City of Brisbane Agenda Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Johnson, Deputy Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Services Bureau

Via Ron D. Myers, Fire Chief

DATE: April 7, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016 Wildfire Prevention and Readiness Activities

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive the report on Wildfire Prevention and Readiness Activities for 2016

BACKGROUND:

North County Fire Authority in cooperation with other agencies and the City of Brisbane will again conduct three annual activities, which are the Vegetation/Weed Abatement Management Program, Fire Break Project and Community Wildfire Awareness event in support of Wildfire Prevention and Readiness.

DISCUSSION:

North County Fire Authority has begun the annual Vegetation/Weed Abatement Management Program pursuant to the Brisbane Municipal Code. Informational and educational letters requesting compliance through removal of excessive growth of vegetation and or accumulation of combustible material constituting a fire hazard were sent out to all properties in Brisbane on April 1, 2016. The following are the important dates for compliance:

- Due date for compliance is May 1, 2016
- Inspections of all properties will be conducted beginning May 2, 2016
- Letters sent to any property not in compliance will be mailed on May 10, 2016
- Any property not in compliance by May 24, 2016 will receive a final certified notice of abatement

Property owners who disagrees with the determination by the fire department that a fire hazard exists, may communicate their objections to the Brisbane City Council at a public hearing to be conducted during the second regular City Council meeting of June, which this year will be Thursday June 16, 2016, beginning at 7:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

The following is an overview of actions property owners will need to complete:

- Cut and remove all dry grasses, weeds and other flammable or dead vegetation at least 30 feet away from your home and structures.
- Homes and structures on slopes may require up to 100 feet of clearance.
- Ornamental vegetation should be kept clear of dead material.
- Cut and remove all dry grasses and weeds a minimum of 10 feet from both sides of all roadways, including driveways and all access routes.
- Acreage: Maintain a 30-foot firebreak around the perimeter of the acreage.
- Clear leaves, pine needles and debris from roof and gutters.
- Trim tree branches at least 10 feet from the outlet of a chimney.

North County Fire Authority in conjunction with CAL-Fire will have fire hand crews reducing vegetation along an approximately 100-foot deep strip and maintaining the established fire break behind homes from the end of Trinity Road to just beyond the intersection of Kings Road and San Mateo Lane. The vegetation will be cut with hand tools and line trimmers and may result in some noise. This work will begin May 16, 2016 as weather and crew availability permit. A letter will be sent on May 1, 2016 to those residents in the area of King and Trinity Roads alerting them of the work to be done.

Finally, the annual Community Wildfire Awareness event, as well as a wildland fire response training drill involving North County Fire Authority and other North San Mateo County Fire Departments will occur on Saturday May 21, 2016. There will be an information sheet sent out to the community regarding this event.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING ISSUES

Funds have been allocated and approved within the existing budget.

Richard A Johnson, Deputy Fire Chief for Ron D Myers, Fire Chief

Clayton Holstine, City Manager