



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Fire  
Department No.: 031  
For Agenda Of: June 16, 2009  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: 7/7/09 10 Minutes  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Tom Franklin, Fire Chief x5500  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Rick Todd, Fire Marshal x5554

**SUBJECT: Request to set Public Hearing for the 2009 Hazard Reduction Program**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Set July 7, 2009 for a Public Hearing to:
  - a. declare all properties, whose owners have not complied with a notice to abate, as a fire nuisance; and
  - b. authorize the issuance of misdemeanor citations and necessary abatement work relative to the 2009 Fire Department Defensible Space Program (Weed Abatement); and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to post the affected Property Owners List in a place easily accessible to the public.

**Summary Text:**

The Fire Department's Defensible Space Program is an on-going annual program to mitigate fire hazards countywide, while providing protection of lives and property. The program is mandated by the California Health and Safety Code and its penalties are governed by law.

This program provides a "Defensible Space" that allows firefighters to protect buildings and structures from encroaching wildfires as well as minimizing the chance that a structure fire will escape to the surrounding wildland.

This request for a public hearing is required by your Board and is standard procedure for the Defensible Space Program. A sample of the "Notice to Abate Fire Nuisance" sent to the affected property owners

is attached. The notice also indicates the date and time of the Public Hearing and ensures them the opportunity and right to express their views.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

None related to this action.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board is requested to follow normal publishing guidelines for notice.  
Please send a copy of the minute order to the attention of Rose Pueschel, Fire Department.

**Attachments:**

Sample "Notice to Abate Fire Nuisance"  
List of non-compliant parcels

**Authored by:**

Richard Todd, Fire Marshal

**cc:**