



## CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Robert Fisher, Acting City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** David Newell, Community Development Director  
David Newell, Community Development Director

**MEETING DATE:** July 8, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 1610, Adopting the Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the City of Banning Based on Maps Provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection by Amending the Banning Municipal Code Section 8.16.020 and Chapter 15.28

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Waive the second reading of the text in its entirety, read by title only, and adopt Ordinance 1610:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BANNING, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES WITHIN THE CITY OF BANNING BASED ON MAPS PROVIDED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION BY AMENDING THE BANNING MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 8.16.020 AND CHAPTER 15.28

### **BACKGROUND:**

On June 24, 2025, the City Council held a public hearing on an ordinance (Ordinance 1610) adopting the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) within the City of Banning, as required by Section 51179 of the California Government Code. The ordinance proposes repealing Chapter 15.28, Fire Districts, and amending Chapter 8.16, Fire Protection Code. Chapter 15.28 of Title 15 (Buildings and Construction) includes old references that are no longer applicable and therefore requires repealing this Section. Chapter 8.16 is proposed to be amended by identifying the FHSZ Map received on March 24, 2025, as the City's adopted map within the paragraph referenced as Chapter 49 of Section 8.16.020. After closing the public hearing, the City Council voted 5-0 to introduce by title only Ordinance 1610.

Because there were no changes directed by Council when first introduced, the second reading of Ordinance 1610 is the same as first reading. If the Council adopts the ordinance, it would go into effect 30 days thereafter.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The designation of Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) under Government Code section 51178 requires local agencies to engage in a transparent and participatory process to ensure that affected communities have access to updated wildfire hazard information. The updated Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) maps were released on March 24, 2025, triggering the requirement for local agencies to make this information available for public review and comment within 30 days of receipt. In compliance with this requirement, the map was posted on the City of Banning's website for public access and review on April 2, 2025. The City also held an informational workshop with the City Council on April 22, 2025.

Under Government Code Section 51179, cities and other local agencies are required to adopt the State's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) Map recommendation for Local Responsibility Areas (LRA's) within 120 days of receiving them. Government Code section 51179(b)(3) prohibits any local agency from decreasing the severity of the zones as identified by the State Fire Marshal for any area within the jurisdiction.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact on the City of Banning.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Do not conduct the second reading of Ordinance 1610 and provide alternative direction to staff. However, it is important to note that the City's adoption of the updated Local Responsibility Area (LRA) FHSZ map is mandated by the California Government Code.

**BUDGETED?:**

No

**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT:**

No

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Ordinance 1610](#)
2. [City of Banning Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones.pdf](#)
3. [Existing Chapter 8.16 Fire Protection Code](#)
4. [Existing Chapter 15.28 Fire Districts](#)