



AGENDA REPORT

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

City Council Meeting

910 Calle Negocio
2nd Floor
San Clemente, California
www.san-clemente.org

Meeting Date: 2/7/2023

Agenda Item: 7B

Department: Code Compliance Division
Prepared By Adam Atamian, Deputy Community Development Director

Subject:
BILLING FOR 2022 WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Fiscal Impact:

The gross cost for the 2022 Weed Abatement Program was \$132,042.51. The program is funded under the budget account number 001-452-43470-000-0000. The majority of the program cost is passed on to the non-compliant property owners or to City departments who have purview over parcels serviced by this program. Upon City Council authorization, staff will pursue reimbursement of expenses associated with weed abatement of private properties.

Summary:

The San Clemente City Council establishes an annual Weed Abatement Program administered by the Code Compliance Division to reduce the fire hazard of weeds and debris on vacant lots and unoccupied structured parcels in San Clemente. The 2022 Weed Abatement program was completed and the Code Compliance Division requests authorization to now bill those property owners who did not clear their own properties after having been served notice to do so.

Background:

On May 3, 2022, the City Council held a Public Hearing and passed Resolution 22-17 authorizing the City's Weed Abatement Contractor to clear all vacant lots and unoccupied, developed properties within the City that were not in compliance with the weed abatement standards. In accordance with Section 29575 of the California Government Code, the noticing and posting of the charges has been successfully carried out by the City. In accordance with Section 29574 of the Government Code, the 2022 Weed Abatement Report is hereby submitted as Attachment 1.

Discussion:

The California Government Code outlines the process for the Weed Abatement Program. Part of the process includes a public hearing to allow citizens to express any concerns pertaining to the weed abatement process and consequent billing. In the event that the property owner does not pay the bill presented, the Accounting Division will return to the City Council during July 2023 for authorization to attach the bill amount as a special assessment (lien) against the property.

The past practice of the City Council has been to waive the City's notification costs for the property owners that have complied with weed abatement notifications.

Recommended Actions:

Staff Recommendation

STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. WAIVE THE CITY'S NOTIFICATION COSTS FOR THE COMPLIANT PROPERTY OWNERS;
2. APPROVE THE WEED ABATEMENT REPORT BY MOTION; AND
3. AUTHORIZE THE WEED ABATEMENT CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR TO BILL THE AMOUNTS INDICATED IN THE REPORT TO THE APPROPRIATE PROPERTY OWNERS.

Attachment:

1. Weed Abatement Administrative Charges Report
2. Weed Abatement Expenditure Cost Breakdown Report
3. List of Non-compliant Properties

Notification:

Ed Stewart & Associates

Public Hearing Notice published in the San Clemente Times on January, 26, 2023

WEED ABATEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES REPORT FOR 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES			
Contract Services			
Contract Weed Abatement Administration:			\$200
Charge per non-complaint parcel and inspections:		\$ 200.00 X 21 properties:	\$4,200.00
Notifications mailed to:		520 property owners	
City Staff w/Benefit Costs		Total Hours	Total Rate w/benefits
Code Compliance Manager		20	\$ 1,883.42
Finance FAS: \$63.89 UB: \$ 45.83 CM: \$201.04 AR: \$45.83		11.2	\$ 699.83
City Clerk		1.5	\$ 91.28
Total Expenditures For Weed Abatement For Year	2022		\$ 6,874.53
Charges Waived for Compliant Lots	499		\$ (2,566.52)
Total Charges for Non-Compliant Lots			\$ 4,308.01
Total Number of Private Lots Cleared	21		21
Administrative Cost per Non-Compliant Lot:			\$ 205.14

WEED ABATEMENT EXPENDITURE COST BREAKDOWN REPORT FOR 2022

WEED ABATEMENT EXPENDITURES			
Cost to Abate/Cut fees charged to Non-Compliant Properties Without \$200 Administrative Fee	21		\$ 7,366.80
Costs to Clean City Reservoirs Sites (Costs are forwarded to Water Division for return of costs to the General Fund)	23		\$ 27,521.20
Cost to Clean City-Owned Lots/Parcels	52		\$ 77,849.50
Program Administrative Cost			\$ 15,000.00
Total			\$ 127,737.50
Administrative Charges			\$ 6,874.53
Waived fees for Compliant Lots			\$ (2,566.52)
Contract Services for Weed Abatement			\$ 127,737.50
Total Expenditures for Weed Abatement Program 2022			\$ 132,042.51

Attachment 3 – List of Noncompliant Properties is on file with the City Clerk.