

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298827

ADOPTED ON JAN 27 2004

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN
DIEGO PERTAINING TO BRUSH MANAGEMENT.

WHEREAS, each year the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department responds to over 800
vegetation fires; and

WHEREAS, in October 2003, the Cedar Fire, Paradise Fire and Otay Fire burned several
communities within the City of San Diego including Clairemont, Kearny Mesa, Miramar,
Scripps Ranch, Tierrasanta, and Otay Mesa/Nestor; and

WHEREAS, at least 388 single and multi-family homes were destroyed or damaged by
the 2003 wildfires; and

WHEREAS, at least 16 commercial structures were destroyed or damaged by the 2003
wildfires; and

WHEREAS, during certain times of the year native vegetation can pose a wildfire risk;
and

WHEREAS, given the wildfire risks associated with native vegetation, proper
management of the urban wild land interface is necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City has a total of approximately 22,600 acres of open space managed
by the Park and Recreation Department which creates approximately 220 linear miles of urban
wild land interface; and

WHEREAS, over 16,000 acres of the 22,600 acres of City open space presents a moderate to severe fire threat to communities throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego wild land urban interface also includes thousands of privately owned properties; and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2003, the City Manager presented the initial 30-day "Cedar Fire After Action Overview Report" (CMR-03-242); and

WHEREAS, the City Council directed the City Manager to bring forward proposals to provide for greater defensible space between structures and vegetation; and

WHEREAS, one of the most proven pre-fire management actions to both reduce the size and intensity of a fire and to allow firefighters time and space to mount a defense against impending fire is the creation of a defensible space of 100 feet between structures and vegetation; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

1. That, in accordance with the Fire Chief's recommendations, the City Manager and the City Attorney are directed to amend the brush management regulations in the San Diego Municipal Code, including requiring a 100-foot defensible space between structures and certain types of vegetation.
2. That the City Manager is directed to develop an interim Fiscal Year 2004 brush management implementation measure for the Park and Recreation Department.
3. That the City Manager is directed to consider ongoing brush management cost and funding as part of the Fiscal Year 2005 budget.

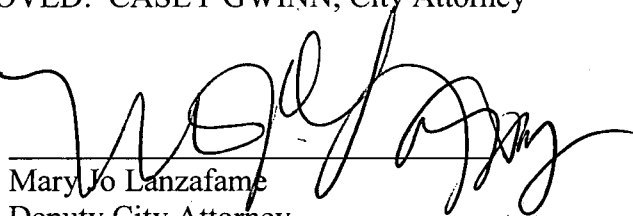
4. That the City Manager is directed to implement appropriate public outreach efforts under the existing brush management regulations.

5. That "how to" training be provided for any interested parties regarding the control of brush management.

6. That staff return to Council with a final proposal regarding brush management by June 30, 2004.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By



Mary Jo Lanzafame
Deputy City Attorney

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01/14/04
02/12/04 REV.
02/24/04 COR. COPY
Or.Dept: Planning
R-2004-731