice.** By personal notice given directly to a person found in an area of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone closed to the public, advising the person that the area is closed to the public and that if the person refuses or fails immediately to leave the closed area, or if the person leaves and returns, the person’s presence in the non-public area constitutes trespassing.

Sec. 4. **URGENCY CLAUSE.** The City finds and declares that this ordinance is required for the immediate protection of the public peace, health and safety for the following reasons: Unauthorized presence within restricted areas of the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone creates a significantly increased risk of fire danger to some of the most fire-sensitive areas of the City. Providing personal notice of violations will mitigate fire risks associated with such unauthorized presence and promote greater fire safety in the restricted areas and for the communities that surround them. For these reasons, this ordinance shall become effective upon publication pursuant to Section 253 of the Los Angeles City Charter.

Sec. 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in the three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By Julie S. Raffish
JULIE S. RAFFISH
Assistant City Attorney

Date 8/22/19

File No. 19-0050

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The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, **by a vote of not less than three-fourths** of all its members.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____