

Public Comment
Tri-Agency Mtg 10/21/2024
Received 10/21/24 by 12:00 p.m.

1. Pete Williams
2. Spencer Schilling

From: [petepatwms](#)
To: [Info](#)
Cc: [steve Woehleke](#); [Graham Thiel](#)
Subject: Comment on requirement for removal of all vegetation within 5 feet of homes. (10/21 meeting)
Date: Sunday, October 20, 2024 2:21:03 PM

It is not the time or place for requiring removal of all shrubs within 5 feet of homes. This would reduce the beauty of our homes and their value. If it is ever required it should be east bay wide so that Moraga and Orinda homes aren't the only homes that look like they belong in Arizona.

We have already trimmed the shrubs back so we have the 2ft x 1ft space next to the houses. This looks strange up close but doesn't materially affect the view of the house and most of us could do the work themselves without killing the shrubs. Don't forget that all these shrubs are helping prevent global warming.

My main concern is having to destroy my shrubs but I do have other ideas for risk reduction which I will share.

My wife and I walk a lot around Moraga and south Orinda often on the bike trails and see lots of opportunities for Risk reduction. Walk the bike trail starting on St. Mary's Road at the Moraga border and go through the country club to Canyon road and observe the areas where it goes next to undeveloped land some with houses nearby. Homeowners have removed tree branches and trimmed shrubs to provide 6 feet of vertical spacing. We have removed brush. It appears the areas beside the trails haven't done this. This same opportunity seems to exist in some areas next to Moraga Way?

Perhaps another opportunity is the tree branches hanging over escape routes. Now that homeowners have removed the juniper perhaps these tree branches should be next?

Pete Williams, town of Moraga

From: saschilling@comcast.net
To: [Info](#)
Subject: Question for Tri-Agency Mtg - Oct 21
Date: Monday, October 21, 2024 11:12:12 AM

I have three questions for the public comment period for tonight's meeting. I will attend only by zoom.

1. Please clarify if the considered ordinances, especially Zone Zero, are intended to be retroactively applied as a requirement to all homes in the MOFD area or applied only when homes are remodeled or sold.
2. Please summarize the penalties and process for non compliance with these ordinances if accepted/passed by the town councils.
3. It seems that Zone Zero is about reducing a given structure's vulnerability to ember caused ignition, regardless of what is burning outside the property line. As such it would seem that any 'formal credit for these mitigations' from insurance carriers offered to individual homeowners would be based on the proposed mitigations done on a subject property and not based on the condition of adjacent land or structures. For instance, if one were in compliance with MOFD *recommended* mitigations then insurance credits may be applied. If this is the case then it would seem reasonable that individual homeowners should have the option to consider the tradeoff between higher insurance rates and eliminating all combustibles (vegetation, mulch, wood fences and decks, etc.) from house adjacent areas on their own property. Please comment on this understanding and describe any other community benefits that accrue for individual home fire mitigations.

Thank you.

Spencer Schilling
Moraga