



INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

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Chief Building Official

FUEL MODIFICATION PLAN AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

INTRODUCTION

When a development is subject to a Fuel Modification Plan and Program, the purpose is to minimize the fire hazard both during the construction period and the completed development thereafter. Developments in Very High Fire Severity Zones are subject to Fuel Modification requirements at wildland interfaces. These requirements are met through coordination between the Community Development Department of the City of Irvine and the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) during the planning, permitting, construction, and occupancy stages of a project.

SUMMARY

1. **Planning:** During the subdivision review, the requirement for a Fuel Modification Plan and Program is identified by OCFA. When this occurs, it is required that a note to be placed on the final subdivision map, along with the inclusion of standard conditions of approval within the Subdivision Committee and Planning Commission Resolutions for the project. These requirements are linked to the various stages of development as follows.
2. **Permitting/Construction:**
 - A. **Preliminary Grading Permit:** Prior to issuance of a preliminary grading permit, OCFA approval is required for the Conceptual Fuel Modification Plan and Program.
 - B. **Precise Grading Permit:** Prior to issuance of a precise grading permit, OCFA approval is required for the Precise Fuel Modification Plan and Program.
 - C. **Building Permit:** Prior to issuance of a building permit, OCFA approval is required for those portions of the fuel modification plan determined to be necessary prior to bringing combustible material on site. This typically consists of removing native brush within a prescribed distance from the construction site.
3. **Occupancy:** Prior to final acceptance and occupancy, all remaining fuel modification work, typically replanting, must be completed and sufficiently established.

The developer and/or contractor is responsible for managing approvals and timing of the approvals relating to the Fuel Modification Plan and Program. It is strongly advised that reasonable planning and processing times are integrated with the overall development schedule.

For questions related to Orange County Fire Authority requirements, standards, and processing times call (714) 744-0476.

Attachment: Very High Fire Severity Zone Map