



Susan Wengraf
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
June 10, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Wengraf
Subject: Referral to Fire and Disaster Commission and Parks and Waterfront Commission Regarding a Ban on New Planting of Certain Tree Species

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Fire and Disaster Commission and the Parks and Waterfront Commission establishing a ban on the new planting of certain species of trees including Monterey Pine, Monterey Cypress, Red Gum Eucalyptus or Blue Gum Eucalyptus within the City of Berkeley and report back to Council with a recommendation after evaluation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

BACKGROUND

Due to their rapid growth, height at maturity, dense foliage, shallow root structure, flammability, breakability and invasiveness, the planting of Monterey Pine, Monterey Cypress, Red Gum Eucalyptus and Blue Gum Eucalyptus present a fire hazard.

Non-native species comprise close to 20% of the trees in the East Bay hills. These species tend to ignite easily and burn hot. Controlling the population of non-native species by prohibiting their planting is an important step towards reducing fire risk.

CONTACT PERSON

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