

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Article 7.1 to Chapter 5 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to make local administrative changes and incorporate by reference portions of the 2025 edition of the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code and the 2024 edition of the International Wildland-Urban Code.

WHEREAS, every three years, the State of California adopts building standards and regulations, which are codified in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (Title 24). Title 24 consists of 12 parts. Part 7 is the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code (CWUIC), which is based on the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC), establishes the minimum requirements for the safeguarding of life and property from the hazards of wildfire in designated wildland urban interface areas, i.e., the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development;

WHEREAS, the City must make non-substantive modifications for administrative purposes when adopting the CWUIC;

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Sections 17958.5 and 17958.7 authorize the City to make substantive modifications when adopting the CWUIC upon findings that the changes are reasonably necessary due to local climatic, geological or topographical conditions;

WHEREAS, the City has climatic conditions that subject it to mild winters and extremely hot summer desert-like climates. Hot, dry Santa Ana winds make the temperature rise and the humidity drop, increasing the fire danger to any exposed combustible materials;

WHEREAS, the California State Fire Marshal has identified the mountainous terrain within the City's boundaries as a Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the highly concentrated area of high-rise buildings is identified as a Fire District;

WHEREAS, the City has the following geological conditions: it is bounded on the east by the San Andreas Fault and interlaced with other earthquake faults that run through, adjacent to, and under the City;

WHEREAS, the City is located in a "Seismic Zone 4" designation, the most seismically active designation available, and experts predict a massive earthquake and several earthquakes similar in intensity to the 1994 Northridge Earthquake on one of the aforementioned faults within the next 30 years;

WHEREAS, the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, which was a moderate size (6.8 magnitude) earthquake, caused the following fatalities and damage: 57 deaths; more than 115,000 buildings damaged, with 3,000 buildings suffering moderate to major damage; and approximately 21,000 residential units, including 2,000 single family homes, having to be vacated;

WHEREAS, massive earthquakes pose unusual and extraordinary stresses on buildings and structures requiring more stringent building regulations than would otherwise be required. For example, broken gas and electrical lines pose a high risk of fires breaking out throughout the City, and broken water lines make firefighting more difficult;

WHEREAS, the City is situated in a coastal region of hills and mountains containing dry wild native brush and non-native vegetation. This region is a natural basin formed by flat land surrounded by hills and mountains, and experiences strong winds;

WHEREAS, the California State Fire Marshal has identified the mountainous terrain within the City's boundaries as a Fire Hazard Severity Zones and the highly concentrated area of high-rise buildings is identified as a Fire District;

WHEREAS, there are several examples of high winds contributing to and exacerbating fire damage in this region. In 1982 strong Santa Ana winds spread fires in the flat areas of neighboring Orange County from roof to roof due to the region's use of roofs made from wood shake and wood shingles. The dry brush areas of the local Santa Monica hillsides and strong canyon winds or dry Santa Ana winds contributed to past fires in the Los Angeles area, such as the 1961 Bel Air and Brentwood Canyon fire, 1977 Topanga Canyon fire, 1993 Malibu Canyon fire, 2008 Sayre fire, 2018 Skirball fire, 2019 Saddle Ridge and Palisades fires, and 2025 Palisades fire where 6,837 structures were destroyed and 12 fatalities occurred;

WHEREAS, widespread fires caused by either earthquakes or brush fires would impact the capabilities of the Fire Department to effectively respond to all such fires. The highly concentrated area of high-rise buildings, traffic congestion and possible gridlock may jeopardize the quick response to fires by the Fire Department as demonstrated with the 2025 Palisades fire when cars were abandoned on roadways, thus blocking fire resources from responding, therefore increasing the risk of damage to buildings and injury to people;

WHEREAS, the Fire Department has identified amendments and modifications to the CWUIC that are reasonably necessary based on the aforementioned climatic, topographical and geological conditions unique to this region, as well as local administrative conditions, and that will allow the City to provide consistent fire protections against wildfires unique to Southern California and Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby expressly concurs with the Fire Department's findings that amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code to add Article 7.1 to Chapter 5 and make the following amendments and modifications are reasonably necessary based on the aforementioned climatic, topographical and geological conditions unique to this region, as well as local administrative conditions, and will allow the City to provide consistent fire protections against wildfires unique to Southern California and Los Angeles.

NOW, THEREFORE, to provide adequate protection given the local climatic, geological and topographical conditions set forth above, the City of Los Angeles makes the following findings and determinations:

The following table sets forth the 2022 California Fire Code sections that are being modified herein and the justifications supporting the modification:

2026 Code Section	Title /Subject	Justifications
101.1	Title	Administrative
101.1.1	Authority Having Jurisdiction	Administrative
101.4	Continuing Offenses	Administrative
102.7.1	Validity of Other Laws	Administrative
102.7.2	Other Limitations	Administrative
102.9	Review of Code	Administrative
102.10	Fire Code Advisory Committee	Administrative
103.1	Creation of Agency	Administrative
103.4	Inspection and Report of Findings	Administrative
103.5	Signing of Certificates and Notices	Administrative
103.6	Enforcement of State Fire Marshal Rules and Regulations	Administrative
104.8.1.1	Non-Responsibility of City	Administrative
104.11	Authority to Make Rules	Administrative
104.11.1	Rule Authorization by the Board	Administrative
104.11.2	Penalty for Violation of Legally Amended Rules	Administrative
105.11	Authority to Issue, Suspend or Revoke Special Permits	Administrative
105.11.1	Power to Revoke	Administrative
108.7	Fees for Services Not Requiring a Permit	Administrative
108.7.1	Manner of Determining Cost for Non-permit Services	Administrative
108.7.1.1	Procedure for Fee Calculation	Administrative
108.7.1.2	New Schedule	Administrative
108.7.1.3	Refunds, Investigation Fees, Overpayments, Duplicate Payment	Administrative
108.7.2	Collection of Fees	Administrative
108.8	Manner of Determining Cost	Administrative
108.8.1	Determining Cost	Administrative
108.8.1.1	Manner of Approval of Schedule	Administrative
108.8.1.2	New Schedule	Administrative
109.1.2	Authority to Inspect	Administrative
109.1.2.4	Authority to Make Inspections	Administrative
109.1.2.5	Occupied Property	Administrative

109.1.2.6	Unoccupied Property	Administrative
109.1.2.7	Immediate Entry	Administrative
109.1.2.8	Authority to Inspect Certain Writings	Administrative
202	Definitions	Administrative
302.3	Fire Hazard Severity Zone Established	Climatic Conditions
302.4	Legal Description	Climatic Conditions
302.5	Modified Boundary Lines	Climatic Conditions
302.6	Fire Hazard Severity Zone Ordinance and Map	Climatic Conditions
503.2.3	Roofing	Climatic Conditions
504.6.1	Utilities	Geologic Conditions
603.5	Specific Requirements for Hazardous Vegetation	Administrative
603.5.1.	General Brush Clearance	Administrative
603.5.1.1	Specific Requirements	Administrative
603.5.1.1.1	Vegetation Within 100 Feet of Buildings	Administrative
603.5.1.1.2	Trees Within 100 Feet of Buildings	Administrative
603.5.1.1.3	Chimney Clearance	Administrative
603.5.1.1.4	Overhanging Branches	Administrative
603.5.1.1.5	Roof Maintenance	Administrative
603.5.1.1.6	Road and Fence Clearance	Administrative
603.5.1.1.7	Second 100-Foot Modification	Administrative
603.5.1.1.8	Landscape Vegetation	Administrative
603.5.1.1.9	Greater Fire Protection Measures	Administrative
603.5.1.1.10	Additional Brush Clearance	Administrative
603.5.1.1.10.1	Penalty	Administrative
603.5.2	Inspection and Fees	Administrative
603.5.2.1	Public Nuisance	Administrative
603.5.2.1.1	Notice to Owner	Administrative
603.5.2.1.2	City Abatement of Nuisance	Administrative
603.5.2.1.3	Report of Nuisance Abatement	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4	Public Hearing Request	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4.1	Written Objections	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4.2	Hearing Procedures	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4.3	Hearing Report Preparation	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4.3.1	Contested Assessment Review by City Council	Administrative
603.5.2.1.4.3.2	Final Decision	Administrative
603.5.3	Additional Authority to Recover Costs	Administrative
605.3	Exhaust Protection for Internal Combustion Engines	Administrative
605.3.1	Spark Arresters	Administrative
605.3.2	Exhaust System Maintenance	Administrative
613.2	Posting of Signs Prohibiting Smoking and Burning	Administrative

613.3	Authority to Construct Maintain and Close Fire Roads, Fire Trails and Fire Breaks	Administrative
613.3.1	Authority to Secure	Administrative
613.4	Authority in State and Federal Forest	Administrative
613.8	Restricted Entry or Presence in the High Fire Hazard Severity Zone	Administrative
613.8.1	Notice	Administrative
613.8.2	Trespass	Administrative
613.8.3	Special Permit	Administrative
613.8.4	Unauthorized Parking	Administrative
613.9	Tampering With Established Locks, Signs, Barriers or Water Tanks	Administrative
613.9.1	Defacing Signs	Administrative
614	Ignition Sources	Administrative
614.1	Open Flame Prohibited	Administrative
614.2	Smoking Prohibited	Administrative
614.3	Clearance of Vegetative Growth from Electrical Transmission Lines	Administrative
614.4	Restriction On Use of Certain Metal Cutting Blades	Administrative
614.4.1	Penalty	Administrative
700	USFS - United States Forest Service	Administrative

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Article 7.1 is added to Chapter 5 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

ARTICLE 7.1

**FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION
(LOS ANGELES WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE)**

SEC. 57.1.100. SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION.

Division II, Chapter 1 of the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code (CWUIC) is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions; and, where the CWUIC did not adopt the 2024 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC), those sections of the IWUIC are hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications and additions.

SEC. 57.1.101.1. TITLE.

These regulations shall be known as the Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code, hereinafter referred to as “this code”.

SEC. 57.1.101.1.1. AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.

This article, which is a portion of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, shall be known as the “Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code,” and whenever the word “Code” is used in this article, it shall mean the Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code. The Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code adopts by reference portions of the 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code (CWUIC) and the 2024 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC).

SEC. 57.1.101.4. CONTINUING OFFENSES.

The adoption of Article 7.1 shall not be construed to commence a new, or the extension of any, time limits that may have been imposed by law, regulation, or order of the Chief of the City of Los Angeles Fire Department (Chief) or the Board of Fire Commissioners, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the “Board”, relating to the enforcement of such limit, notices, or orders.

SEC. 57.1.102. APPLICABILITY.

Section 102 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications and additions; and Sections 102.3 through 102.5 and 102.7 through 102.8 of the IWUIC is hereby adopted by reference.

SEC. 57.1.102.7.1. VALIDITY OF OTHER LAWS.

Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent the enforcement of other laws that prescribe more restrictive limitations.

SEC. 57.1.102.7.2. OTHER LIMITATIONS.

The permissive provisions of this article shall not be presumed to waive any limitations imposed by any other laws

SEC. 57.1.102.9. REVIEW OF CODE.

The Chief shall report to the Board from time to time as necessary, recommending revisions of this article. Such recommendations may be based upon, but not limited to, studies of the following:

1. Number of requests for variances.

2. Number of fire hazards reported or determined by inspections.
3. Changes and technological advancements of methods, materials, and processes.
4. Investigation of fires.
5. Recommendations of the Fire Code Advisory Committee.

SEC 57.1.102.10. FIRE CODE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The Chief shall establish a Fire Code Advisory Committee which shall consist of: the Fire Marshal, who shall serve as chairperson; and representatives from industry, business, and other governmental agencies as may be determined from time to time by the Chief. The purpose of the Fire Code Advisory Committee shall be to assist the Chief in any revision of this article by submitting recommendations.

SEC 57.1.103. CODE COMPLIANCE AGENCY.

Section 103 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications and additions.

SEC. 57.1.103.1. CREATION OF AGENCY.

The Los Angeles Fire Department and Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety are responsible for the implementation, administration, and enforcement of the provisions of this code.

SEC. 57.1.103.4. INSPECTIONS AND REPORT OF FINDINGS.

The Chief, or their designee, shall, upon report of any violation of this article, inspect and report their findings thereof.

SEC. 57.1.103.5. SIGNING OF CERTIFICATES AND NOTICES.

The Chief shall sign all certificates, notices, and orders pertaining to fire safety and fire hazards

SEC. 57.1.103.6. ENFORCEMENT OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Chief shall enforce, within the City, the rules and regulations that have been formally adopted by the State Fire Marshal for the prevention of fire, or for the protection of life and property against fire or panic.

SEC 57.1.104. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL.

Section 104 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions, and Sections 104.1 through 104.2.1.4 and 104.2.2.1 and 104.2.3 and 104.4 through 104.5 and 104.7 through 104.7.5 and 104.9 through 104.10 of the IWUIC are hereby adopted by reference.

SEC. 57.1.104.8.1.1. NON-REONSIBILITY OF CITY.

Neither the City of Los Angeles nor any department, nor any board, commission, officer, or employee thereof, shall be held liable or responsible for any damage or injury caused by or resulting from any inspection or approval made under the provisions of this article.

SEC. 57.1.104.11. AUTHORITY TO MAKE RULES.

The Chief shall have the power to make and enforce such rules and regulations for the purpose of prevention and control of fires and fire or explosion hazards as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this article.

SEC. 57.1.104.11.1. RULE AUTHORIZATION BY THE BOARD.

Every rule of general application to be followed by the public shall be authorized only by order or resolution of the Board and shall be published once in a daily newspaper and shall take effect upon such publication.

SEC. 57.1.104.11.2. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF LEGALLY ADOPTED RULES.

It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any rule or regulation amended by the Board in accordance with the provisions of Section 57.1.104.11.

SEC 57.1. 105 PERMITS.

Section 105 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.105.11. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE, SUSPEND OR REVOKE SPECIAL PERMITS.

Whenever the Chief determines that for the safeguarding of life and property from fire, explosion, panic, or other hazardous conditions that may arise in temporary operations or occupancies that are not otherwise specified in this code, the Chief may require and issue a "Special Permit" stating the conditions for such operation or occupancy. The Special Permit may be made subject to such terms and conditions as are necessary for the preservation of life and property.

SEC. 57.1.105.11.1. POWER TO REVOKE.

The Chief shall have the power to revoke or suspend any Special Permit, at his or her discretion, upon proof to the satisfaction of the Chief of violation by the permittee of the provisions of this code, the rules and regulations of this Department adopted under the authority of Section 57.1.104.11, or the terms and conditions of any Special Permit as may be specified under the authority of this section. Such revocation or suspension may be made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1.

SEC. 57.1.106. CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS.

Section 106 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.107. TEMPORARY USES, EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS.

Section 107 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.108. FEES.

Section 108 of the IWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.108.7. FEES FOR SERVICES NOT REQUIRING A PERMIT.

SEC. 57.1.108.7.1. MANNER OF DETERMINING COST FOR NON-PERMIT SERVICES.

The cost of services as required by this code not requiring permits shall be determined as provided in Section 57.1.108.8.1.

SEC. 57.1.108.7.1.1. PROCEDURE FOR FEE CALCULATION.

Those items to which this procedure applies include:

1. Hazardous vegetation fees, Sections 603.5.2.

SEC. 57.1.108.7.1.2. NEW SCHEDULE.

The Board shall collect charges in accordance with new schedules approved as provided in Section 108.8.

SEC. 108.7.1.3. REFUNDS.

Any refunds of fees collected under the provisions of this section (e.g., investigation fees, overpayments, duplicate payment) shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Sections 22.12 and 22.13 of the LAMC.

SEC. 57.1.108.7.2. COLLECTION OF FEES.

The Department shall collect the fees required by this section therefor established by the most current cost recovery schedule published as provided by Section 57.1.108.8 and applicable thereto. Upon payment of said fees the Department shall cause them to be deposited with the City Treasurer.

SEC. 57.1.108.8. MANNER OF DETERMINING COST.

Manner of determining cost shall be in accordance with Sections 57.1.108.8.1 through 57.1.108.8.2.

SEC. 57.1.108.8.1. DETERMINING COST.

The Board, with the concurrence of the City Administrative Officer, shall determine on a regular basis the verifiable costs of the City for the items set forth in this code. These costs shall be the actual total costs incurred, including all applicable indirect costs, as determined by the Board. The Board shall use those costs to develop a cost recovery schedule of applicable charges necessary to recover city costs. The Board shall adopt these costs as fees at any time during each fiscal year. The cost recovery schedule shall be based upon verifiable costs for an activity or issuing a permit in connection with any activity. The cost calculation shall include inspection costs, labor, retirement costs on direct labor and departmental and general city overhead applicable to the issuance of a permit or activity. It shall take into consideration the number of permits issued and affected by the permit charges within the period of time used for reference in development of the charges. Upon adoption of a schedule of verified costs by the Board as provided in this section, the Board shall transmit the Board order to the Mayor and to the City Council. Fee calculation shall include Section 57.1.108.7.1.1.

SEC. 57.1.108.8.1.1. MANNER OF APPROVAL OF SCHEDULE.

Upon Council approval of the proposed fee schedule, the Board order and the Boards proposed fee schedule shall be published in a daily newspaper in the same manner as ordinances of the City are published pursuant to Charter Section 251. If the Council recommends that the proposed schedule be amended to increase or decrease any of the fees, those items shall not become operative. The fees as to those items on the proposed schedule, which have been disapproved or recommended for change, shall not change during the ensuing fiscal year under the Board order. However, those remaining fees not disapproved or recommended for amendment, which are adopted by the Council, shall become effective.

SEC. 57.1.108.8.1.2. NEW SCHEDULE.

The Board shall approve the collection of charges in accordance with new schedules approved as provided in this code.

SEC. 57.1.109. INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT.

Section 109 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2. AUTHORITY TO INSPECT.

Whenever it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of, or perform any duty imposed by, this article or other applicable law, or whenever the Chief or his authorized representative has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building, structure, ship, boat, vessel, aircraft, tank or vehicle, or the appurtenances and equipment thereof or upon any premises any violation of the provisions of this article or other applicable law, or any condition that makes such building, structure, ship, boat, vessel, aircraft, tank, vehicle, or premises hazardous, unsafe, or dangerous, the Chief is hereby authorized to enter such building, structure, ship, boat, vessel, aircraft, tank, vehicle, or premises at any reasonable time and to inspect the same and perform any duty imposed upon the Chief by this article or other applicable law, subject to Sections 57.1.109.1.2.4 through 57.1.109.1.2.6.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2.4. AUTHORITY TO MAKE INSPECTIONS.

The Chief shall have the authority to inspect all buildings, structures, premises, ships, boats, vessels, aircraft, tanks, vehicles, or the appurtenances and equipment thereof, as often as may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire or explosion or any violation of the provisions or intent of this code and of any other law affecting the fire hazard not exclusively enforced by another governmental agency, and to ensure compliance with all laws, regulations, and orders dealing with overcrowding, use of decorative materials, maintenance of exit ways, and maintenance of private fire alarm and fire detecting systems and fire extinguishing systems and appliances.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2.5. OCCUPIED PROPERTY.

If such property be occupied, the Chief shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and request entry explaining the reasons therefor.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2.6. UNOCCUPIED PROPERTY.

If such property be unoccupied, the Chief shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the property and request entry, explaining his reasons therefor. If such entry is refused or cannot be obtained

because the owner or other persons having charge or control of the property cannot be found after due diligence, the Chief shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure lawful entry and inspect the property.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2.7. IMMEDIATE ENTRY.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Chief has reasonable cause to believe that the building or premises is so hazardous, unsafe or dangerous as to require immediate inspection to safeguard the public health or safety, the Chief shall have the right to immediately enter and inspect such property, and may use any reasonable means required to affect such entry and make such inspection, whether such property be occupied or unoccupied and whether or not permission to inspect has been obtained. If the property be occupied, the Chief shall first present proper credentials to the occupant and demand entry, explaining the reasons therefor and the purpose of the inspection.

SEC. 57.1.109.1.2.8. AUTHORITY TO INSPECT CERTAIN WRITINGS.

The Chief shall have the authority to inspect any contract, policy, agreement, proof of loss, correspondence, or other written matter pertaining to or in connection with specific adjustments made or carried on by any person licensed as an insurance adjuster or private investigator in the State of California.

SEC. 57.1.110. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.

Section 110 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.111. SERVICE UTILITIES.

Section 111 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.112. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.113. STOP WORK ORDER.

Section 113 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.200. DEFINITIONS.

Chapter 2 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions, and Section 202, Building Official of the IWUIC is hereby adopted by reference.

SEC. 57.1.202. DEFINITIONS.

Board. The Board of Fire Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Building Department. The City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety.

Department. The Los Angeles Fire Department.

Fire Code Official. The Fire Chief of the Los Angeles Fire Department or one of his/her representatives as provided in this Code.

Fire-flow. The quantity of water available or needed for fire protection in a given area. Fire-flow is normally measured both in gallons per minute (G.P.M.) at a specified pressure and durational flow.

Fire Hazard. Any condition, arrangement, or act that increases the likelihood of fire to a greater degree than is recognized as acceptable practice by the Department or that may provide a ready fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire, or that may obstruct, delay, hinder, or interfere with the operations of the Department or the egress of occupants in the event of fire.

Fire Protection Equipment. Any appliance, device, or system provided or installed for use on a premise in the event of fire. It may include, but is not limited to, fire assemblies, fire hydrants, Fire Department connections and fire protection systems.

Firebreak. Any area that is cleared of combustible vegetation to control the spread of fire.

Flame Retardant/Flame Resistant. A characteristic of certain fabrics or materials that renders them resistant to flame or fire to the extent that it will successfully withstand standard flame resistance tests amended by the State Fire Marshal.

LAMC. The Los Angeles Municipal Code.

Municipal Code. The Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC).

Native Brush or Shrub. All vegetation that is indigenous to and found within the City of Los Angeles.

Net Acre. An area of ground surface consisting of 43,560 square feet exclusive of any public street, alley, parkway, sidewalk, easement or other public right-of-way.

Permit. A written document issued by authority of the Chief to any person for the purpose of granting permission to such person to conduct or engage in any business, operation, or act for which approval of the Department is required.

Premises. Any parcel of land, regardless of the number of contiguous lots, occupied by or under the control of the same person or firm and including all buildings, structures, and improvements thereon.

Private Fire Hydrant. An approved fire hydrant that is located on private property and is connected to and serviced by the public water system.

Private First Responder. Personnel incorporated into the Emergency Plan, trained to handle an emergency incident by providing direction and assistance prior to the arrival of emergency responders. All private first responders must be approved by the Fire Department.

EXCEPTION: Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians are approved by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. Private first responders include, but are not limited to:

- Fire Safety Director
- Floor Warden
- Paramedic
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Civilian Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Property Owner. Includes any person, association, partnership, firm, corporation, or public entity appearing as the holder of title on any property as shown on the records of the City Clerk or on the last property assessment roll of the County of Los Angeles.

Spark Arrester. For chimneys: Any device for arresting burning carbon or sparks, constructed of minimum 12-gauge woven wire metal, stainless steel, aluminum, copper or brass, with 1/2-inch maximum openings, or cast-iron plate, 3/16-inch minimum thickness and having 1/2-inch perforations spaced one inch apart, measured center to center.

Specimen Native Shrub. An individual shrub that is within the definition of "Native Brush" and that is trimmed up to 1/3 its height above ground, and from the vicinity of that has been removed all dead wood, duff, and combustible litter.

Supplemental Fire Protection. Equipment and systems, and the arrangement and alterations of such equipment and systems not otherwise required in the Los Angeles Municipal Code, which are accepted in lieu of or are required in addition to compliance with the specific requirements of this chapter as determined by the Chief.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Any area within the City of Los Angeles that poses a significant threat of fire from adjoining natural brush hillside areas and that is determined by the following factors: topography, infrastructure, fire

protection, population density, types of construction, weather, existing fire codes and ordinances, and fire history.

Weeds. Plants that are defined as follows:

1. Plants that bear seeds of a downy or wingy nature.
2. Plants that are noxious or dangerous.
3. Poison oak when the conditions of its growth are such as to constitute a menace to public health.
4. Annual grasses or other flammable vegetation that endangers public safety by creating a fire hazard.

SEC. 57.1.300. WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AREAS.

Chapter 3 CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and exceptions.

SEC. 57.1.301. GENERAL.

Section 301 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.302. WILDLAND-URBAN INTRERFACE DESIGNATIONS.

Section 302 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.302.3. FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES ESTABLISHED.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones shall be established as set forth in Section 57.1.302.6.

SEC. 57.1.302.4. LEGAL DESCRIPTION.

The Fire Code Official shall, by regulation, establish a legal description of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Such regulation shall be amended from time to time to reflect changes necessitated by Section 57.1.302.5, or for other necessary purposes. Every such regulation of the Fire Code Official shall be established according to the requirements of Section 57.1.104.11.

SEC. 57.1.302.5. MODIFIED BOUNDARY LINES.

When in the course of improvement of undeveloped areas of the City, new streets, lots and building sites are created where none existed before, and such new

streets, lots and building sites overlap the existing boundary line of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones, the boundary line of such zone shall be deemed to be relocated to coincide with the property boundary or along the center line of such newly created streets that lie closest to the original boundary line location.

SEC. 57.1.302.6. FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES ORDINANCE AND MAP.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones are hereby established and declared to be those districts and areas included within the boundary described and set forth in the most current map adopted by a separate ordinance identifying LRA as stated in California Government Code sections 51175 thru 51189.

SEC. 57.1.400. WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AREA REQUIREMENTS.

Chapter 4 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.401. GENERAL.

Section 401 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.402. APPLICABILITY.

Section 402 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.403. ACCESS.

Section 403 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.404. WATER SUPPLY.

Section 404 of the CWUIC are hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.500. SPECIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTIONS REGULATIONS.

Chapter 5 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exemptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.501. GENERAL.

Section 501 of the CWUIC are hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.502. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.503. IGNITION-REISTANT CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL.

Section 503 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exemptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.503.2.3. ROOFING.

All building shall have a fire-retardant roofing assembly complying with the requirements of Class A roof covering as defined in CBC Section 1505. Wood shakes and shingle are not permitted in the FHSZ.

SEC. 57.1.504. IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION.

Section 504 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exemptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.504.6.1. UTILITIES.

All utilities, pipes, furnaces, water heaters or other mechanical devices located in an exposed under-floor area of a residential building shall be enclosed with material as required for one-hour fire-resistive construction. Adequate covered access openings for servicing such utilities shall be provided as required by appropriate codes.

SEC. 57.1.505. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.506. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.507. REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR OF ROOF COVERINGS.

Section 507 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.600. FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS.

Chapter 6 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications and additions.

SEC. 57.1.601. GENERAL.

Section 601 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.602. FIRE PROTECTION PLANS.

Section 602 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.603. VEGETATION PLAN.

Section 603 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.603.5. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR HAZARDOUS VEGETATION.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1. GENERAL BRUSH CLEARANCE.

No person who has any ownership or possessory interest in, or control of, a parcel of land shall allow to exist thereon any hazardous refuse or hazardous weeds, trees, or other vegetation which, by reason of proximity to a building or structure, constitutes a fire hazard. For purposes of this section hazardous weeds, trees, or other vegetation are defined as weeds, trees, or other vegetation that are in such condition and location as to provide a ready fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to preclude the Chief from requiring more than the minimum specific requirements set forth above when the Chief determines that conditions exist that necessitate greater fire protection measures.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.

Each person who has any ownership or possessory interest in, or control of, a parcel of land shall comply with the requirements set forth in Sections 57.1.603.5.1.1.1 through 57.1.603.5.1.1.10.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.1. VEGETATION WITHIN 100 FEET OF BUILDINGS.

Remove from the property all dead trees, and maintain all weeds and other vegetation at a height of no more than three inches, except as otherwise provided therein, if such weeds or other vegetation are within 100 feet of a building or structure located on such property or on adjacent property. This requirement does not apply to the maintenance of trees, ornamental shrubbery or plants that are used as ground cover provided such do not provide a ready fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire; nor does it apply to a native shrub, provided such shrub is trimmed up from the ground to 1/3 of its height; does not exceed 216 cubic feet in volume; is spaced at a distance of not less than three times its maximum diameter, but not less than 18 feet from the edge of any other native shrub, building or structure; and all dead wood and other combustible material within 18 feet of such shrub is removed except as provided above.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.2. TREES WITHIN 100 FEET OF BUILDINGS.

Maintain trees that are 18 feet or more in height and are within 100 feet of any building or structure or within 10 feet of that portion of any highway, street, alley or driveway that is improved or used for vehicle travel or other vehicular purposes, so that no leafy foliage, twigs, or branches are within 6 feet of the ground. Trees and shrubs less than 18 feet shall be trimmed up 1/3 their height.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.3. CHIMNEY CLEARANCE.

Remove any portion of a tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.4. OVERHANGING BRANCHES.

Keep all trees, shrubs, and other growing vegetation or portions thereof adjacent to or overhanging any building or structure free of dead limbs, branches and other combustible matter. Maintain 5 feet of vertical clearance between roof surfaces and portions of trees overhanging any building or structure.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.5. ROOF MAINTENANCE.

Maintain the roofs of all buildings or structures free of leaves, needles, twigs and other combustible matter.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.6. ROAD AND FENCE CLEARANCE.

Maintain all weeds and other vegetation located within 10 feet of any combustible fence or an edge of that portion of any highway, street, alley or driveway improved or used for vehicular travel or for other vehicular purposes at a height of not more than 3 inches. This shall not require the removal of trees, ornamental shrubbery or plants that are used as ground cover, provided such do not provide a ready fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire, nor require the removal of native shrubs that meet the requirements set forth in Section 57.1.603.5.1.1.1.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.7. SECOND 100-FOOT MODIFICATION.

Clear all hazardous vegetation and other combustible growth within the first 100 feet surrounding structures as required by this section. Reduce the amount and/or modify the arrangement of hazardous vegetation within the area comprising the second 100 feet for a total distance of 200 feet from any structure unless otherwise specified by the Chief. The work required shall be set forth in the Notice of Noncompliance.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.8. LANDSCAPE VEGETATION.

Maintain all landscape vegetation, including, but not limited to, conifers (e.g., cedar, cypress, fir, juniper, and pine), eucalyptus, acacia, palm and pampas grass in such a condition as not to provide an available fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire. The Notice of Noncompliance citing violations of this subsection will specify that such landscape vegetation poses a threat to buildings or structures in the vicinity and may cause them to be indefensible, and shall describe the work required to be done.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.9. GREATER FIRE PROTECTION MEASURES.

Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to preclude the Chief from requiring more than the minimum specific requirements set forth above when the Chief determines that conditions exist that necessitate greater fire protection measures.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.10. ADDITIONAL BRUSH CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS.

All individuals performing grass or brush clearance activities in the Fire Hazard Severity Zone shall adhere to the following specific requirements:

1. Grass or brush clearance operations shall not be conducted on red flag days.
2. Individuals engaged in grass or brush clearance operations shall not engage in any other activities during their actual clearance of grass or brush.
3. Individuals engaged in grass or brush clearance operations shall use an appropriate extinguishing agent immediately to extinguish a fire.
4. All fires, regardless of size, shall be reported immediately via the 9-1-1 system to the Fire Department.
5. A Class 2-A two-gallon water fire extinguisher, pressurized garden hose with attached nozzle (fully open), or comparable pressurized Class 2-A extinguishing device, shall be within 10 feet of any grass or brush clearance operation.
6. Where a gasoline container is present at the site of the grass or brush clearance operation, a minimum 2-A:60-B:C dry chemical fire extinguisher shall be within 10 feet of the brush clearance operation.
7. A cell phone capable of dialing 9-1-1 shall be charged and readily accessible to the grass or brush clearance operation.
8. A safety strap shall be used at all times for any tool or appliance with hot exhaust. Hot exhaust shall not come in contact with any brush, grass, flash fuels, or other flammable material.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.1.1.10.1. PENALTY.

A first violation of this section shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. A second and all subsequent violations of this section shall be subject to the provisions of Section 11.00 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, including prosecution as an infraction or prosecution as a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, by imprisonment in the County jail for a period not to exceed six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. In addition to the aforementioned

penalties, any violator convicted under this section, which resulted in a fire, may be liable for any civil cost recovery associated with the fire, as permitted by law.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2. INSPECTION AND FEES.

A fee shall be charged for the inspection of properties in the City of Los Angeles to determine whether a violation of this section exists. The fee shall be determined and established in the same manner as provided for in Section 57.1.108, provided, however, that prior to any inspection occurring, the owner of record of each property proposed to be inspected shall receive a notice advising the owner of the intended inspection, the cost thereof, that penalties will be imposed for nonpayment within the time period specified, and that the owner will not be billed if the owner elects to follow the procedure, or any of the procedures, described in the notice within the period of time specified in the notice. Any procedure that the property owner may elect to follow must be determined by the Fire Department to be one that will provide adequate assurance to the Department that the property does not contain hazardous vegetation as defined in Section 57.1.603.5, a copy of which definition shall also be set forth in the notice, and which would not be unduly burdensome upon the property owner to accomplish. In the event an inspection occurs and the property owner is billed the cost of inspection, a penalty shall be imposed if the fee is not paid within the period of time specified in the billing document. Such penalty shall be 200% of the fee imposed, or the cost of rebilling, whichever is greater.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1. PUBLIC NUISANCE.

The Council finds that uncontrolled or high weeds, brush, plant material or other items prohibited under Sections 57.1.603.5.1 through 603.5.1.1.9 increase the danger of fire and thus constitute a public nuisance. If such condition exists, the Los Angeles Fire Department shall give notice to the owner of record to abate the nuisance within 15 days. The notice shall be either posted on the parcel or mailed to the owner, or both.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.1. NOTICE TO OWNER.

The notice shall state that the owner is required to abate the nuisance and that if the nuisance is not abated by the date specified therein, the City or its contractor may enter upon the parcel of land and remove or otherwise eliminate or abate the nuisance; that upon completion of such work, the cost thereof, including administrative costs, shall become a special assessment against that parcel; and that upon City Council confirmation of the assessment and recordation of that order, a lien shall attach to the parcel to be collected on the next regular property tax bill levied against the parcel.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.2. CITY ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE.

In the event the nuisance is not removed or otherwise eliminated or abated by the date specified in the notice, the City or its contractor may enter upon the parcel and remove or eliminate the nuisance. The City department that causes the nuisance to be

abated shall bill the owner of record for the cost of removal, or other elimination or abatement thereof, including administrative costs. Such administrative costs shall be determined and established in the same manner as provided for in Section 57.1.108. An itemized written report showing the date and cost of abatement work done by the City or its contractor, together with a proposed assessment with respect to the parcel involved, shall be submitted by said department to the Board of Fire Commissioners for its consideration.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.3. REPORT OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT.

The Board shall thereupon cause a written notice to be mailed to each owner of record. The notice shall identify the property in question and shall state that:

1. A nuisance, as identified in the notice, has been abated on the property;
2. A bill setting forth the cost of abatement has been mailed to the owner and a copy of the report setting forth the cost of abatement will be available for inspection at a specified location;
3. The City proposes to assess the owner for the cost of abatement; and
4. There will be a public hearing with respect to the proposed assessment and the amount thereof at the time, date and location designated in the notice.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4. PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST.

The owner may appear before a hearing examiner at the time, date and location specified in the notice or may request to appear at an alternate later time and/or date, and may appear at that alternate time and/or date if so designated by the hearing examiner. Upon any such appearance, the owner will be given the opportunity to present evidence to show cause why the property should not be assessed for the cost of abatement or not be assessed in the amount specified in the bill.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4.1. WRITTEN OBJECTIONS.

Any written objections to the proposed assessment, and/or requests for an alternate hearing date, submitted to the hearing examiner must identify therein the parcel of property proposed to be assessed. The notice, or copy thereof, may, but need not, be used for that purpose and in the event the hearing examiner agrees to an alternate time or date for the owner's appearance, the Department will notify the owner as to that alternate time and/or date. Written objections to the proposed assessment may be submitted to the hearing examiner, but must be submitted prior to the commencement of the scheduled hearing.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4.2. HEARING PROCEDURES.

On the date specified in the notice or on any date thereafter to which continued, the Board of Fire Commissioners, or its designee, shall act as the City's hearing examiner and shall conduct a hearing, consider the report setting forth the cost of abatement, receive testimony from Department personnel and others with respect to the existence of a nuisance and cost of abatement, and consider the testimony and other evidence of property owners who appear at the hearing.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4.3. HEARING REPORT PREPARATION.

After the hearing has been closed, the hearing examiner shall prepare a report and proposed decision to be presented to the City Council based upon all of the evidence presented at the hearing. The report shall identify and include the name and mailing address of the owner of each parcel from which a nuisance was abated and for which a notice of hearing and proposed assessment had been given. The hearing examiner shall include its findings, conclusions, recommendations and proposed decision in its report to the Council with respect to each parcel, and whether the proposed assessment should be:

1. Confirmed in the amount set forth in the notice;
2. Disallowed; or
3. Confirmed in an amount less than that set forth in the notice.

In each event, the hearing examiner shall include the reasons for its recommendations. The report shall fairly and accurately represent the hearing proceedings, including the objections and other testimony of each party who appeared at the hearing and the hearing examiner's evaluation thereof. Upon adoption of the report by the Board, as hearing examiner, or concurrence in the report by the Board if the duly appointed hearing examiner was other than the Board, the report and proposed decision with respect to contested proposed assessments, as well as the Board's recommendations and report with respect to all other proposed assessments, shall be transmitted to the City Clerk's office for placement upon the Council calendar not less than 15 days after its receipt. The proposed decision in each such event shall be in such form that it may be amended as the decision of the City Council. If the hearing was conducted by other than the Board, and after a review of the report the Board does not concur with the recommendations therein, the Board may refer the matter back to the hearing examiner for further review, and a hearing if necessary, or the Board may conduct a hearing de novo as the hearing examiner, after due notice, and prepare its own decision and recommendations for Council consideration.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4.3.1. CONTESTED ASSESSMENT REVIEW BY CITY COUNCIL.

Where there has been a contested proposed assessment, the Board, on behalf of and in the name of the City Council, shall concurrently cause a copy of the hearing examiner's proposed decision in the matter to be transmitted to each property owner that appeared at the hearing, along with a Fire Department telephone number and location where a copy of the hearing examiner's complete report is available for inspection. The Board shall include in its transmittal to property owners a notice of the alternate actions available to the City Council as set forth hereinbelow and a notice that they may submit in writing to the City Clerk any information of newly discovered or additional evidence within 15 days from the transmittal date shown on the copy of the proposed decision. The City Council shall review the report and proposed uncontested assessments transmitted by the Board and shall also review the report, evidence, and proposed decision received from the hearing examiner and shall by motion or resolution:

1. Adopt the findings and proposed decision and confirm the assessment;
2. Adopt findings and reduce the assessment set forth in the proposed decision and confirm the assessment as modified;
3. Determine to hear and decide the case upon the record, and any newly discovered or additional evidence offered by the property owner, afford the property owner the opportunity to present, at a date certain, either oral or written argument before the Council, adopt findings, and based upon evidence presented, determine and confirm the amount of any assessment in the matter; or
4. Refer the matter back to the hearing examiner if the Council is satisfied that information of any material newly discovered or additional evidence has been received, or that additional evidence or review is needed before a final decision is made. If the matter is so referred, the City Clerk shall return the complete file on that parcel and proposed assessment to the hearing examiner. Upon receipt thereof, the hearing examiner shall reset the matter for hearing any additional evidence, give due notice thereof, and conduct the hearing for that purpose, and shall thereafter submit another report and proposed decision to the City Council for its review and decision in the same manner as heretofore described.

Whenever a report and proposed assessment decision provided for by this Code section has been calendared for Council consideration, the City Clerk shall retain a copy of the report and have it available for public inspection prior to and during the course of Council deliberation in the assessment proceedings.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.2.1.4.3.2. FINAL DECISION.

The action of the City Council adopting a proposed decision or a modified proposed decision and an order confirming an assessment shall be final.

The cost of removal, or other elimination or abatement of a nuisance from in front of or on a parcel of land shall constitute a special assessment against that parcel. After an assessment is made and confirmed by the City Council pursuant to Section 57.1.603.5.3, a lien shall attach to the parcel upon recordation in the Office of the County Recorder of a copy of the order confirming the assessment. The connection of such assessment and enforcement of the lien shall be in the manner provided in Sections 39578 through 39588 of the Government Code, incorporated herein by reference as set forth on the effective date of this section or as said provisions may be amended or otherwise appear in the law.

As an alternative method for the collection of the cost of abatement, the City may maintain an action of law thereof against the owner of the premises upon which the nuisance was maintained in any court of competent jurisdiction. Such cost shall be deemed a personal obligation of such owner.

Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to preclude the Chief from requiring more than the minimum distances for firebreaks when the Chief determines that hazardous conditions exist that necessitate greater fire protection measures.

Under uncodified Ordinance No. 172,652, effective 7/25/99, a moratorium was imposed until January 1, 2000, on the collection of any penalty imposed by the City for late payment of the fee charged pursuant to Section 57.1.603.5.2 for inspection of properties to determine the existence of a violation of Section 57.1.603.5.

SEC. 57.1.603.5.3. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY TO RECOVER COSTS.

A fire on a parcel of land that is not in compliance with the Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code is a public nuisance. If the City incurs costs either in fighting a fire on a parcel of land that was not in compliance with Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code at the time of the fire, or in fighting a fire that spread from that parcel, then the City shall recover the costs of abatement.

The costs of abatement shall include the costs of fighting the fire, providing rescue or emergency medical services and providing support services, including services from the Los Angeles Police Department and the Department of Water and Power. These abatement costs shall also include any costs incurred by the City in using City and non-City personnel.

All costs incurred pursuant to this section shall be a personal obligation against the person or persons, including mortgagees, who have an obligation to comply with the

Los Angeles Wildland-Urban Interface Code, recoverable by the City in an action before any court of competent jurisdiction. These costs shall include an amount equal to 40% of the cost to perform the actual work, but not less than the sum of \$100.00, to cover the City's costs for administering any contract and supervising the work required. In addition to this personal obligation and all other remedies provided by law, the City may collect any judgment, fee, cost, or charge, including any permit fees, fines, late charges, or interest, incurred in relation to the provisions of this section as provided in Los Angeles Administrative Code Sections 7.35.1 through 7.35.8.

EXCEPTION: If costs are incurred by the City for or arising out of fighting a fire resulting from an event or course of events that prompted a declaration of a state of emergency, local emergency, war emergency or major disaster by the Mayor, the Governor, or the President of the United States, then no lien shall be recorded against a parcel of land pursuant to this section.

SEC. 57.1.604. MAINTENANCE OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE.

Section 604 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.605. SPARK ARRESTORS.

Section 605 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted with the following exceptions, modifications, and additions.

SEC. 57.1.605.3. EXHAUST PROTECTION FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES.

Exhaust protection for internal combustion engines shall comply with Sections 605.3.1 and 605.3.2

SEC. 57.1.605.3.1. SPARK ARRESTERS.

No person shall use or operate an internal combustion engine on or near grain, hay, grass, or brush-covered land, or where flammable fibers are stored, manufactured, or processed, unless the engine is equipped with an approved spark arrester that complies with the requirements of United States Forest Service "Standard for Spark Arresters for Internal Combustion Engines" (Standard 5100-1B, July 1991).

SEC. 57.1.605.3.2. EXHAUST SYSTEM MAINTENANCE.

Spark arresters and the exhaust systems of engines or vehicles subject to this section shall be maintained in effective working order and not be affixed or mounted in such a manner as to allow flames or heat from the exhaust system to ignite any flammable material.

SEC. 57.1.606. LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS INSTALLATIONS.

Section 606 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.607. STORAGE OF FIREWOOD.

Section 607 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.608. BUILDING SITING AND SETBACKS.

Section 608 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.609. RIDGELINES, FUELBREAKS AND GREENBELTS.

Section 609 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.610. FIRE SAFE DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.

Section 610 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.611. SUBDIVISION REVIEW SURVEY.

Section 611 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.612. GENERAL PLAN SAFETY ELEMENT.

Section 612 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety.

SEC. 57.1.613. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.613.1. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.613.2. POSTING OF SIGNS PROHIBITING SMOKING AND BURNING.

There shall be no open burning or smoking in the Fire Hazard Severity Zones. The Chief shall cause such districts to be posted at all times by suitable signs giving notice thereof.

SEC. 57.1.613.3. AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT MAINTAIN AND CLOSE FIRE ROADS, FIRE TRAILS AND FIREBREAKS.

Maintain and Close Fire Roads, Fire Trails and Firebreaks. The Chief shall have authority to construct fire roads and firebreaks in or upon any undeveloped lands in any mountain or hill area, whether or not such lands are public or private, with the consent of the owner thereof, and to maintain the same on a permanent basis when the Chief

determines that such fire roads and firebreak are necessary for the protection of life and property against fire or panic.

SEC. 57.1.613.3.1. AUTHORITY TO SECURE.

The Chief may install gates or cables, and securely lock the same, to prevent the use by unauthorized persons of any fire road, truck trail or other road that is not a public highway and over that the Fire Department has the right to pass, whether by easement, license, City ownership or otherwise, for purposes relating to fire protection or control.

SEC. 57.1.613.4. 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 57.1.105.11. Notice of such closure shall be deemed sufficient when provided pursuant to Section 57.1.613.8.1.

EXCEPTION: Closure of private lands shall not prohibit the use or entry upon such lands by the owner, his guests or invitees, provided such guests or invitees have written permission of the owner of such private lands to enter upon the same.

SEC 57.1.613.5. RESERVED.

SEC 57.1.613.6. RESERVED.

SEC 57.1.613.7. RESERVED.

SEC. 57.1.613.8. RESTRICTED ENTRY OR PRESENCE IN THE FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES.

Any person who enters or is present in the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in violation of Section 57.1.613, 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 57.1.613.8.1.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. This subsection shall not prohibit residents or owners of private property or their invitees or guests from going to or from such private property, provided that such invitees or guests have the

permission of the owner or resident to be in or upon such private property.

2. This subsection shall not restrict any public officer in the pursuit of his duty.

SEC. 57.1.613.8.1. NOTICE.

For purposes of Sections 57.1.613 through 57.1.613.9.1, notice may be given as follows:

1. **Posted Property.** By posted signs identifying the property closed to the public within the 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 Fire Hazard Severity Zones 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. 57.1.613.8.2. TRESPASS.

No person shall travel or trespass upon any firebreak or fire road.

SEC. 57.1.613.8.3. SPECIAL PERMIT.

No person shall operate, drive or park any motorcycle, motor scooter or other vehicle within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones, except upon clearly established public or private roads, without first having secured a Special Permit from the Chief pursuant to Section 57.1.105.11.

SEC. 57.1.613.8.4. UNAUTHORIZED PARKING.

No unauthorized person shall park any vehicle so as to obstruct the entrance to any fire road, fire trail or firebreak.

SEC. 57.1.613.9. TAMPERING WITH ESTABLISHED LOCKS, SIGNS, BARRIERS OR WATER TANKS.

No person, except one authorized and acting within the scope of his official duties, shall unlock, open, damage, or tamper with or cause to be unlocked, opened, damaged, or tampered with any lock, gate, door, barrier, seal, water tank enclosure, water valve, hydrant, or other fire protection equipment or facility installed by or under control of the Department or the Federal Division of Forestry.

SEC. 57.1.613.9.1. DEFACING SIGNS.

No person, except one authorized and acting within the scope of his official duties, shall remove, deface, mar, mutilate, or change the position of any sign, installed by the Chief pursuant to this article, designating "CLOSED AREA," "NO SMOKING," "NO OPEN FIRES," "RESTRICTED ENTRY," or other sign or device installed to give warning and to regulate persons' actions within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

SEC. 57.1.614. IGNITION SOURCES.

SEC. 57.1.614.1. OPEN FLAME PROHIBITED.

There shall be no open flame or self-contained device capable of producing flame permitted or located upon any road, street or fire road within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

SEC. 57.1.614.2. SMOKING PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to light, ignite or smoke any cigar, cigarette, tobacco in a pipe, or other form of smoldering substance within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

SEC. 57.1.614.3. CLEARANCE OF VEGETATIVE GROWTH FROM ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION LINES.

Any person owning, leasing, controlling, operating or maintaining any electrical transmission line over any mountainous forest, brush, or hazardous vegetation covered land shall at all times cut, trim, or otherwise remove all forked, dead, decadent, rotten, diseased, or weakened branches of trees, or trees that may contact or fall upon any transmission line. Live trees shall remain pruned and trimmed to prevent exposure to electrical transmission or branch lines.

SEC. 57.1.614.4. RESTRICTION ON USE OF CERTAIN METAL CUTTING BLADES.

Use of metal cutting blades for grass or brush clearance shall be limited to those that are non-ferrous/non-sparking.

The provisions of this section shall apply when grass or brush clearance operations are being conducted in accordance with Section 57.1.603.5 in areas within the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ), as defined in Section 302.6.

SEC. 57.1.614.4.1. PENALTY.

A first violation of this section shall be an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. A second and all subsequent violations of this section shall be subject to the provisions of Section 11.00 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, including prosecution as an infraction or prosecution as a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, by imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. In addition to the aforementioned penalties, any violator convicted under this section, which resulted in a fire, may be liable for any civil cost recovery associated with the fire, as permitted by law.

SEC. 57.1.700. REFERENCED STANDARDS.

Chapter 7 of the CWUIC is hereby adopted by reference in its entirety with the following addition.


USFS. United States Forest Service
"Standard for Spark Arresters for Internal Combustion Engines" (Standard 5100-1B, July 2013)..... 57.1.605.4

Sec. 2. **URGENCY CLAUSE.** The City Council finds and declares that this ordinance is required for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare for the following reasons: the City needs a Fire Code to regulate and govern the safeguarding of life and property from fire and explosion hazards arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the occupancy of buildings and premises; and to provide for the issuances of permits, inspections and other Fire Department services, and the assessment and collection of fees for permits, inspections and services. The City needs to adopt the new Fire Code provisions as soon as possible to allow the City of San Fernando sufficient time to amend their codes to be in compliance with ours as required by our contract for services with the City of San Fernando. Therefore, it is necessary for this ordinance to take effect immediately upon its publication, pursuant to Charter Section 253.

Sec. 3. 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 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

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By 
LINDA N. NGUYEN
Deputy City Attorney

Date 7/8/26

File No. _____

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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 _____