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CITY OF OAKLAND



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COUNCIL MEMBER SHENG THAO
DISTRICT 4

(510) 238-7004
District4@Oaklandca.gov

Date: November 7, 2019
To: Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Sheng Thao
Re: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING WILDFIRE PREVENTION A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND

Dear Colleagues,

I respectfully request your support for the attached Resolution.

Climate change is greatly escalating the threat and damage of wildfires throughout the state. Year after year we witness communities across the state completely destroyed by fires. These tragedies led to massive homelessness, displacement, destruction of private property, and devastation of natural habitats.

Oakland is not exempt from these disasters; in 1991 our city was victim to the third most deadly wildfire in California history. The Tunnel Fire burned 1,500 acres of land, killed 25 people, injured over 150 people, and cost an estimated \$1.5 billion in damage. Given the outdated PG&E equipment and above ground wires in the Oakland hills and our high risk for earthquake it is essential that Oakland prioritize wildfire prevention. This is why we have introduced this resolution.

This resolution would request that the City Administrator present a report to the Public Safety Committee within 180 days that addresses how city departments will address wildfire prevention in their planning, programs and projects for Oakland's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), including the extent to which the strategies will involve multi-disciplinary and multi-agency teams in the development of pre-fire plans. Also, what wildfire prevention plans will include such as home hardening, evacuation and other wildfire prevention strategies for both private and public properties, and public communication strategies, before, during and after a wildfire event. Finally, the extent to which wildfire prevention will be addressed in the next updates to the City's General Plan, Safety, Open Space, Hazard Mitigation Plans and other similar plans.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Sheng Thao
District 4

Handwritten signature of Councilmember Sheng Thao in black ink.

Councilmember Dan Kalb
District 1

Handwritten signature of Councilmember Dan Kalb in black ink.