

MOTION


Throughout the City of Los Angeles there are widespread hillside areas located in Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFSZ). These areas are often a mix of ownership from private property owners to the City to other entities, i.e.: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles County and utility companies such as Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Southern California Edison. Determining ownership and parcel boundaries in hillside areas can be difficult and time-consuming.

Hillside areas in VHFSZ are also areas that are all too often conducive to encampments. Encampments can be established in these areas and go unnoticed for a long period of time until they become large and more permanent in nature and cause a significant public safety concern such as a fire.

In Council District 7 we have worked with Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), City Attorney, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) to address encampments in VHFSZ hillside areas and have experienced many challenges due to the complex nature of gaining permission to access the property and abate the encampment. It can take weeks to determine property ownership and to obtain the necessary signoffs from property owners to access the property causing unnecessary delays and increasing the risk for a serious fire and threats to public safety.

I THEREFORE MOVE that Council REQUEST the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Department of Building and Safety, to report on what municipal code or other regulatory changes are needed to allow hazardous materials including encampments to be cleared in hillside Very High Fire Severity Zones without having to gain permission from the property owner, including cost recovery for the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY:


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SECONDED BY:


Javi Park

DEC 12 2025

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