County of San Diego Parks and Recreation
5500 Overland Ave
San Diego, Ca. 92123

Attn: Anna Prowant

Re: Defensible Space Requirements

Ms. Prowant,

Thank you for contacting me about the existing measures in place for the County Park property located at 2500 South Grade Road. Back in 2016 Alpine Fire Protection District had an agreement with the landowners then to maintain the defensible space clearance along the northern side of South Grade Road by cutting all seasonal grasses and brush at a height of 6”. The Apollo Group owned the parcel then and complied each year once Alpine Fire sent a notice to abate. The Apollo Group sold the land to developer and the maintenance continued under their ownership. County purchased the parcel of land in 2019 and they have been managing the brush clearing and weed whacking since taking over. Alpine Fire works closely with the Department of Public Works and working with Marco Mares in County Parks & Rec since 2019 fuels are managed as per the following description of work.

1. Cut and clear all weeds and brush along the frontage of South Grade Road for 30’ to the north of edge of roadway. Cut at a height no higher than 6”.
2. Limb up all low hanging tree branches 6’ off the ground on trees over 18’ in height. Trees less than 18’ in height limb up the lower 1/3 of branches.
3. To the NE corner of the property cut and maintain the 100’ defensible space to the homes off Boulder Road. The open field area may be mowed at a height not to exceed 6”.
4. Around all the trees in the scope of work area flashy fuels shall be maintained as needed.
5. The large dead oak tree has a very large pocket of poison oak at the base. When permitted to spray treatment on the broadleaf do so to manage the overgrowth.

All work is done at the request of the Alpine Fire Protection District to maintain safe means of travel along the South Grade Road evacuation corridor and to provide the required 100’ defensible space to homes to the north of park land. Work has been consistently performed since 2016 by all owners at request of a notice to abate hazards. Brush clearing is to be completed prior to 4th of July.

I am available for any further questions if you have any,

Jason McBroom
Fire Marshal

We are a public safety organization of dedicated professionals whose mission it is to:
Save Lives, Protect Property and the Environment, Serve the Community.
www.alpinefire.org