Atascadero City Council
Staff Report – Fire Department

Weed Abatement – Hearing of Objections

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Council:

1. Hear all objections to the proposed removal of vegetative growth and/or refuse and allow or overrule any objections, and,
2. Authorize the Fire Chief to proceed and perform the work of abatement.

DISCUSSION:

The Municipal Code, Section 6-13.03, addresses the abatement of vegetative growth and/or refuse, which constitute a hazard. The Fire Department conducted its initial inspection during the month of April. There are approximately 11,088 parcels within the City.

Compliance with the Weed Abatement Section of our Municipal Code is a critical component of our Fuel Management Plan. The City of Atascadero does not want to be in the mowing business. The intent of this program is to encourage citizens to independently manage the weeds on their properties. The City charges a 150% administrative fee as a fine to those properties that are not in compliance with the Municipal Code. An efficient Fuel Management Program helps the City keep wildland fires at a minimum and staffing down.

As part of the abatement process, the City Council is required to hear objections to the proposed removal of vegetative growth and/or refuse. This hearing allows any affected property owner to object to the proposed abatement of hazards on their property.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None. Costs involved in administering this program are recovered through the 150% administrative fee charged to parcels abated by the City Contractor.
ALTERNATIVES:

No alternative is recommended.

ATTACHMENTS:

None