

# WUI VEGETATION CODE WORKGROUP

## SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

2:30 PM

Redwood Room – 2180 Milvia St. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor North

Fire Chief's Representative – Asst. Chief Colin Arnold

Assistant Chief David Winnacker  
Richard Illgen  
George Perez-Velez

Eric Weaver  
Margit Roos-Collins

## MINUTES

### Preliminary Matters

**Call to Order: 2:35 PM**

**Present:**

- Assistant Fire Chief, Colin Arnold
- Eric Weaver
- Richard Illgen
- Margit Roos-Collins
- George Perez-Velez

**Not Present:**

- Assistant Fire Chief, David Winnacker

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters**

Public Members: 5 comments

**AGENDA MATTERS** *All Regular agenda matters are for discussion and possible action.*

- 1. Action:** Discussion of existing local code amendments to ensure clarity and conduct a final review of the proposed revisions to the annotated Vegetation Ordinance prior to submission to the Fire Chief for review and consideration.
- Written Materials:** Vegetation Ordinance, Annotated  
Clean Copy of Vegetation Ordinance
- Discussion:** The group conducted a detailed review and discussion of the annotated vegetation ordinance in preparation for submission to the Fire Chief. Key points of discussion were language regarding fences, existing fences, ground cover, and terminology for tree canopy. A proposal was made from a member to update language addressing trees integrated into decks, consideration of best available fire science and interest in continuing to evaluate enforcement issues and possible state-level exceptions. The group discussed preparing a letter from the working group to Council. The group agreed to submit the proposed revised ordinance language to the Fire Chief for review and consideration.

## WORK GROUP REPORTS

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM on a motion by Margit Roos-Collins, seconded by Eric Weaver, and approved by consensus.

*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to the Wildland Urban Interface Division of the Berkeley Fire Department, [wildfire@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:wildfire@berkeleyca.gov) 510-981-5620. Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Berkeley Fire Department located at 2100 Martin Luther King Jr. Way Berkeley, CA.*

#### COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

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contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

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I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City's Disaster and Fire Safety Commission was posted at the front of the Division of Training, 997 Cedar Street, as well as on the City's website, three days prior to the scheduled Commission meeting.

SECRETARY SIGNATURE

*Colin Arnold*