

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: PAUL LOWENTHAL, ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL
FIRE DEPARTMENT

ALISA RAWSON, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION DECLARING WEEDS AND RUBBISH IN THE
SANTA ROSA CITY LIMITS A PUBLIC NUISANCE

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Fire Department that the Council, by resolution: 1) determine and declare that weeds, as defined in Section 9-08.010 of the Santa Rosa City Code, which bear seeds of a wingy or downy nature that have attained a natural growth in height in excess of four inches, or attain such a large growth as to become a fire menace when dry, or which are otherwise noxious or dangerous, located on undeveloped parcels, on developed parcels over .5 acres with more than .5 acres of unimproved land, or on parcels located in a Wildland Urban Interface Fire Area within City limits, constitute a public nuisance; and 2) determine and declare that rubbish, as defined in Section 9-08.010 of the Santa Rosa City Code, constitutes a public nuisance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of this resolution will ensure that the Santa Rosa Fire Department has the authority under Chapter 9-08 of the Santa Rosa City Code to cause the abatement of weeds and rubbish that constitute a public nuisance.

BACKGROUND

1. Chapter 9-08 of the Santa Rosa City Code, Weed and Rubbish, authorizes Council adoption of a determination and declaration that weeds and rubbish are a public nuisance.

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2. Upon adoption of this resolution, Chapter 9-08 thereafter permits the Santa Rosa Fire Department to give notice directing the abatement of the declared nuisances in accordance with the Santa Rosa City Code.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On February 2, 2016, the City Council, by Resolution No. 28737, approved Resolution declaring weeds and rubbish a public nuisance

ANALYSIS

1. Santa Rosa City Code Chapter 9-08 requires the abatement of weeds and rubbish declared as a public nuisance.
2. The proposed resolution declares certain weeds on any undeveloped parcel, developed parcels over .5 acres having over .5 acres of unimproved land or parcels located in a Wildland Urban Interface Fire Area within City limits as a public nuisance. This declaration permits the Fire Department to thereafter cause abatement of the declared nuisances.
3. Approximately 2,509 notices were sent in 2016 and 275 were abated by the Santa Rosa Fire Department (including City owned parcels).
4. Abatement enforcement begins with the declaration of the Fire Season by the Director of Cal Fire on or near May 1st, depending on the weather conditions, and continues until the end of the Fire Season as declared by the Director of Cal Fire.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no fiscal impacts associated with the Council resolution to declare weeds and rubbish in the Santa Rosa city limits a public nuisance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution

CONTACT

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