To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Disaster and Fire Safety Commission
Submitted by: Robert Flasher, Chairperson, Disaster and Fire Safety Commission
Subject: Two Additional Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meetings

RECOMMENDATION
Adopt a Resolution approving two additional meetings of the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission in calendar year 2015.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION
Minimal staff time and resources.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS
On August 26, 2015 and on October 1, 2015, the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission held special meetings to discuss restricting parking in the hills fire zone to ensure access for emergency vehicles and enable safe evacuation in an emergency and to participate in a community meeting on wildfire during extreme drought. Since these were special meetings that were not on the regular meeting calendar, unless City Council approves additional meetings, two of the regularly scheduled meetings during the remainder of the calendar year must be cancelled.

On September 16, the commission passed a motion to request approval for two additional meetings.

Motion to request from City Council two additional meetings for 2015: Smukler Second: Legg Vote: (6 Ayes: Flasher, Jones, Legg, Grimes, Zummo, Smukler; 0 Noes.; 2 Absent: Degenkolb, King;)

BACKGROUND
On December 12, 2014, Berkeley City Council adopted Resolution No. 66,861-N.S. that established a Commission Meeting Frequency Schedule for 2015. The Disaster and Fire Safety Commission was allocated a maximum of ten meetings a year. Additional meetings require Council approval.
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
None.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION
If two additional meetings are not approved, the regular commission meeting scheduled for October 28, 2015 and December 2, 2015 must be cancelled. The lack of these meetings would result in an approximately 4 month gap in meeting for the commission. In addition to a number of referrals from City Council due in early 2016, the commission agenda is full throughout the year.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED
None.

CITY MANAGER
The City Manager takes no position on the content and recommendations of the Commission’s Report.

CONTACT PERSON
David Brannigan, Assistant Fire Chief, Berkeley Fire Department, 510-981-5508

Attachments:
1: Resolution
RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

APPROVAL FOR TWO ADDITIONAL DISASTER AND FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2015

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2014, the Berkeley City Council adopted Resolution No. 66,861-N.S. that established a Commission Meeting Frequency Schedule which limited the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission to a frequency of 10 meetings during calendar year 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission convened a special meeting on August 26, 2015 to make a recommendation on restricted parking in the hills fire zone and on October 1, 2015 to participate in a Wildfire During Extreme Drought community meeting; and

WHEREAS, without City Council approval for additional meetings, the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission meetings scheduled for October 28, 2015 and December 2, 2015 will be cancelled; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission passed a motion on September 16, 2015, to request from City Council two additional meetings for 2015: Smukler Second: Legg Vote: (6 Ayes: Flasher, Jones, Legg, Grimes, Zummo, Smukler; 0 Noes:; 2 Absent: Degenkolb, King;).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council authorizes the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission to convene for two additional meetings in calendar year 2015.