



Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Grisanti and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Elizabeth Shavelson, Deputy City Manager

Reviewed by: Joseph Toney, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Steve McClary, Interim City Manager

Date prepared: May 29, 2022 Meeting date: June 13, 2022

Subject: Support for Fire and Emergency Preparedness-Related Legislation: Assembly Bill (AB) 2377 Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation and AB 2477 Minimum Operating Standards for Emergency Alerts and Warning System Providers (Mayor Grisanti)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: At the request of Mayor Grisanti, authorize the Mayor to send letters of support for: 1) AB 2377, a bill to expand the responsibilities of the Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation at the Office of the State Fire Marshal; and 2) AB 2477, a bill that would create minimum operating standards for emergency alert and warning service providers.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

WORK PLAN: This item was not included in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. This project is part of normal staff operations.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Grisanti is requesting Council support for two bills currently being considered by the State Legislature related to fire and emergency preparedness:

1. AB 2377, introduced by Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi, would expand the responsibilities of the Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation at the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Existing law establishes a Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation, within the Office of the State Fire Marshal, who is responsible for fire preparedness and mitigation missions of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This bill

would expand the deputy director's responsibilities to include, among other things, prioritizing acres for fire and fuels treatment and executing those treatments. The expanded duties will also include streamlining required regulatory approvals, including the synchronization of permits required by the department, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and regional water quality control boards, as those permits relate to forest management activities.

2. AB 2477, introduced by Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez, would require the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) in the office of the Governor to adopt minimum operating standards for private sector companies that provide alert and warning services to local entities before July 1, 2024.

Existing law requires the OES, in consultation with specified entities, to develop voluntary guidelines for alerting and warning the public of an emergency, and requires the OES to provide each city, county, and city and county with a copy of the guidelines. Existing law authorizes the OES to impose conditions upon application for voluntary grant funding that it administers requiring operation of alert and warning activities consistent with the guidelines. Existing law also requires the OES, within 6 months of making the statewide guidelines available and at least annually thereafter and through its California Specialized Training Institute, to develop an alert and warning training, as specified.

Both bills have passed out of the Assembly and are being referred to Senate Policy Committees, which will occur in late June before the legislature breaks for a July recess. The language of the bills may change through this process. Staff will monitor for any substantive changes that would impact the position of the City.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Draft Letter of Support for AB 2377
- 2) Draft Letter of Support for AB 2477



City of Malibu

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June XX, 2022

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
Assembly Member, 66th District
1021 O Street, Suite 5610
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2377: Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation –
SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Muratsuchi,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Malibu, I write to express our support for your AB 2377, which would expand the responsibilities of the Deputy Director (Deputy Director) of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation at the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

California's wildfire crisis is showing no signs of slowing down. Between 1984 and 2020, annual forest fires in California increased by more than 1,100%, with 2020 considered as the worst wildfire season in California's history. The City of Malibu was significantly impacted by the Woolsey Fire in 2018, which burned over 96,000 acres and destroyed over 1,600 structures in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. California needs a comprehensive, cabinet level office, to coordinate wildfire preparedness amongst state agencies and stakeholders involved with managing wildfire and climate change.

Expanding the responsibilities of the Deputy Director will bring enhanced focus to implementing recommendations within the Wildfire and Forest Resiliency Action Plan. This position will oversee and perform a number of tasks ranging from prioritization of acres to treat, streamlining the required regulatory approvals, executing treatments, and providing a full progress report and identifying potential obstacles. This will help establish a leadership role to align and integrate activities while coordinating resources to ensure we have accurate preventative wildfire measures.

For these reasons, the City of Malibu supports AB 2377 and urges the legislature to pass it. If you have any questions, please contact Interim City Manager Steve McClary. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,



City of Malibu

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June X, 2022

The Honorable Freddie Rodriguez
Assembly Member, 52nd District
1021 O Street, Suite 5250
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2477: Standards for Private Sector Alert and Warning Service Providers – SUPPORT

Dear Asembly Member Rodriguez,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Malibu, I write to express our support for your AB 2477, which would require the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to adopt minimum operating standards for private sector companies that provide alert.

State and local governmental entities rely on private sector contractors to issue emergency alerts and warnings throughout California. Local emergency managers rely upon these vendors to routinely warn the public of fires, floods, extreme temperatures, or areas to avoid due to police activity or other hazardous activities. Local alert and warning systems are also critically important during major disasters, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, major fires and pandemics. Alerts can convey vital information about evacuation routes and shelter locations. Given the importance of emergency alert and warning programs to our communities, Cal OES should develop minimum operating standards for private sector vendors to ensure these platforms are resilient to all types of disasters.

AB 2477 would require Cal OES to develop and adopt these minimum operating standards for private sector companies that provide alert and warning services to local entities. For these reasons, the City of Malibu supports AB 2477 and urges the legislature to pass it. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact Interim City Manager, Steve McClary via email at smcclary@malibucity.org.

Sincerely,