

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Luke Watson, Director of Community Development

DATE: July 27, 2021

SUBJECT: Adopt Weed Abatement Lien Resolution for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21

PREPARED BY: Brian Clements, Building Official

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council adopt a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TEMECULA ORDERING CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL
ASSESSMENTS AGAINST PARCELS OF LAND WITHIN THE
CITY OF TEMECULA FOR COSTS OF ABATEMENT AND
REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS VEGETATION FOR FISCAL
YEARS 2019-20 AND 2020-21

BACKGROUND: The City of Temecula is responsible for the abatement of hazardous vegetation for properties that are not cleared of hazardous vegetation during the spring and summer abatement season. On May 1, 2020, City Manager approved an agreement with Inland Empire Property Services to bring parcels with hazardous conditions into compliance with the Temecula Municipal Code. The owners of these parcels are billed by the City to recover the costs of the contractor plus an administrative fee. If the owners do not respond to the billing request, the City places a lien on the property to recover the costs of abatement.

All of the owners were properly notified via certified mail, return receipt requested, of the need to abate hazardous vegetation conditions on their properties and were given thirty days to remove the hazardous vegetation themselves prior to the City taking forced abatement action. In 2019-20, forced abatement was delayed on eight properties, resulting in missing the Assessor's deadline. As such, these properties are included in Exhibit A.

As per the Temecula Municipal Code Section 8.16.090, the lien process requires that a public hearing be held before the City Council to take comments from the property owners with respect to the costs proposed to be assessed against their properties and to confirm those costs. The Notice of Public Hearing was printed in the Press Enterprise on July 15, 2021. Following the public hearing, the Council must adopt a resolution for the fiscal year which:

1. Confirms the costs incurred by the City in performing the forced abatement work.
2. Provides that the actual abatement costs will become a lien upon the properties, and upon recordation, in the amount of the costs shown on the attached Exhibit A.
3. Provides that the resolution will be transmitted to the Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector so the amounts of the assessment can be entered upon the parcels as they appear on the assessment rolls and the costs will be collected on the property tax bill.

Upon adoption of the resolution, staff will forward the adopted resolution for filing with the Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector and for recording with the County Recorder.

FISCAL IMPACT: The recording of these liens will enable the City to recover abatement costs through the County's property tax collection system. The City will recover actual amounts paid out to the weed abatement contractor. The City will also recover an administrative fee placed on each parcel that was abated by the City's contractor.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Exhibit A – Abatement Charges for FYs 2019-20 and 2020-21
3. Notice of Public Hearing