

ORDINANCE NO. 393

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS, CALIFORNIA, ADDING A NEW SECTION 4-3-6 TO TITLE 4, CHAPTER 3 OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE RESTRICTING ENUMERATED ACTIVITIES WHEN RED FLAG WARNINGS ARE ISSUED AND FINDING THE ACTION EXEMPT FROM CEQA

The Hidden Hills City Council does hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. The City is located in a designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone as recommended by the Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, making it susceptible to catastrophic fires in high wind conditions. The National Weather Service monitors wind and humidity conditions and issues red flag warnings on days when there is a high risk of brush fires due to: 1) low relative humidity (15% or less), and either high wind velocity (25 MPH or more) or frequent gusts of 35 MPH or greater; 2) low relative humidity (10% or less), and either high wind velocity (15 MPH or more) or frequent gusts of 25 MPH or greater; 3) widespread and/or significant dry lightning; or 4) other forecaster discretion in coordination with the Southern California Geographic Area Coordination Center or other local agency in light of unusual but significant meteorological and/or fuel conditions. When such warnings are issued it is imperative that activities be curtailed that are capable of igniting a brush fire that could endanger life and property in the City. The purpose of this ordinance is to identify, enumerate and prohibit those activities that are hazardous if conducted during times when red flag warnings are in effect.

SECTION 2. Title 4, Chapter 3 of the Hidden Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended by adding thereto a new Section 4-3-6 to read as follows:

4-3-6: - ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED DURING RED FLAG WARNINGS

A. The following activities are prohibited during any time a red flag warning issued by the National Weather Service for any area that encompasses all or any portion of the City:

1. The use of portable outdoor barbecue grills.
2. The use of any outdoor fire pits, fireplaces, or any outdoor fire of any kind for any purpose.
3. Any outdoor activity that could cause a spark or flame.
4. The use of gasoline or propane powered equipment for home or property maintenance or repair (e.g. mowers, weed eaters, chainsaws, welders, and portable generators). Notwithstanding, generators used for providing emergency power to a home or for medical use and gasoline powered pumps for providing water are permitted.
5. Outdoor smoking of tobacco, cannabis or any other inhalable product.

B. During a red flag warning, City-issued permits or other authorizations for activities to be located on City property or upon City streets may be reviewed, cancelled, and assigned to a later date if the City determines its staff or general public may be exposed to unnecessary danger.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, or phrase in this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, invalid or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining portions of this ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted each section irrespective of the fact that any one or more subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared unconstitutional, invalid or ineffective.

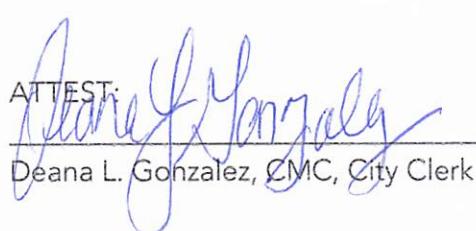
SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after its adoption by the City Council.

SECTION 5. The City Council finds that adoption of this Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Sections 15307, 15308, and 15358 (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly. Moreover, the City Council finds that this Ordinance is also exempt under CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (there exists no possibility that the activity will have a significant adverse effect on the environment). This ordinance only limits allowable activities during red flag warnings to prevent fires, protect the environment and natural resources and to maintain the status quo of the environment. There is no change to the physical environment that is permitted by the ordinance.

SECTION 6. The Mayor shall sign this Ordinance and the City Clerk shall certify as to the adoption and shall post a certified copy of this Ordinance, including the vote for and against the same, in the Office of the City Clerk, in accordance with Government Code Section 36933.

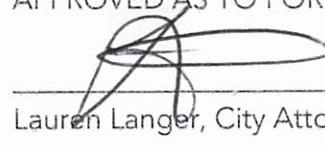
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 10th day of March 2025.

ATTEST:

  
Deana L. Gonzalez, CMC, City Clerk

  
Larry G. Weber, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Lauren Langer, City Attorney