

SUMMARY MATRIX

POTENTIAL WILDFIRE SAFETY URGENCY ORDINANCE

<u>1. Gravel as Site Coverage Adjacent to Homes</u> PURPOSE: Create a noncombustible Zone 0 within five feet of buildings to reduce ember ignition, which is often landscaped. CURRENT RULE: Gravel counts as permeable site coverage, while combustible bark and mulch do not. This can penalize homeowners who choose safer material. PROPOSED CHANGE: Exempt gravel within five feet of a structure from site coverage calculations. Existing Design Guidelines for natural, muted, earth-tone materials would still apply. Effective immediately.	<u>2. Firewood & Combustible Storage</u> PURPOSE: Keep firewood, lumber, and similar materials from becoming ignition sources next to homes. CURRENT RULE: City codes prohibit hazardous conditions generally. In mapped hazard/WUI areas, storage is prohibited under buildings, decks, eaves, and projections; piles generally require 30-foot separation unless covered, plus 10 feet of bare-mineral-soil clearance. In all other areas, only property maintenance code applies. PROPOSED CHANGE: Apply the existing hazard-zone and WUI storage requirements citywide. Effective immediately.
<u>3. Ember-Resistant Vents</u> PURPOSE: Prevent wind-driven embers from entering attics and crawlspaces through ventilation openings. CURRENT RULE: Mapped hazard/WUI area properties must use State Fire Marshal-listed or ASTM E2886-compliant vents. In all other areas, the Building Code regulates only opening size (1/16 to 1/4 inch). PROPOSED CHANGE: Require ember-resistant vents citywide when vents are replaced or altered. Effective when components are replaced or altered.	<u>4. Fire-Resistant Windows</u> PURPOSE: Improve resistance to radiant heat, flame exposure, and ember intrusion through failed glazing. CURRENT RULE: Mapped hazard/WUI areas require dual-pane glazing with at least one tempered pane and 20-minute fire rated assembly. In all other areas, only placement is regulated based on separation from property line. PROPOSED CHANGE: Apply existing hazard-zone and WUI glazing standards citywide. Effective when components are replaced or altered.

IMPLEMENTATION RULES

- Vent and window standards would apply when components are replaced or altered - not immediate retrofits.
- Exceptions apply where strict compliance conflicts with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Properties