



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 20-0868, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Brown

Meeting Date: September 22, 2020

Department Contact: Supervisor Carre Brown

Phone: 4221

Item Type: Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 20 Min

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Action Including Direction to Staff Regarding a Hazardous Vegetation and Rubbish Abatement Ordinance

(Sponsor: Supervisor Brown)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Direct Supervisor Brown and Mr. Scott Cratty, Director of the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, on the drafting of an Ordinance regarding hazardous vegetation and rubbish abatement.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

On July 14, 2020 the Board of Supervisors discussed an agenda item brought forth by Supervisor Brown entitled "Preventing hazardous conditions and protecting public health and safety on rural lands in Mendocino County prone to wildfires". Supervisor Brown proposed an effective Ordinance be written to ensure greater due diligence and greater compliance by property owners to clear hazardous properties within populated communities. A Hazardous Vegetation and Rubbish Abatement Ordinance can require property owners to remove combustible fuel within the unincorporated areas of the County. Under such an ordinance any parcels that are not fully compliant with the Ordinance's standards, including partially cleared parcels, can be abated by the County. The Board of Supervisors by consensus directed Supervisor Brown to work with the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council to write an Ordinance for further consideration.

Summary of Request:

After review of other Counties' Ordinances as models a draft Hazardous Vegetation and Rubbish Abatement Ordinance is being written, however, the drafters are requesting more direction from the Board of Supervisors to complete its drafting. The following questions are proposed for further consideration and guidance:

What is the primary goal of the Ordinance? Are there specific shortcomings in the existing programs or legal tools that the ordinance is looking to remedy? Is the ordinance intended to supplement existing rules (e.g. defensible space) with additional enforcement tools or to plug a specific gap?

Which Department will have responsibility and what level of resources does the County plan to dedicate to this program? Ordinance structure may vary significantly depending on the size and scope of the program.

To what extent does the County wish to partner with the Fire Districts, and to what extent do the Fire Districts

wish to partner with the County? If the Districts will be involved, what will that look like?

Alternative Action/Motion:

No action.

Supervisory District: All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At: N/A

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: N/A

current f/y cost: N/A

annual recurring cost: N/A

budget clarification: N/A

budgeted in current f/y: N/A

if no, please describe:

revenue agreement: N/A

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: N/A

CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

Date: September 23, 2020

Final Status: No Action Taken

