

COMMUNITY UPDATE: FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREA (LRA)



December 2024

CAL FIRE has sent letters to all cities, counties, and fire protection districts to notify stakeholders of the transmittal of new **Local Responsibility Area (LRA)** maps in January of 2025.

About the State-mandated maps:

- Government Code 51178 requires the State to identify moderate and high zones in addition to very high fire hazard areas.
- The last LRA map published in 2007 only contained "very high hazards."
- These updated maps may include new areas that were not previously identified by the State Fire Marshal.
- Specific actions are required by local jurisdictions to occur within 30 days and 120 days of transmittal.

City of Oxnard requirement in the first 30 days:

- Government Code 51178.5 requires local agencies to make the information available for public review and comment.
- The maps will be available on the City website for review and public comment at oxnard.gov.
- Public comments can be submitted with the staff report to the Oxnard City Council at the time of ordinance adoption.

City of Oxnard requirement in the first 120 days:

- Government Code 51179 requires the local agency to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high, and very high fire zones within 120 days.

Important Notes for Agencies with LRA

- Government Code 51179 does not allow local agencies to decrease the level of fire hazard severity zone or to remove areas from the recommended map.
- Government Code 51179 does allow a local agency to include additional areas not identified by the State Fire Marshal.
- The comment period is specifically for comment and the comments cannot be used to decrease or remove areas from the recommended map.

