

# Fire Department Weed Abatement Program

City Council Meeting August 16, 2016 Paul Lowenthal Assistant Fire Marshal

## Weed Abatement Program

- The Santa Rosa Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau coordinates an annual Weed Abatement (W.A.) inspection program throughout the City.
- Each year, the program begins with the Santa Rosa City Council, through Resolution, declaring weeds and rubbish to be a public nuisance. This step is followed up by a Public Hearing where the public has the opportunity to express any objections to the program.

## Weed Abatement Program

- ➤ W.A. Notices are mailed prior to Fire Season to property owners that have had recurring problems or are in higher risk areas
- The notice lists the requirements of the Ordinance and the date the property must be brought into compliance.
- After the compliance date, parcels are inspected by Fire Prevention personnel on a regular basis.

#### Weed Abatement Process

- If a property is inspected and is not in compliance, a W.A. Violation Notice will be sent to the property owner, listing the violation(s) and a date for the next inspection.
- If a property remains out of compliance following the W.A. Violation Notice, the Fire Department is authorized to use our contractor to abate the property: Costs associated are recovered by the City.

#### RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Council, by resolution, ratify and confirm the itemized report of the Fire Department of the cost of weed and rubbish abatement as provided for in Sections 9-08.020, 9-08-080, and 9-08.090 of the Santa Rosa City Code.
- Questions?