AGENDA

I. Welcome & Introductions (15 Minutes)

II. Public Open Time (items not on the agenda)

III. Housekeeping Items (30 minutes)
   - Review Brown Act
   - Ground Rules for Successful and Productive Discussions
   - Committee Chair and Vice Chair Selection

IV. General Overview (30 minutes)
   - Background
   - Adopted Vegetation Management Ordinance
   - City Council Direction—13 Items Requiring Committee Recommendations (see page 2)

V. Discussion Items (30 Minutes)
   - General Approach in order to Accomplishing Goals (13 Recommendations)
   - Review committee expectations and possible subcommittee interests
   - Review Schedule: quarterly meetings, discuss preferable dates or times to meet

VI. Next Steps (15 minutes)

VII. Adjourn

MATERIALS THAT WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING:
- Committee Roster
- Summary of Brown Act
- Vegetation Management Ordinance
- Supporting City Council Staff Reports and presentations
Advisory Committee Topics to Evaluate and Provide Recommendations on:

**VEGETATION**
1. Develop a list of pyrophytic plants relevant to Mill Valley that identify those plants that should be regularly cut and removed by homeowners of properties within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

2. Identify additional pyrophytic plants that should be considered in a future Municipal Code amendment requiring their complete removal from properties within the WUI.

3. Develop a list of preferred plants for homeowners to utilize in landscaping for properties within the WUI.

**SUPPORTING GUIDANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE VEG. MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE**
4. Develop draft Best Management Practices (BMPs) relative to plant removal, erosion control, soil and slope stability, and replanting practices.

5. Develop draft BMPs to reduce or avoid impacts to nesting birds and animal habitat in conjunction with plant removal activities.

6. Develop draft guidelines that identify the criteria, practices and protocols that should be employed in order to request and grant an exception to the Fire Hazard Reduction Ordinance.

7. Provide recommendations on the elements that should be included in establishing a financial assistance program for Mill Valley homeowners, including sources of funds for such programs.

8. Develop draft protocols for an inspection program. The protocols shall outline programs directed exclusively by the City of Mill Valley as well as potential programs aided by or directly administered through a collaborative County-wide inspection program.

9. Provide recommendations to refine the City’s existing Residential Building Inspection Reports (RBRs) program to assist in the documentation and compliance of the new requirements under the Fire Hazard Reduction Ordinance.

**ADDITIONAL POLICY CONSIDERATIONS/REFINEMENTS TO THE VEG. MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE**
10. Examine the effectiveness and advisability of creating a "hardscape zone" or equivalent alternatives that creating an ember resistive vertical non-combustible zone.

11. Examine additional or alternate steps/methods that could be folded into the Vegetation Management Ordinance that could be reasonably applied to homes on steep lots within the WUI that effectively delay or prevent structure fire ignition. Also, determine if there is science-backed information which supports the argument that the 3' hardscape approach does not achieve the City Council goal of safer evacuation conditions in the case of steep lots.

12. Monitor and evaluate pending State legislation regarding fuel hazard reduction as they relate to potential future hardscape or ember resistive zone requirements and present recommendations to achieve consistency, improve clarity and to reduce confusion between local rules and policies and potential new State legislation.

13. Monitor and provide recommendations on elements of the proposed County-wide fire prevention ballot measure.
City of Mill Valley
Fire Hazard Reduction Advisory Committee

A five-member advisory ad-hoc committee authorized by the City Council and appointed by the Mayor to provide recommendations to the City Council on the implementation of the amendments to Chapter 15.04 of the Mill Valley Municipal Code pertaining to Fire Hazard Reduction.

Purpose of the Committee

The Committee will provide findings and recommendations regarding the implementation of the amendments to Chapter 15.04 of the Mill Valley Municipal Code pertaining to Fire Hazard Reduction. The charge of the Committee is limited and does not include reexamining basic decisions made in the amendment of the Municipal Code. If, in deliberating the listed topics, the Committee decided additional matters could be helpful to the City Council, a request should be made to the City Council for approval before considering such matters.

Committee Charge and Timing

The advisory committee will be subject to and function in accordance with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. The Committee shall meet in public with the frequency the Committee decides and will produce a final report to the City Council before December 31, 2020. The Committee shall be supported by the City Manager and the Fire Chief. The Mayor may provide input and guidance to staff and the Committee as necessary and desired.

The Committee shall provide the City Council with quarterly status reports and seek direction as appropriate.

Topics for Evaluation and Recommendations
The Committee shall evaluate and develop recommendations on the following topics:

1. The development of a list of pyrophytic plants relevant to Mill Valley, which should be regularly cut and removed by homeowners of properties within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).
2. The development of a list of preferred plants for homeowners to utilize in landscaping properties within the WUI.

3. The identification of additional pyrophytic plants which should be considered for inclusion in a future Municipal Code amendment requiring their complete removal from properties within the WUI.

4. The development of Best Management Practices (BMPs) relative to plant removal, erosion control, soil and slope stability, and replanting practices.

5. The development of BMPs to reduce or avoid impacts to nesting birds and animal habitat in conjunction with plant removal activities.

6. The criteria, practices and protocols to be employed in the request for and granting of exceptions outlined on the Fire Hazard Reduction Ordinance.

7. Examination of the effectiveness and advisability of requiring the creation of a hardscape zone or equivalent alternatives in creating an ember resistive vertical non-combustible zone.

8. Examination of reasonable additional or alternate steps or methods to apply to homes on steep lots within the WUI, which would be effective to delay or prevent structure fire ignition. Also, determine if there is science-backed information which supports the argument that the 3’ hardscape approach does not achieve the City Council goal of safer evacuation conditions in the case of steep lots.

9. Monitoring and evaluation of pending State legislation regarding fuel hazard reduction as they relate to potential future hardscape or ember resistive zone requirements and present recommendations to achieve consistency, improve clarity and to reduce confusion between local rules and policies and potential new State legislation.

10. Recommendations regarding elements of financial assistance programs to Mill Valley homeowners and sources of funds for such programs.

11. The development of inspection program protocols. The protocols shall outline programs directed exclusively by the City of Mill Valley as well as potential programs aided by or directly administered through a collaborative County-wide inspection program.

12. Refinement of the Residential Building Inspection Reports (RBRs) compliance and inspection protocols relative to the requirements of the Fire Hazard Reduction Ordinance.

13. Monitoring and recommendations on elements of the proposed County-wide fire prevention ballot measure.