

**Memorandum**

**To:** LACC Board of Directors      **cc:** Scott Devereaux, GM

**From:** LACC Firewise Committee      **Date:** 4/30/2019

**Re:** Information Packet and Request for Agenda Item:  
Recommendations on the Burning of Slash Piles and Fire Safe Practices on Non-member HOA Properties

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This memo transmits background information for the balance of the Firewise Committee’s fire safe recommendations for LACC.

**1) Burning of Slash Piles:**

CalFire recommends safe burning of slash piles to dispose of hazardous fuels from our properties. If banned it will result in more ground/ladder fuels accumulating and increase wildfire danger. The LACC Firewise committee recommends allowing burning of slash piles on our lots (except when not allowed during the fire season determined by PenFire chief) with added precautions/requirements to the Member Handbook.

Open burning recommendations for member handbook:

**Winter/spring months when no permit needed:**

- 1) Notification to gate before lighting the burn pile. Call air quality first (530-258-2588) and follow air quality’s burn hours.
- 2) Responsible person in attendance with shovel until fire is dead out, water supply or fire extinguisher nearby.
- 3) Pile to be kept within proper clearances (ten feet from the outer edge of pile to surrounding tree canopy outer edge is maintained free and clear of all flammable material and vegetation).

**During permit season:**

CalFire burn permit and PenFire rules apply.

Extra requirement: check air quality (530-258-2588) and notify the gate before lighting burn pile.

**Fines for violation of safety code.**

Warning for a first minor violation, not requiring Fire Department to extinguish fire. (e.g. No shovel, no water source or fire extinguisher, not in attendance)

Second violation: \$500 fine

Third violation: \$1,000 fine

**2) Hardening the Home Fire safe Recommendations should come from the Architectural Review Committee(ARC)**

Submitted plans for new home and remodel construction should already be County reviewed under California Building Code for fire safe elements within in Chapter 7A. However, new landscaping plans and “less than 3 acre timber harvest” permits are NOT addressed by the County or Fire Department such that new landscaping and selected timber harvest trees may create plantings and tree positioning not in compliance with Cal Fire defensible space and spacing and limb-ing requirements.

Also, since homes built prior to 2008 that still lack “Hardening the Home” solutions from Chapter 7A, is there a need for LACC to require a method of “retrofitting” deficiencies over time?

Therefore we recommend the Board should request recommendations from ARC if :

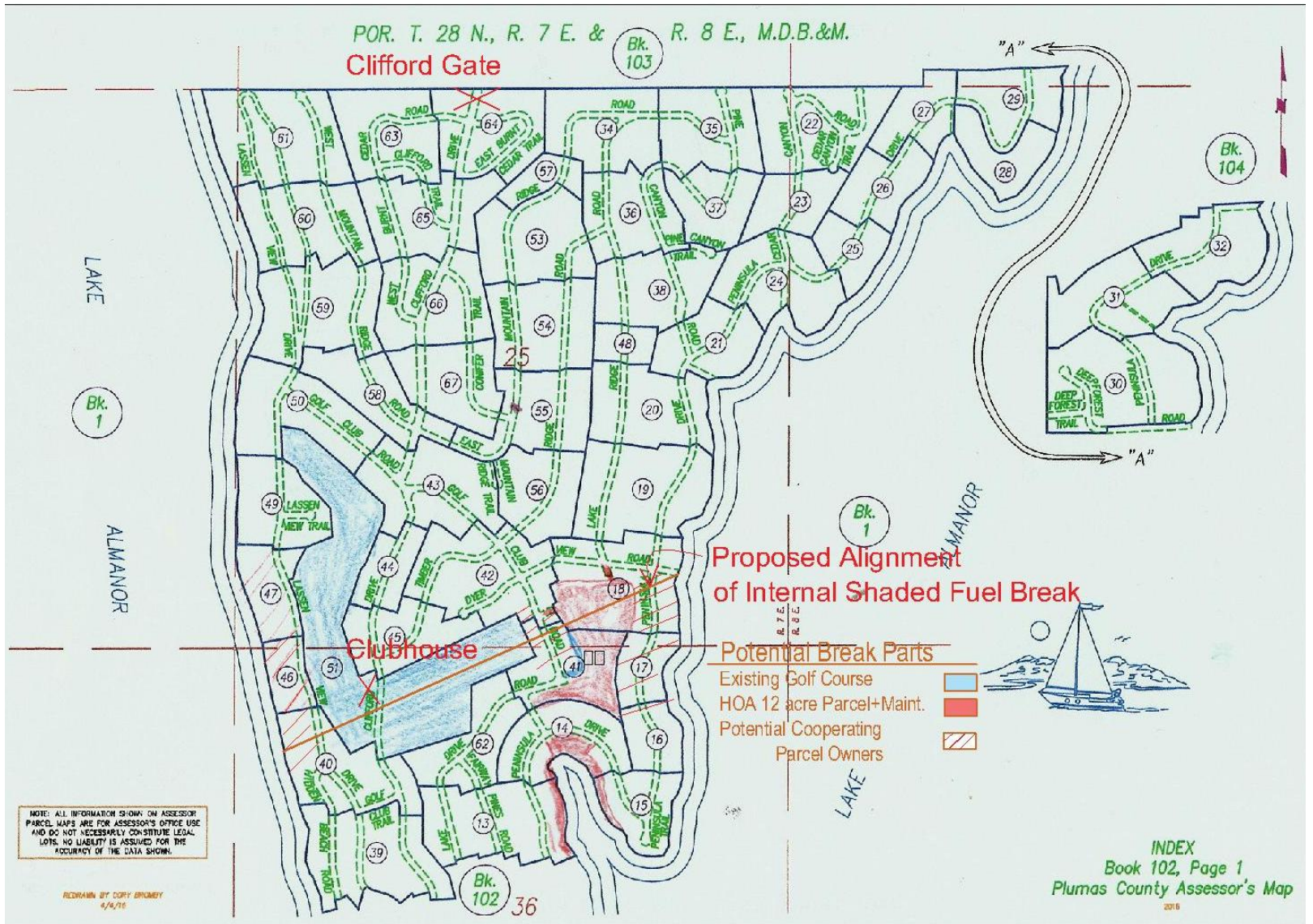
- reviews of California Building Code elements in Chapter 7A (e.g. attic vent louvers, vent screens @ 1/8 inch, tempered glass, etc) by ARC will be necessary to prevent future additions of homes or remodels that do not incorporate fire safe protections from Chapter 7A.
- reviews of member’s new landscape plans and “less than 3 acre” harvest plans should be performed by ARC so that LACC can enforce defensible space and spacing and limb-ing requirements before the work is completed and members have expended their monies.
- Methods for eliminating wood shingles, screening and adding louvered vents, adding fire resistant siding, or tempered windows, or closed eaves, etc. could be introduced at LACC

### **3) *Association Lands and Buildings***

- To be an example for the community fire safe practices, all HOA lands and buildings should conform to the January Firewise Committee recommended rules for member properties and homes, including undeveloped lots.
- To be the best example, HOA lands and buildings should adopt January Firewise Recommended Rules including tree and shrub spacing and defensible space zones. This would show members what the longer term fire safe steps would look like.
- The 12 acre parcel should become part of the “Interior Shaded Fuel Break” plan (see attached map), wherein the Golf courses’ fairways 1, 6, 7, 8, 9 and Clubhouse are considered part as is. The 12 acre parcel, Maintenance yard and Fire Hall property would be an extension of the fairway provided breaks.
- The 12 acre parcel and the Maintenance Yard border, by complying with Firewise Recommended vegetation spacing and limbing would serve as a demonstration location to show residents how such spacing and limbing looks.

### **4) *Road Right of Ways, Especially Emergency Routes***

- Any tree with limbs extending to or over the pavement should be removed if trunk is on HOA ROW
- Trees with HOA ROW that have been disfigured by PG& E trimming practices should be added to a list and given to PG&E for removal and disposal.
- Any conifer under 5 inches in diameter or any flammable shrub shall be removed
- Trees and shrubs shall be spaced and limbed up in accordance with the January Firewise Recommended rules
- Owner placed obstructions (e.g. fences) shall be removed to owner’s property to allow ROW space to be used in emergency situations by emergency responders and evacuees.



**North Portion of LACC  
Proposed Interior Partial Shaded Fuel Break**