

# ATTACHMENT A – ACTION SHEET

## ATTACHMENT A

Item #\_\_ : ESTABLISHING AN UNSAFE CAMPING ORDINANCE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY TO PREVENT WILDFIRE HAZARDS AND ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITIES  
March 11, 2025

The following actions are for the Board of Supervisors (Board) to provide direction during the March 11, 2025, meeting regarding staff recommendations to modify the existing ordinance to address unsafe camping. Each Option includes a summary of provisions that may be included

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Option 1 (Choose one, or any combination):

- A.  Enhancement A: Include provisions within the ordinance related to fire risk:
- Unless expressly authorized by the Chief Administrative Officer or his or her designee, or by other provision of law, regulation, permit, order or other directive from a regulatory authority, no person shall do the following in any County Park, any public street or highway, or on any improved or unimproved property owned or leased by the County:
    - Use an ignition source to cause or intend to cause a fire;
    - Maintain an existing fire
    - Camp while using or possessing an ignition source
    - Discard any lighted tobacco product or any burning or combustible material or other thing that could set fire to grass, shrubs, buildings, or any other combustible substance
    - Store personal belongings or waste, including garbage, refuse, or human or animal waste
    - Activities that alter the property, including but not limited to digging, removing vegetation and building structures, in a manner that damages, impairs, or interferes with the function of the property, or creates a threat to public health or safety
- B.  Enhancement B: Include provisions within the ordinance to add protections in specific areas such as open spaces and public works infrastructure
- It is unlawful for any person to do any of the following within an open space:
    - Camp or maintain an encampment, as defined in section 73.108
    - Use an Ignition Source to cause or intend to cause a fire;
    - Maintain an existing fire;
    - Camp while using or possessing an Ignition Source;
    - Discard any lighted tobacco product or any burning or combustible material or other thing that could set fire to grass, shrubs, buildings or any other combustible substance.
    - Store personal belongings or waste, including garbage, refuse, or human or animal waste;
    - Activities that alter the property, including but not limited to digging, removing vegetation and building structures, in a manner that damages, impairs, or interferes with the function of the property, or creates a threat to public health or safety;
  - Prohibited Activities in County-Maintained Public Works Drainage and Flood Control Culverts and Channels

- It shall be unlawful for any person, unless pursuant to a written permit subject to such conditions as the Director, Department of Public Works, may impose, to use County maintained public works drainage culverts or flood control facilities for any of the following purposes:
  - Camp or maintain an encampment, as defined in section 73.108.
  - Use an Ignition Source to cause or intend to cause a fire;
  - Maintain an existing fire;
  - Camp while using or possessing an Ignition Source;
  - Discard any lighted tobacco product or any burning or combustible material or other thing that could set fire to grass, shrubs, buildings or any other combustible substance.
  - Store personal belongings or waste, including garbage, refuse, or human or animal waste;
  - Activities that alter the property, including but not limited to digging, removing vegetation and building structures, in a manner that damages, impairs, or interferes with the function of the property, or creates a threat to public health or safety;
- Restricted Area During Emergency, Construction or Maintenance
  - During an emergency, construction, or maintenance, it shall be unlawful for any person to remain within the portion of County maintained public works facilities or property identified by the Director, Department of Public Works, as closed to the public by signage, barriers, or other features.

C. [ ] Enhancement C: Include provisions within the ordinance to codify existing procedures for unsheltered encampments notification period for movement of personal property to storage and adopt a notification period of 24-hours.

- Notification
  - A minimum of 24 hours before the scheduled cleanup, a written Notice to Vacate must be posted in a conspicuous manner at a prominent location and at each point of ingress or egress within the site. The notices shall provide the scheduled date of the cleanup, notify individuals to remove their property, and explain how property stored during the cleanup can be retrieved.
  - The Chief Administrative Officer may conduct abatement of the site on the posted date. If abatement is delayed or rescheduled by more than 24 hours, the Chief Administrative Officer shall repost a Notice to Vacate with a new date.
  - The Chief Administrative Officer shall ensure that photographs or video are taken of: (1) the site before and after the abatement; (2) the cleanup process; and (3) all items to be stored.
  - When the owner of personal property cannot be identified or an individual is unable to remove their personal property, that property may be stored or disposed of as described in subdivisions (d) and (e). If a person intentionally leaves their property behind or requests that it be discarded, it will be deemed abandoned. The Chief Administrative Officer may accommodate reasonable requests for additional time or assistance to remove items.
  - An item not removed by the inhabitants from the site shall be eligible for storage if it:
    - has apparent utility;

- is recognizable as belonging to a person;
- is not an item described in subdivision (e).
- The following items may be discarded or otherwise disposed of:
  - hazardous items, including but not limited to weapons, drug paraphernalia, or any items contaminated with human waste, animal waste, or blood;
  - items likely to become hazardous in storage, including but not limited to perishables and items that are wet or covered in mud;
  - items that are not practical to store due to size, weight or other characteristic;
  - Items that are stolen or illegal to possess.
- The Chief Administrative Officer shall keep a record of all stored items including location and date of storage. Items will be kept in storage for a minimum of 90 calendar days, at which point they are subject to disposal pursuant to County policy.

**Option 2:**

Keep ordinance as is. (County Regulatory Code Section 73.108)