

DRAFT RESOLUTION

RE: FORMATION OF THE EAST BAY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AGENCY

WHEREAS, the series of historic wildfires throughout California and the Western United States in recent years demonstrates that the impacts of global climate change will continue to have potentially devastating local effects throughout the region; including habitat destruction, loss of life, economic impacts, infrastructural damage, and public health hazards associated with air quality, among others.

WHEREAS, reactive approaches to fire management and containment are deployed during times of crisis and overextend local and state resources.

WHEREAS, the spread of wildfire does not respect political or jurisdictional boundaries; burn areas and air quality impacts from smoke extend throughout the region.

WHEREAS, a large portion of the East Bay region, including the East Bay Hills from Hercules to Fremont, are a CalFire designated high-risk danger zone.

WHEREAS, a more coordinated approach and investment in wildfire prevention and vegetation management may help to mitigate the number and severity of wildfire events.

WHEREAS, regional coordination may prove both more effective and more efficient in developing and implementing best practices, as well as sharing expertise and other resources.

WHEREAS, the East Bay Region contains more than 20 municipalities, counties, and fire districts, including the {City of _____}, that may all benefit from a coordinated fire management approach.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the {_____} agrees to make staff available to participate in negotiations and meetings to consider formation of a regional Vegetation Management Joint Powers Agency (EBVMJPA) to address fire safety in the East Bay Area.