



ESTABLISHING PRIVATE FIRE DEBRIS CLEANUP DEADLINE

City Council Meeting
February 13, 2018

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BACKGROUND

- The October wildfires destroyed approximately 3,000 homes and numerous commercial structures within Santa Rosa.
- Ash and debris contains hazardous and toxic materials left from burned building materials, vehicles, electronics, paint, cleaning solutions, and other common household products.
- To protect public health and the environment, the debris must be cleared, transported and disposed in compliance with all local, state and federal requirements.
- Time is critical given the risks of potential migration and contamination of adjacent properties, waterways, and the City's stormwater and wastewater systems as well as the risk of airborne toxins.

CURRENT STATUS

- Property owners were offered two options for clean-up and removal of ash and fire debris
- Consolidated Debris Removal Program
 - Funded by government and insurance
 - Performed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”)
 - Cleared to identified health and environmental standards
- Private debris removal:
 - At property owner’s expense
 - Must be performed by qualified contractor
 - Requires prior City approval of Santa Rosa Fire Clean-up Application and Work Plan
 - Must meet essentially the same standards as USACE

CURRENT STATUS

- Consolidated Debris Removal Program expected to be completed by late March or sooner
- Private debris removals are underway or scheduled on many properties
- More than 300 properties still to be cleared through private debris removal

RECOMMENDATION

Given the urgency of clearing hazardous materials, the Fire Department and City Attorney recommend that Council, by resolution, establish a deadline of April 9, 2018 for removal of all fire debris from residential and commercial properties affected by the Tubbs and Nuns Canyon Fires.

QUESTIONS?