

Proclamation

Wildfire Awareness and Prevention Season

WHEREAS, In the last four years, California has experienced eight of the most destructive wildfires and five of the deadliest wildfires in the state's history. In 2019, wildfires burned more than 259,823 acres, destroyed over 732 structures, and tragically claimed three lives; and

WHEREAS, Climate change has created a new wildfire reality in California. Persistent drought, warmer temperatures, and more severe winds have created conditions that will lead to more frequent and catastrophic fires. To meet this challenge, California must adopt an all-of-the-above approach to protecting public safety and maintaining the health of our forests; and

WHEREAS, Eleven million people, approximately a quarter of the state's population, live in high fire risk areas, including the Wildland-Urban Interface. Public education and up-to-date regional emergency planning will be key to making our communities more resilient to the impacts of wildfire and other extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS, The City of Garden Grove is responsive to public education efforts and can help inform residents about Ready, Set, Go! at OCFA.org/RSG to prepare for wildfire season and help prevent loss of life and property; and

WHEREAS, It is important for Garden Grove and all Orange County residents to recognize that a robust wildfire response by firefighters alone cannot protect us, and every citizen has a key role in preventing destructive wildfires from occurring.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Garden Grove City Council does hereby proclaim mid-summer through early autumn as "Wildfire Awareness and Prevention Season" in the City of Garden Grove and encourages everyone to prevent sparking a wildfire by raising public awareness and taking steps to protect homes and businesses. One less spark means one less wildfire.