



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

2 Portuguese Bend Road
Rolling Hills, CA 90274

AGENDA
Special Fire Fuel Management
Committee Meeting

FIRE FUEL MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 13, 2022

CITY OF ROLLING HILLS
6:30 PM

Executive Order

The meeting agenda is available on the City's website. The Fire Fuel Committee meeting will be live-streamed on the City's website. Both the agenda and the live-streamed video can be found here:

<https://www.rolling-hills.org/government/agenda/index.php>

Members of the public may submit written comments in real-time by emailing the City Clerk's office at cityclerk@cityofrh.net. Your comments will become part of the official meeting record. You must provide your full name, but please do not provide any other personal information that you do not want to be published.

Recordings to Fire Fuel Committee meetings can be found here: <https://www.rolling-hills.org/government/agenda/index.php>

1. PARTICIPANTS

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 2.A. [REVIEW FIRE SAFETY MITIGATION LIST FROM THE FIRE FUEL COMMITTEE DEVELOPED AT THE MARCH 1, 2022 MEETING; AND RECEIVE AND FILE AN UPDATE ON ITEMS ON THE MITIGATION LIST.](#)

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

[Addtl_Fire_Safety_Recommendations.pdf](#)

- 2.B. [RECEIVE AND FILE A STATUS REPORT ON THE CALOES/FEMA GRANT VEGETATIVE MANAGEMENT PROJECT](#)

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

[CalOESVegetationManagementGrant-SUPPLEMENTALinfo_CDFW.pdf](#)

- 2.C. [RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE BLOCK CAPTAINS BRAINSTORMING SESSION ON MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMUNITY TO MANAGE FIRE FUEL IN THE CANYONS; CONSIDER THE MEASURES; AND RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO IMPLEMENT THE MEASURES.](#)

RECOMMENDATION: Receive a Report on the Block Captains Brainstorming Session on Measures to Encourage the Community to Management Fire Fuel in the Canyons; Consider the Measures; and Recommend to the City Council to Implement the Measures

[CL_AGN_220913_FFC_BC Brainstorming Session Notes rev 7.25.2022.pdf](#)

- 2.D. [DISCUSS THE ROLLING HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION'S RECENT](#)

CANYON MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AT SI'S TRAIL
BEGINNING AT THE CORNER OF PORTUGUESE BEND ROAD AND CREST
ROAD

RECOMMENDATION: Committee member Mirsch will lead the discussion.

[CL_AGN_220913_FFC_Si's Trail.pdf](#)

- 2.E. **CONSIDER AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT FIRE FUEL COMMITTEE
MEETING AND SET THE NEXT MEETING DATE.**

RECOMMENDATION: Provide direction to staff.

**3. COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN BY EMAIL IN REAL TIME - PUBLIC COMMENT
WELCOME**

This is the appropriate time for members of the public to make comments regarding items not listed on this agenda.
Pursuant to the Brown Act, no action will take place on any items not on the agenda.

**4. ADJOURNMENT - THIS MEETING WILL BE ADJOURNED IN THE MEMORY OF
ROLLING HILLS RESIDENT AND BLOCK CAPTAIN TUBA GHANNADI WHO
PASSED AWAY**

Documents pertaining to an agenda item received after the posting of the agendas are available for
review in the City Clerk's office or at the meeting at which the item will be considered.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you need special assistance to
participate in this meeting due to your disability, please contact the City Clerk at (310) 377-1521 at least
48 hours prior to the meeting to enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure
accessibility and accommodation for your review of this agenda and attendance at this meeting.



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

Agenda Item No.: 2.A
Mtg. Date: 09/13/2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST

THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: REVIEW FIRE SAFETY MITIGATION LIST FROM THE FIRE FUEL COMMITTEE DEVELOPED AT THE MARCH 1, 2022 MEETING; AND RECEIVE AND FILE AN UPDATE ON ITEMS ON THE MITIGATION LIST.

DATE: September 13, 2022

BACKGROUND:

At the Fire Fuel Committee meeting on March 1, 2022, the Members developed a list of wildfire mitigation measures for consideration. The list included additional explanations for the suggested measures and is attached to this report.

DISCUSSION:

Since the March 1, 2022 Fire Fuel Committee meeting, Staff has been working diligently to address the items on the list. Below are examples of items that have been accomplished or in the process of being accomplished:

- *Investigate possibility of new Rule 20D program, currently only available at San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)* - Staff submitted a letter on August 25, 2022 to the California League of Cities expressing the need for the California Public Utility Commission to expand the Rule 20D to cover areas outside of SDG&E territory including all communities designated as Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ).
- *Sirens and alarms* - The City engaged with HQE Systems Inc. to identify locations to place an outdoor siren system. This item will be heard at the September 12, 2022 City Council meeting for consideration.
- *Additional greenwaste and chipping days* - The City continues to hold semi-annual brush collection events; semi-annual communal bin events; and provides one free annual roll-off bin.
- *Education info - expert opinions/instructions, videos, demos, site visits, guides, etc* - The City in partnership with the Block Captain and Los Angeles County Fire Department released a six video series on "Managing Fire Fuel in the Canyons". The video series takes residents through an easy to follow education on how to identify and cure potential fire fuel issues on their properties and in the canyons.
- *Work with Conservancy/RPV to mitigate fuel in other areas that border the City on the*

east side - The City approved the Phase 4 contract amendment with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy during the March 28, 2022 meeting

- *Continue Home Hardening Educational Inspections* - Since March 2022, there have been 17 Home Hardening Educational Inspections conducted.
- *Require SCE to place and monitor cameras in Conservancy and elsewhere in the area* - Staff inquired with SCE and based on their feedback, there is no indication that they plan to install cameras in the Conservancy. Instead, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes is taking the lead of installing wildfire cameras in the Conservancy that would cover the City of Rolling Hills.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to providing an update on the list of wildfire mitigation measures.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Addtl_Fire_Safety_Recommendations.pdf](#)

Fire Safety Recommendations

Throughout the Fire Fuel Committee's efforts to address reduction of risks associated with the presence of large amounts of vegetation in our canyons, members of the public have also offered suggestions or ideas on other actions that could/should be considered. The following is a list of those ideas that have been suggested during the last 10 months of the meetings.

The list is grouped by category to facilitate review, but is not in any specific order or priority. The items were included without any "filtering" - without any consideration for practicality, responsible organization, analysis of pros vs cons, etc.

Because fire safety is about much more than just fire fuel in the canyons and there has been significant public participation in the meetings, The Fire Fuel Committee felt it was important to share these additional measures that have been suggested, and is presenting this information to the City Council for its consideration.

SCE/P.U.C.

More oversight of SCE processes, ie vegetation management around poles, under wires, transformers, etc

Require SCE to provide more education and transparency regarding their PUC mandates and progress

Require SCE to place and monitor cameras in Conservancy and elsewhere in area

Investigate possibility of new Rule 20-D program, currently only available at San Diego G&E

Consider San Diego G&E Franchise Tax approach to fund programs in High Fire Zones

Pass local laws to require SCE compliance

City and or RHCA Administration

Heat and/or smoke sensitive cameras – installation and monitoring

Sirens and alarms

Educational info – expert opinions/instructions, videos, demos, site visits, guides, etc

Eliminate wood-burning fireplaces, BBQs, fire pits

Additional greenwaste and chipping events

Accelerate removal of non-fire retardant roofs and boxing in eaves

Formation of a Fire Safe Council

Long term fire retardant chemicals, ie PhosCheck, Fortress, etc

Work with carriers to improve cell phone reception

Satellite phones

Pursue grant funding opportunities

Require RHCA to mitigate vegetation on all easements, including side and rear

Reduce entry in to RH – 1) limit entry on red flag days (designate types) 2) put up signs, natural barriers, etc to prevent unauthorized entrance

Provide additional emergency exits routes from city for evacuation (end of Portuguese Bend Rd, end of John's Cyn to Crenshaw)

Conservancy and RPV

Work with Conservancy/RPV to mitigate fuel in other areas that border the city on east side

Pressure Conservancy to prohibit visitors to the Preserve area on High Fire Hazard Days

Pressure RPV to establish the parking on PV Dr South that was proposed during approval and development process of Preserve's formation

Fire Department

Continue Home Hardening Educational Inspections

Consider project like Malibu's "69 Bravo" that converted traditional water storage tank capabilities to include fueling of water dropping aircraft

Increased oversight of Fire Dept Inspections, including receipt of copies of citations and perform spot-checks

Fire Dept needs to use most recent Fuel Modification info/legislations on landscaping requirements and include continued adherence to those requirements during inspections

Provide copies of CalFire's publication on safe and proper operating procedures to be used when mitigating vegetation, including the use of machinery, etc.

Respectfully submitted by Committee Members Mayor Pro Tem Black and Councilmember Leah Mirsch



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

Agenda Item No.: 2.B
Mtg. Date: 09/13/2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST

THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECEIVE AND FILE A STATUS REPORT ON THE CALOES/FEMA GRANT VEGETATIVE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

DATE: September 13, 2022

BACKGROUND:

In an effort to mitigate wildfire risks, in 2019, the City of Rolling Hills submitted a grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to create defensible space, fuel breaks and erosion control to protect homeowners from wildfires within the City. On November 16, 2020, the City of Rolling Hills was awarded a total of \$323,500 (of which \$242,625 in Federal dollars and \$80,875 in Local Match (City funds)) in Phase 1 funding administered by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES).

Phase 1 involves project design, site survey, boundary survey and environmental (CEQA) analysis. The project expected completion date was November 16, 2021. Given the short timeline, the City requested an extension to the project completion date from November 16, 2021 to July 31, 2022 which was approved on September 7, 2021. Phase 1 of the project is completed.

DISCUSSION:

On April 31, 2022, the City submitted its final close-out packet to CalOES. Subsequently, FEMA requested additional information which was provided on May 5, 2022 (attached).

Staff has made multiple requests to CalOES on the status of the FEMA's request. At the time of writing, the City has not received any update from FEMA; however, Staff anticipates to receive Phase 2 funding in the fourth quarter of 2022. Phase 2 includes permitting and hiring a contractor to reduce fire fuel on approximately 37 properties identified by the Los Angeles County Fire Department, as priority areas for treatment. If Phase 2 is awarded funds, the City will receive \$507,375 in Federal dollars with a Local Match of \$167,125.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file.

ATTACHMENTS:

[CalOESVegetationManagementGrant-SUPPLEMENTALinfo_CDFW.pdf](#)

**CITY OF ROLLING HILLS
HMGP-4383-175-13R
Vegetative Management Mitigation Project Phase 1**

Response to FEMA Questions

1. Provide a description of all vehicles and equipment that would be used to implement the project. Would vehicles and machinery use rubber tires or tracks?

Equipment type: pick-up trucks or stakeside trucks and trailers and wood chippers. Most of the work will be by hand with chain saws and weed whips, cutting and chipping materials. Veg 4 area: (see attached map). This area is one of the areas where some machinery (skid steer, brush hog, masticator) could be used because the vegetation type is invasive mustard. This area could be good candidate for mechanical removal unless deemed too sensitive in which case, hand treatment. The types of equipment will also depend on the equipment the awarded contractor selects for the work. It is anticipated that the equipment used will have rubber tires and or rubber tracks.

2. For any trees that will be removed, describe the felling and removal method (dragging, skidding, etc.). Would the trees be flush cut or would the rootballs be removed?

Chain saws will be used for the felling with trucks bucked up into rounds and removed. Some rounds will be left on slope. The felling and removal method can also be found in the prescription of work. Trees will be flush cut and roots left untouched to prevent any hillside erosion.

3. How and where would the removed vegetation be disposed (e.g., chipped and mulched on-site, removed off-site to landfill or compost facility)?

Most vegetation will be removed and chipped on-site into box truck or roll of dumpsters. Some vegetation will be lopped, scattered and left on-site. Maps of Veg 1-4 areas give locations of chipper staging areas. Paved roads, driveways, and turnouts will be used as staging areas.

4. Will herbicides be used? If herbicide use is required, identify the types of herbicides you propose to use and describe whether the herbicides would be used in riparian areas near streams, wetlands, or other waterbodies. Provide an estimate of the distance from the waterbody. Describe any BMPs that would be used to minimize the impact of herbicides on the environment and people in the project area.

No.

5. The application indicates that “The Project would limit fire spread and intensity in the steep canyons by strategically removing vegetation, trimming and liming trees, and creating proper spacing for less fuel continuity.”

a. How many actual work sites are being proposed and where is each located within the original 106 acre project area? Or do the four areas cover the contiguous 106 acres and only 20-25 acres within this will experience vegetative treatment?

The total project area is split into four areas (Veg 1-4 areas). The four areas total 104.6 acres. The vegetation treatment areas will be approximately 20-25 acres within the total area. Locations of the vegetation treatment areas will be based on the Bio assessment. Approximately 43 acres are in Bio categories that do not include threatened and endangered categories. Within those 43 project acres we estimate treatment of 20-25 acres.

b. How many acres of vegetative treatment are required to accomplish objectives within each of the four treatment sites?

To accomplish the objectives of the project, a total of approximately 20-25 acres of vegetation treatment is required. This acreage is made up of up a certain percentage of the areas identified by the Bio assessment for the entire project area: Up to but no more than 50% of bare areas 4 acres, 75 % of Ornamental and Agricultural areas 13 acres, 25% Rhus Integrifolia Alliance (lemonade and toyon) areas 1 acres, 50% Developed area 4 acres, for a total of 22 acres.

c. How wide will the buffers be around structures? 100 or 200 feet?

The buffer around structures will be 200 feet in Los Angeles County, defined by the Los Angeles Fire Code as defensible space.

d. Are these four the only treatment areas? Or will other vegetative management activities occur within the project area?

The four areas (Veg 1-4 areas) make up the entire project area. Vegetative management activities will occur within the percentage areas in each of the Bio assessed locations as described in 5b above.

e. Will there be additional areas required for staging equipment or removed materials?

Staging areas will be paved roads, and or driveways, as noted in the prescription of work. No other areas beyond the paved roads, and or driveways will be required for staging equipment or removed materials.

f. Is this a one-time activity or will these areas be maintained by the city long-term?

The city is working with residents within the project area to commit to maintaining the work annually or once every two years.

g. When is the vegetation removal work proposed to occur?

The vegetation treatment is planned for between the months of September and February to avoid impacts to local wildlife. The specific dates will depend on the award of implementation funds (Phase 2), and vendor availability.

h. How long does the city anticipates it will take to complete the work? X hours per day, X days per week, X weeks or months? Any night-time work required?

The Rolling Hills Community Association limits construction work in the community to 7am to 5pm, Monday through Saturday. The City anticipates no weekend work and no nighttime work. All work will be on private property and the City will coordinate with property owners. All work will be within the months of September to February. The duration of work (X months) will dependent on the awarded vendor.

i. Will any soil disturbing activities occur within the project area? Clearing and grubbing is indicated, but not discussed.

No soil disturbance activities will occur within the project area.

VEGETATION MAPS
Total Project Area Map
Veg 1 Map through Veg 4 Map

The Biologist Survey (Bio survey) identified 2 vegetation communities, and 3 cover classes, described as follows:

Vegetation Communities

- ***Rhus integrifolia* Shrubland Alliance (Lemonade Berry Scrub)**

Rhus integrifolia Shrubland Alliance (Lemonade Berry Scrub) communities are dominated by lemonade berry (*Rhus integrifolia*). The co-dominants in this community include, but are not limited to, chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), sticky monkey-flower (*Diplacus aurantiacus*), brittlebush (*Encelia farinose*), goldenbush (*Ericameria* spp.), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), chaparral yucca (*Hesperoyucca whipplei*), coastal goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*), chaparral mallow (*Malacothamnus fasciculatus*), laurel sumac, and sumac (*Rhus* spp.). The canopy layer is intermittent to continuous and two tiered with a variable herbaceous layer. This community is found on dry slopes, benches, and rarely flooded low-gradient deposits along streams. Within the BSA, this community is along the hillslopes adjacent to residential properties with a high density present along Quail Ridge Road North.

The project will take a conservative approach in managing vegetation in this area. The project will remove vegetation only if the vegetation is dead. *Rhus Integrifolia* Alliance (lemonade and toyon) are not protected by they are a great drought tolerant fire adopted species. The project will thin branches to create more space *Rhus Integrifolia* Alliance (lemonade and toyon) can be cut back and still be healthy. The project will strive to keep the limbs well off the ground. Most of the work in this area can be done with chain saws, chippers, and some larger rounds.

- ***Artemisia californica* - *Salvia mellifera* Shrubland Alliance (California Sagebrush – Black Sage Scrub)**

Artemisia californica – *Salvia mellidera* Shrubland Alliance (California sagebrush – black sage scrub) communities are dominated by California sagebrush and black sage. The co-dominants in this community include, but are not limited to, chamise, sticky monkey-flower, California brittlebush, California buckwheat, Chaparral yucca, deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*), laurel sumac, lemonade berry, sugar bush, and white sage (*Salvia apiana*). Shrubs are usually larger than 6.5 feet and sometimes two tiered with a intermittent to continuous canopy and a variable herbaceous layer. This community is found on steep, east- to southwest-facing slopes. Within the BSA, this community is along the hillslopes adjacent to the southern and western properties along Running Brand Road and Portuguese Bend Road.

The project would not conduct work any work within the California Sagebrush-Black Sage Scrub area.

Cover Classes

- **Developed**

Developed areas includes areas where human disturbance has resulted in permanent impacts on natural communities. These include paved areas, buildings, and other structures. Within the BSA, developed areas include paved driveways, residential homes, barns, pools, tennis courts, concrete lined drainages, roads, and other concrete paved areas. Some vegetation next to roads, on or against structures may be removed.

Paved roads, driveways, and turnouts will be used as staging areas.

- **Bare**

Bare areas consists of compacted soils with little to no vegetation. These areas are regularly maintained by weed whacking dry vegetation to reduce potential fire sources. Within the BSA, disturbed areas are adjacent to ornamental landscaped areas within residential properties.

The project in the disturbed areas will target invasive species removal, removal of dead or dying trees/shrubs. The project will also create spacing between plant and shrubs, especially when the vegetation is near structures or roads. Plant/shrubs will be spaced 2 to 1 ratio (i.e., 5 feet shrub with 10 feet space to the next shrub). The further away from structures, the more conservative the project will take in terms of vegetation treatment approach (thinning, instead of removal). Most of the work in this area can be done with chain saws and removed vegetation can be chipped and left on-site as mulch. The project will also lop and scatter for erosion control. Disturbed areas can vary from property to property.

- **Ornamental and Agricultural**

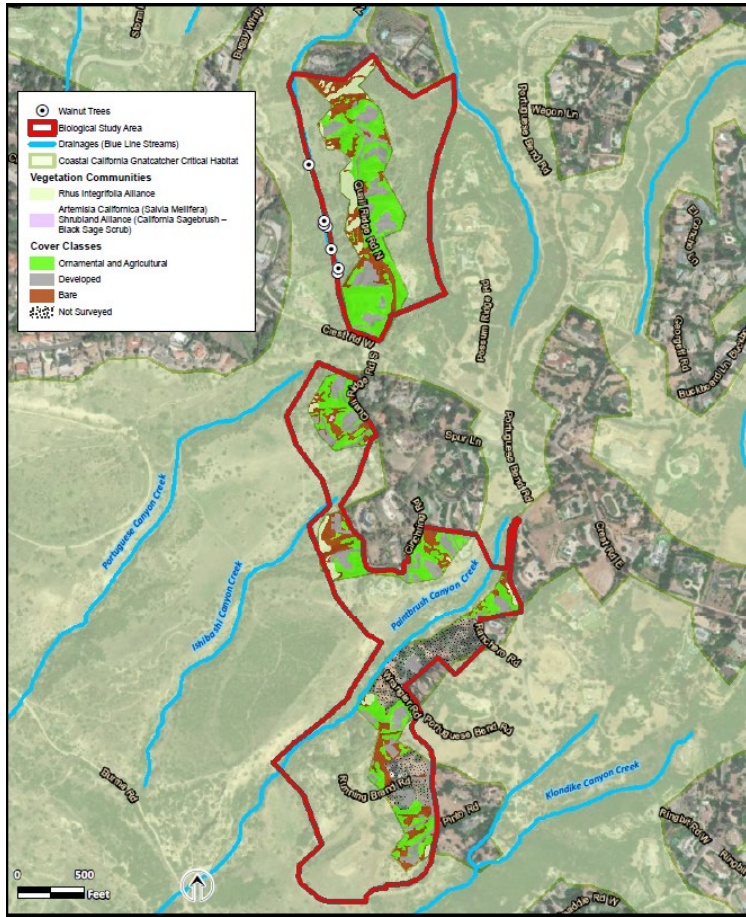
Ornamental and agricultural areas includes vegetation that predominately consists of non-native horticultural plants and orchard trees, including trees, shrubs, flowers, and turf grass. A component of these areas may include mulch. Ornamental landscaping species within the BSA include, but are not limited to, jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*), Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*), cherry tree (*Prunus* spp.), German ivy (*Senecio mikanioides*), and iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*). Within the BSA, Ornamental areas include front and back yards, lawns, and flower beds. Non-native trees within the BSA include, but are not limited to, Peruvian peppertree (*Schinus molle*), Brazilian peppertree (*Schinus terebinthifolia*), avocado tree (*Persea americana*), Meyer lemon tree (*Citrus x meyeri*), grapefruit tree (*Citrus paradisi*), orange tree (*Citrus sinensis*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.), Canary Island pine (*Pinus pinea*), and weeping fig (*Ficus benjamina*). Within the BSA, pockets of ornamental and agricultural vegetation was found on hill sides, residential orchards, and areas surrounding residential properties.

Many of the non-native trees planted in the project area were planted to enhance the ornamental landscape for aesthetic beauty, shade, and privacy. The project in the non-native

trees and ornamental/landscape areas will target removal of any dead and dying trees/shrubs, thin any dying limbs, target certain trees (palms, eucalyptus) to create good crown separation and spacing, thinning/removing lower branches and cleaning base of trees to prevent issues of ladder fires. Most of the work in this area can be done with chain saws, chippers, and some larger rounds.

The project will deploy vegetation treatment in the areas in the order listed, by four geographical areas (Veg 1 Quail Ridge North, Veg 2 Quail Ridge South, Veg 3 Cinchring, and Veg 4 Ranchero)

- Bare areas/developed areas
- Ornamental and agricultural
- Rhus Integrifolia Alliance (Lemonade Berry and Toyon Alliance)



MAP 1 - TOTAL PROJECT AREA Total Project area.

Treatments are based off of Bio Categories

Vegetations areas based off of bio category.



FIGURE 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES
City of Rolling Hills - Vegetation Management Plan

veg	acres (BSA)	acres (excluding gnatcatcher habitat)	treatment acreage
Artemisia Californica Shrubland Alliance	2.971511123	0.028889518	
Developed	13.36237157	9.267708192	4.63
Bare	31.09893892	7.587449332	3.75
Rhus Integrifolia Alliance	19.18741423	2.783361324	.675
Not surveyed	8.966154317	7.006584044	
Ornamental/landscaped	29.09173038	16.22754645	12.15
	104.6781205	43.	21.20

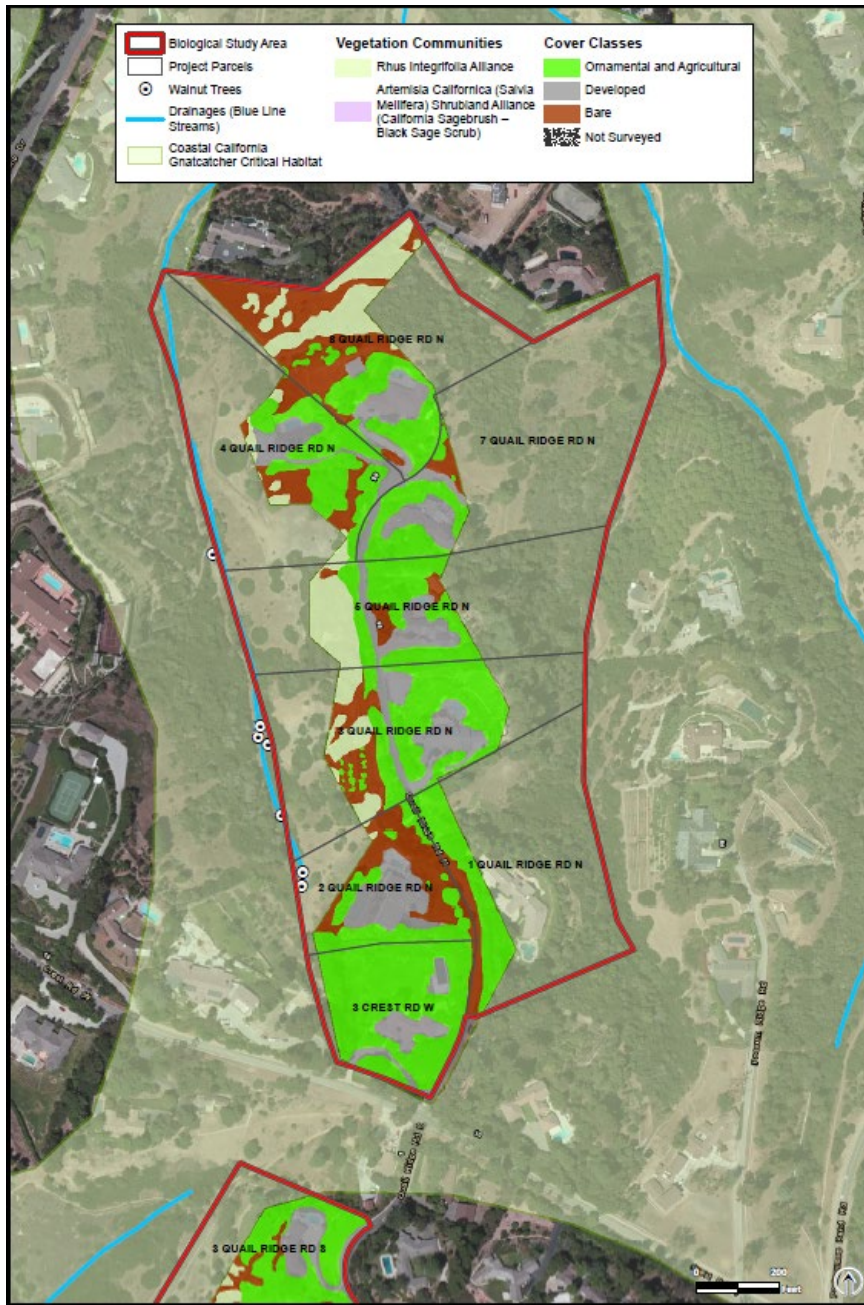


FIGURE 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - QUAIL RIDGE NORTH
City of Rolling Hills - Vegetation Management Plan

MAP 2- VEG 1 QUAIL RIDGE NORTH

Veg 1 Quale ridge North

East side of Quail ridge Focus on hand treatments of thinning *Rhus Integrifolia* Alliance (lemonade berry and toyon alliance), to create spacing, upper portion focus on disturbed areas, homeowners have done a good job with vegetation management in this area.

West side of quail ridge, look at some nonnatives near developed areas for spacing, focus work on disturbed area with minimal thinning of lemonade berry and toyon on this side of canyon, give a buffer of 50' to bottom of canyon on this side to avoid any possible blue line conflicts. Access from Cinchring rd dead end and turn out, utilized disturbed area to access these canyons.

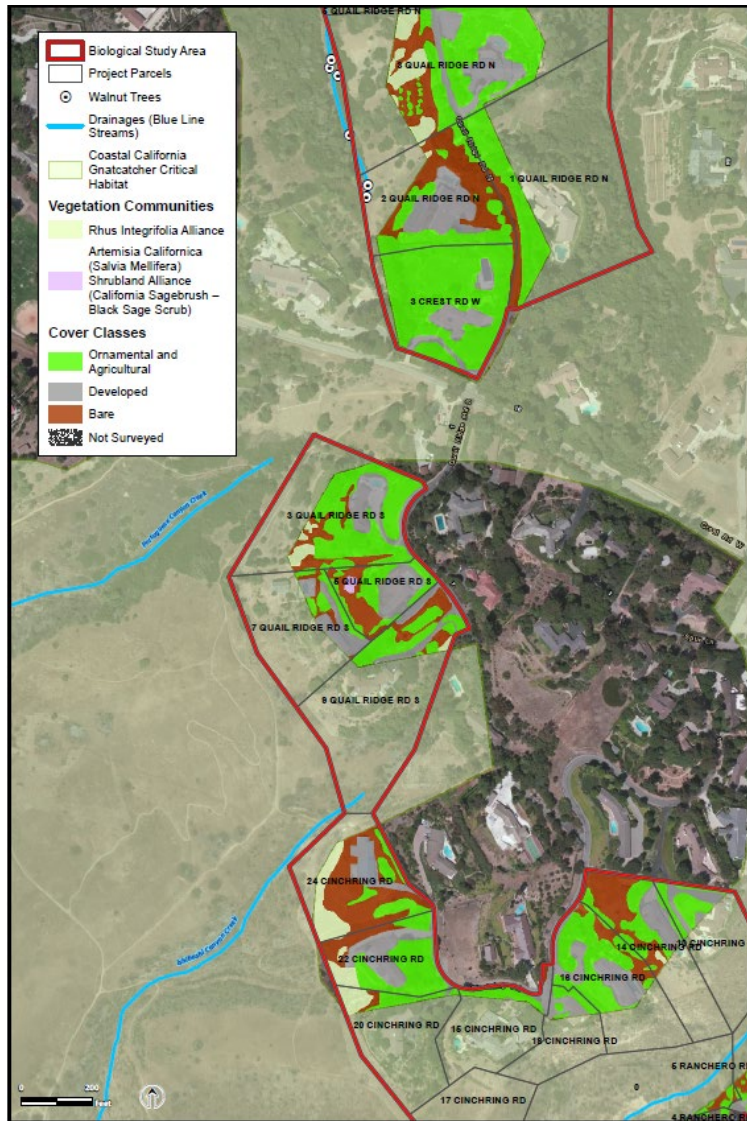


FIGURE 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - QUAIL RIDGE SOUTH
City of Rolling Hills - Vegetation Management Plan

MAP 3 - VEG 2 QUAIL RIDGE SOUTH

Veg 2 Quail Ridge South

Quail ridge access from 9 quail ridge south, target eucalyptus and heavier fuels lower canyon.

This will be chain saw work nonnative trees could be felled and bucked with round left on slope branches to be pulled and chipped. Focus on disturbed area removing nonnative invasive species.

Good access off Crest rd. for limbing and bucking creating spacing with hand treatment and chain saws.

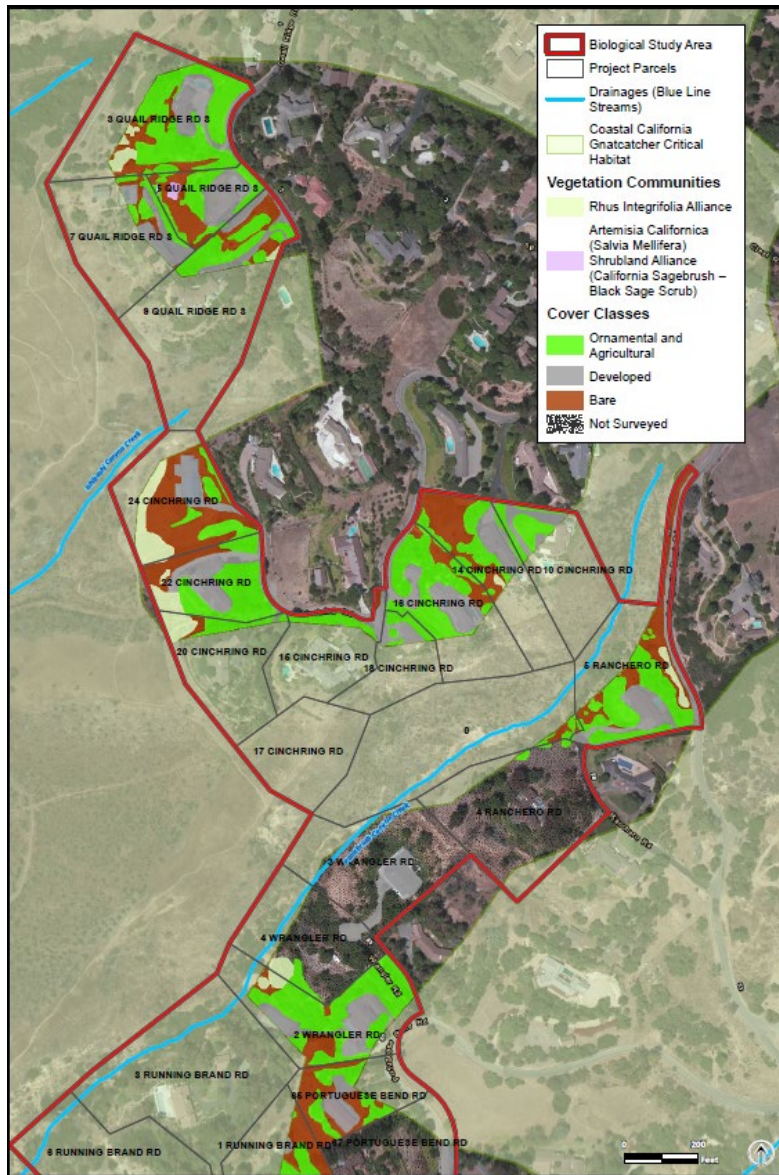


FIGURE 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - CINCHRING ROAD
City of Rolling Hills - Vegetation Management Plan

MAP 4 - VEG 3 CINCHRING

Veg 3 Cinchring

End of Ranchero road Mid-section here is thick with Arundo brush and some larger trees. Target removal for spacing and limb up large trees. Access is good for chipper here. Using chain saws and chippers.

Below Ranchero rd. Thicker larger trees from here down. In the gut of this canyon. Little Plato here where homeowner has done good clearance. Getting fuel out will be most difficult. These properties not participating in grant. Will access from Cinchring Road or end of Ranchero Road.

Access from Cinchring Road dead end and turn out, utilized disturbed area to access these canyons.

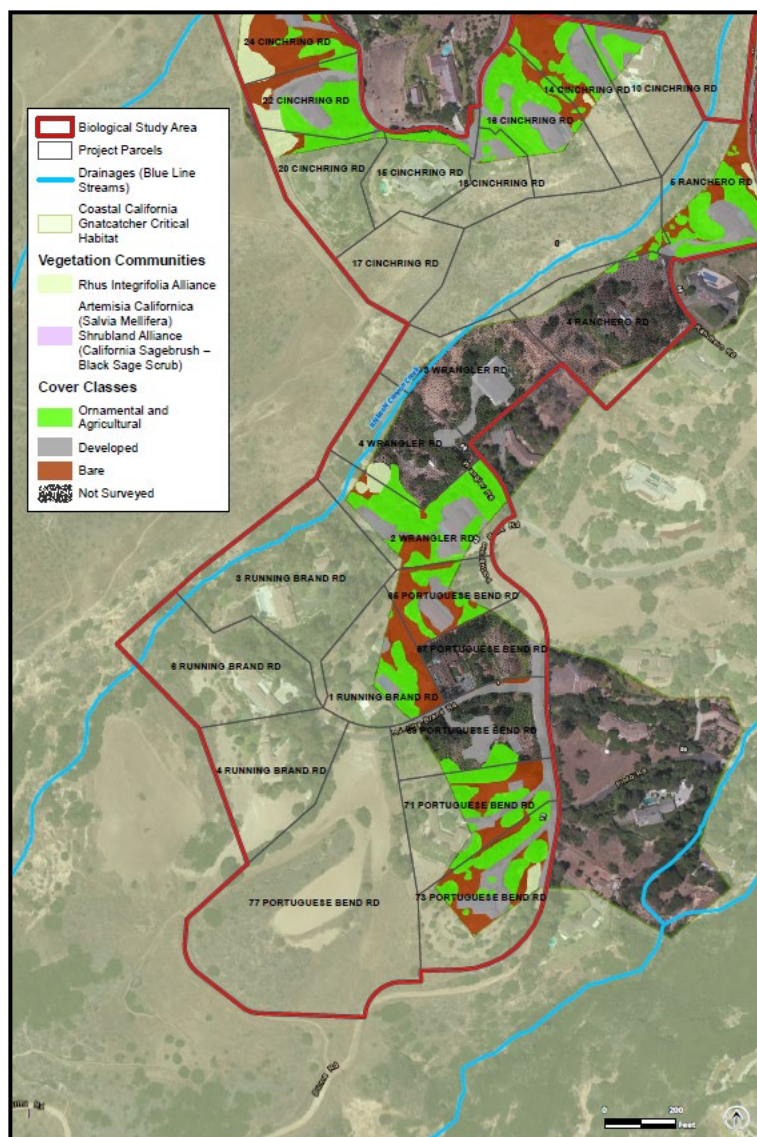


FIGURE 4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - PORTUGUESE BEND/RUNNING BRAND/WRANGLER/RANCHERO
City of Rolling Hills - Vegetation Management Plan

MAP 5 - VEG 4 RANCHO

Veg 4 Rancho

Access from Burma road south end target invasive mustard in the disturbed area. This has a dozer line (unimproved road) up and around the knoll, good access throughout this nonnative invasive disturbed area. This is a good area to stage a chipper. For south end of Veg -4 area. This area is one of the areas where some machinery could be used, Brush hog, masticator, off of the dozer line and disturbed area, vegetation type is mustard and could be good candidate for mechanical removal.

Mid-section of Veg 4

Access end of running brand road, through nonnative areas can access disturbed area for vegetation management with focus of vegetation management in disturbed area. This mid-section would be mostly hand work with chain saws and weed whips. Removal of dead and dying and thinning of toyon and lemonade) berry deeper in the bottom of canyon.

End of Wrangler road provides decent access, the canyon gets steep in the bottom, so some material may be easier

removed down to running brand road residence and station some chipping there upon homeowner's approval.



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

Agenda Item No.: 2.C
Mtg. Date: 09/13/2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST

THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE BLOCK CAPTAINS BRAINSTORMING SESSION ON MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMUNITY TO MANAGE FIRE FUEL IN THE CANYONS; CONSIDER THE MEASURES; AND RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO IMPLEMENT THE MEASURES.

DATE: September 13, 2022

BACKGROUND:

On July 14, 2022, a total of nine Block Captains including Block Captain Leads Arlene and Gene Honbo held a Brainstorming Session. The purpose of the session was to record as many ideas as possible and prioritize those ideas by consensus that then would translate into projects to incentivize and support residents to manage canyons of excess fire fuel.

DISCUSSION:

Based on ideas generated from the Brainstorming Session, the following "Canyon Management Implementation Ideas" were discussed at the Block Captain quarterly meeting held on August 18, 2022 for recommendation to the City's Fire Fuel Committee:

- Consider developing a Canyon Management model like "Hardening the Home" and "Annual Brush Inspections." The canyon management inspections and recommendations should be conducted by subject matter experts, LA County Fire Department Forestry Division.
- Consider establishing a Canyon Management "Program Office" for residents to call, contact and/or access via the web for "one-stop shop" on fire fuel Canyon Management. Identify and incorporate tools and resources used by the LA County Fire Department Forestry Division.
- Consider defining specific education and communication messages for residents on importance of Canyon Management.
- Consider other possible actions for City to take under "public safety."

On July 29, 2022, Staff and Block Captain Leads Arlene and Gene Honbo met with Los Angeles County Fire Department Chief Bennett and Assistant Chief Moore to inquire whether the County Fire Department would conduct complimentary canyon management inspections

similar to the "Hardening the Home" inspections. Staff received confirmation that the Fire Department would do so.

In the event that the Committee approves the establishment of the Canyon Management "Program Office", Staff may seek services with Wildland Res Management to assist the City.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal impact would depend on the City Council's direction to staff on implementing the measures developed from the Block Captains Brainstorming Session.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a Report on the Block Captains Brainstorming Session on Measures to Encourage the Community to Management Fire Fuel in the Canyons; Consider the Measures; and Recommend to the City Council to Implement the Measures

ATTACHMENTS:

[CL_AGN_220913_FFC_BC Brainstorming Session Notes rev 7.25.2022.pdf](#)

BC Brainstorming Session Notes

July 14, 2022

Special Events for BCs

1. Picnic with food outdoors
2. Food Trucks – Philly Cheese Steaks
3. Christmas Celebrations at City Hall
4. Picnic at site like “Hix Ring” where work can be seen/demonstration project
5. Or picnic at site that needs to be managed
 - Picnic, food truck, etc.
6. Include leadership - City Council/RHCA Board
7. Coincide with Zone meetings – October
8. Include families
9. Potential BCs

RHCA Canyon Management Activities

1. Use Fire Fuel Strategies document as reference for residents (website, sent to residents)
2. Maintenance of Rings
 - Hix Ring
3. Maintenance roadsides, bridle trails
4. Educate – videos, notification to all residents
 - Magazines
 - E-newsletter (proposal)
5. Board Executive Committee – A. Smith, D. McKinnie
 - Projects for community
 - Upper Si’s Trail proposed project as demonstration project along roadside
6. Survey at Seniors event – 20 households

Ideas

1. Must be easy/centralized – **5 votes**
 - Ex. Call # for vendor to get estimate/rate and vendor knows/what to do
 - Centralized place/number
 - Easy for residents
 - Work with other groups to centralize
2. Easy for resident to put dumpster on property or easy to dump. City to provide service **2 votes**
3. Develop step-by-step personal evaluation/inspection by “expert”. Professional assessment **2 votes**
4. People need to know their property lot/boundaries - what they are responsible for
5. Divide clearance work into stages/simplify
 - Tree maintenance
 - Mosaic clearing, etc.
6. Forestry should inspect canyons **8 votes**

- Beyond 200 ft. (individuals)
 - Look at entire canyons and
 - Recommend steps for residents and resources
 - And can SCE (Edison) add \$/resources to help
 - Digital map of canyons/with pictures so residents know what canyons look
 - Better tools to evaluate risk
 - Property lines , “Red Spots”
7. Not just resident’s problem but State problem; are there others who can help pay for clearance **1 vote**
- City?
 - Utility?
 - Others?
 - Utilities should be contacted for funding
8. Can insurance rep/company give discount for rate coverage? **1 vote**
9. Utilities should be contacted for funding – *MOVED TO #7*
10. New residents should get “information kit” to get educated on canyon management
11. Pricing/estimates may be cost prohibitive. Help residents who pass “means test” **1 vote**
12. Need a centralized system for people to follow clearance
- Can’t continue to educate individually over long period of time
13. How do we incentivize residents to care and take action? **1 vote**
- More “horror” stories?
 - “Knowledge is power”
14. Incentives for “shared project” across neighbors
- Share resources for mutual safety
 - Close to home place to start
 - For “shared canyons” residents should be identified for action to be taken
15. Enforcement (FD?) needs to be consistent **2 votes**
- What about empty homes? Who is responsible (rentals) or caring?
 - Is this responsibility of Code Enforcement
 - Vacant lots (Agriculture Dept.)
 - Focus our efforts to add “new residents” to establish culture/sense of caring/important and “ignore” people who don’t care; don’t waste our time
16. Can we start with people who HTH? They “care” and highlight success
17. Add other known techniques like FosCheck for options to manage canyons fuel **1 vote**
18. How do we address w/ the few who threaten the entire community
- Few=(those who “non-compliant”?)

19. How do we assess cost alternatives? **3 votes**
 - Ex. Foscheck vs. clearing
20. We need an “ordinance” that is enforceable
 - Issue: CEQA study (heavy State regulations)
21. Ask the FD for their recommendations for beyond 200 ft. including “prescribed burns” **5 votes**
22. How to incentivize/remind BCs to remind neighbors?

2023 FIRE FREE

6. **8 VOTES:** Forestry should inspect canyons
 - Beyond 200 ft (individuals)
 - Look at entire canyons and
 - Recommend steps for residents and resources
 - And can SCE (Edison) add \$/resources to help
 - Digital map of canyons/in pictures so residents know what canyons look
 - Better tools to evaluate risk
 - Property lines “red spots”
 - Digital map “public”
 - Forestry plus RH-specific pictures
 - Property lines are important
 - Responsible entities: Forestry/FD; City/RHCA; Residents
22. **5 VOTES:** How to incentivize/remind BCs to remind neighbors?
1. **5 VOTES:** Must be easy/centralized
 - Ex. Call # for vendor to get estimate/rate and vendor knows/what to do
 - Centralized place/number
 - Easy for residents
 - Work with other groups to centralize
 - Vendors- rate and distinguish those who are experienced. Similar to certification program by RHCA on website.
- #19: How do we assess cost alternatives?
 - Ex. Foscheck vs. clearing
18. **3 VOTES:** How do we address w/ the few who threaten the entire community
 - Few=(those who “non-compliant”?)
 - Use the digital map to identify residents
 - “Color shade” high risks canyons/roadsides
 - Ask City under “safety” responsibility or “dead vegetation ordinance”



City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

Agenda Item No.: 2.D
Mtg. Date: 09/13/2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST

THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT: DISCUSS THE ROLLING HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION'S
RECENT CANYON MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AT
SI'S TRAIL BEGINNING AT THE CORNER OF PORTUGUESE BEND
ROAD AND CREST ROAD**

DATE: September 13, 2022

BACKGROUND:

The Rolling Hills Community Association (RHCA) implemented a fuel management demonstration project at Si's Trail (on the north west corner of Crest Drive West and Portuguese Bend Road). The RHCA informed the community that the project was a demonstration of the fuel management measures outlined in the City's fuel management in the canyons educational videos (see attached photos).

DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Leah Mirsch requested to have this item on the agenda for discussion.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Committee member Mirsch will lead the discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

[CL_AGN_220913_FFC_Si's Trail.pdf](#)























City of Rolling Hills

INCORPORATED JANUARY 24, 1957

Agenda Item No.: 2.E
Mtg. Date: 09/13/2022

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: VANESSA HEVENER, SENIOR MANAGEMENT ANALYST

THRU: ELAINE JENG P.E., CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONSIDER AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT FIRE FUEL COMMITTEE MEETING AND SET THE NEXT MEETING DATE.

DATE: September 13, 2022

BACKGROUND:

None

DISCUSSION:

None

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide direction staff.

ATTACHMENTS: