RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that Council adopt the attached Resolution ordering the abatement of weeds.

BACKGROUND
By Resolution Number 8488 adopted on December 13, 2004, the Council declared weeds to be a nuisance, and ordered the abatement of that nuisance as called for in Chapter 8.08 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code. The Resolution provided for a public hearing date of January 18, 2005, to hear any objections to the proposed destruction or the removal of these weeds, and for interested property owners and members of the public to be notified of the hearing.

DISCUSSION
The County Department of Agriculture and Resource Management administers the contract for abatement of weeds within the City of Palo Alto. Upon notification of action by the City Council, the Department of Agriculture and Resource Management has taken proper steps to notify each property owner by mail of the contemplated weed abatement action on respective properties and to post in the Council Chambers a list of the properties affected. The Department of Agriculture and Resource Management has furnished copies of the property listing to the City Clerk and the City Fire Marshal.

At this public hearing, property owners may appear and object to the proposed weed destruction or removal. After the hearing and consideration of the objections, the Council may allow or overrule any or all objections. If objections are overruled, the Council is deemed to have acquired jurisdiction to proceed; and the County will be asked to perform the work of destruction and removal of weeds.

RESOURCE IMPACT
All charges for the weed abatement services are included as a special assessment on bills for property taxes levied against the respective lots and parcels of land and are considered liens on these properties.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS
This procedure is consistent with existing City policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
The City Council, by adoption of Resolution No. 8488, approved a Negative Declaration for this project. No further environmental assessment is required.

ATTACHMENTS
Resolution Ordering Weed Nuisance Abated
Property Listing

Prepared by:_______________________________

DAN FIRTH
Acting Fire Marshal

Department Head Review:_____________________

NICK MARINARO
Fire Chief

City Manager Approval:_____________________

EMILY HARRISON
Assistant City Manager