



City of Arts & Innovation

# City Council Memorandum

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**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**      **DATE: JULY 12, 2016**  
**FROM: CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**      **WARDS: ALL**  
**SUBJECT: UPDATE FROM THE NORTHWEST MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT ON THE ZIKA AND WEST NILE VIRUSES**

## **ISSUE:**

Receive an update by the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District on the Zika and West Nile Viruses, as well as the ongoing efforts to control mosquito populations within the City.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council receive and file this report.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) provides comprehensive vector control services throughout the City to protect the public health through identification, prevention and control of pests which carry and transmit infectious diseases. The District will provide an update on its efforts relative to the Zika and West Nile Viruses.

The Zika virus is transmitted by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes (yellow fever mosquitoes) and by *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes (Asian tiger mosquitoes). Although these mosquitoes are not native to California they have been detected in several California counties. A mosquito can only transmit the Zika virus after it bites a person who has the virus. In California, Zika virus infections have been documented only in a few people who were infected while travelling outside the United States. A person with the Zika virus is not contagious and it is not spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person, or by breathing in the virus.

The West Nile Virus is transmitted to people and animals by infected mosquitoes. Only certain species of mosquitoes carry the virus and very few mosquitoes are actually infected. A mosquito first acquires the infection by feeding on a bird with the virus in its blood. The virus lives in the mosquito and is transmitted to a new host in the mosquito's saliva when the insect bites a person or animal. Humans and horses are incidental hosts for the West Nile virus. The virus is most prevalent from May to October when mosquitoes are most abundant.

Additional information on the Zika and West Nile Viruses can be viewed online at the District's website (<http://www.northwestmvcd.org/Northwestmvcd/Home.html>).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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