

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BURLINGAME APPROVING AND ADOPTING LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREA (LRA) FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES AS DESIGNATED BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 211; CEQA DETERMINATION: EXEMPT PURSUANT TO STATE CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15378 AND 15061(B)(3)

WHEREAS, recent updates to Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in California provide a more accurate assessment of wildfire risks based on modern climate data and fire modeling; these updates affect both State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and Local Responsibility Areas (LRA), influencing fire prevention measures, building codes, and real estate disclosures; and

WHEREAS, Local Agencies are required to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high and very high severity zones in their jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Assembly Bill 211 (AB211), Government Code 51178, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Government Code 51178 requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas; moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones are based on fuel loading, slope, fire weather, and other relevant factors including areas where winds have been identified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal as a major cause of wildfire spread;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGAME DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals

The recitals set forth above are true and correct, and are hereby incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. Adopting Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The City Council of the City of Burlingame hereby designates the Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Government Code Section 51178. The map, "City of Burlingame Fire Hazard Severity Zones, dated February 24, 2025, and attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby approved and incorporated by reference.

Section 3. CEQA Determination

The City Council finds and determines this Ordinance is not a project within the meaning of section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines because it has no potential for resulting in physical change in the environment, either directly or ultimately. In the event that this Ordinance is found to be a project under CEQA, it is subject to the CEQA exemption contained in CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty to have no possibility of a significant effect on the environment.

Section 4. Severability

If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion or sections of the Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Burlingame hereby declares that it would have adopted the Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.

Section 5. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall go into effect 30 days following its adoption.

Section 6. Publication

The City Clerk is directed to publish this ordinance in a manner required by law.

Section 7. Codification

This Ordinance shall not be codified in the Burlingame Municipal Code.

I, MEAGHAN HASSEL-SHEARER, City Clerk of the City of Burlingame, certify that the foregoing ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council held on 21st day of April 2025, and adopted thereafter at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the ____ day of _____ by the following votes:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

ATTEST:

Meaghan Hassel - Shearer, City Clerk