



AGENDA SUMMARY EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Bill No. 1048 Designation of Local Fire Hazard Severity Zones

DEPARTMENT: Humboldt Bay Fire

PREPARED BY: Timothy Citro, Fire Chief

PRESENTED FOR: ☒ Action ☐ Information only ☐ Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

Waive full reading, read by title only and Introduce Bill No. 1048-C.S., an Ordinance approving the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).

FISCAL IMPACT

☒ No Fiscal Impact ☐ Included in Budget ☐ Additional Appropriation

COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION

Health and Safety: Committing to public health and safety, improving services and emergency responses for a secure, welcoming community.

DISCUSSION

In accordance with California Government Code Sections §51178 and §51179, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is required to identify and classify Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) within Local Responsibility Areas based on factors such as fuel loading, slope, fire weather, and historical fire behavior. The updated maps incorporate the latest fire behavior modeling, vegetation data, and climate change considerations to ensure consistency with current conditions and support local land-use planning, building standards, and wildfire mitigation efforts. The updated FHSZ map identifies areas within the City of Eureka as either **No Hazard** or **Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone**, with no areas classified as High or Very High. "Moderate" represents the lowest level of FHSZ designation.

City staff have reviewed the CAL FIRE data and map boundaries for consistency with local topography and historical fire patterns and concur with the findings. Adoption of the LRA FHSZ map demonstrates the City's ongoing commitment to wildfire safety, maintains eligibility for state and federal hazard mitigation programs, and aligns local policy with statewide wildfire resilience strategies. Adoption of the map is **not a project**

under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15378(b)(5), as it constitutes an administrative action by a regulatory agency for general policy implementation.