



Kensington Community Services District

DATE: August 13, 2026

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: David Aranda, Interim General Manager
Mary A. Morris-Mayorga, Consultant

SUBJECT: Authorize staff to develop a eucalyptus risk awareness and mitigation program

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the Board authorize staff to develop a eucalyptus risk awareness and mitigation program.

Budget and program details will come back to the Board for approval in advance of incorporating it into the FY 2027-28 Budget.

BACKGROUND:

As detailed in the attached report, eucalyptus is a wildfire hazard that exists in Kensington which would benefit from development of a public education and mitigation program. The cost to develop the program would be included in staff and consultant time; however, there may be costs associated with program specifics such as eucalyptus removal.

This is in the conceptual stages so staff would proceed with program development if there is Board consensus on the recognition and mitigation of the hazard.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is not yet known but will be manageable within the FY 2027-28 Budget with staff seeking federal, state, or local grant funding if available.

EXHIBIT(S):

Staff report prepared by Johnny Valenzuela, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator



Kensington Community Services District

Date: August 13, 2026

To: Board of Directors

From: Johnny Valenzuela

Subject: Authorization to explore a eucalyptus risk awareness and mitigation program

Purpose:

The purpose of this action is to formally acknowledge that eucalyptus trees and associated debris can contribute to wildfire intensity and ember production in Kensington. A formal Board acknowledgment of this risk will provide clear policy direction for staff and partners to expand resident education on practical, property-level actions, presented as a graduated set of options including litter cleanup, limbing, thinning, and, where appropriate, full abatement. At this time, no budget appropriation is requested; the recommended action is to authorize staff to explore and develop program concepts that support eucalyptus risk awareness and management.

Background:

Eucalyptus vegetation and related debris are recognized contributors to elevated wildfire hazard in wildland-urban interface communities similar to Kensington. Kensington's topography and existing designation as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone make it particularly important to provide residents with clear guidance on managing these fuels at the parcel level. Program exploration is intended to build on and coordinate with existing wildfire mitigation partners, including Firesafe Kensington and Kensington Firewise Communities, to leverage their networks and expertise and to position KCSD and its partners for future grant opportunities.

Recommendation:

Move to acknowledge the wildfire risk posed by eucalyptus trees and associated debris in Kensington and to approve the exploration and development of programs that raise resident awareness of risk-reduction measures—such as litter cleanup, limbing, thinning, and abatement—in coordination with wildfire mitigation partners and without budget appropriation at this time.