Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

BACKGROUND
Lithium-ion rechargeable batteries are commonly used in home electronics such as phones, laptop computers, tablets, e-scooters, and other devices requiring plug-in charging. These batteries are small and powerful, but when used incorrectly, they can overheat, catch fire, or explode. Fire agencies across California continue to respond to fires caused by lithium-ion batteries.

SAFETY TIPS
• Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
• Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions.
• Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
• Put batteries in the device the right way.
• Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
• Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
• Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
• Plug directly into a wall electrical outlet for charging.
• Keep batteries at room temperature and away from heat or direct sunlight. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
• Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.
• Do not charge a device while sleeping.
• Do not charge a device near your primary exit.

STOP USING THE DEVICE/BATTERY IF:
• You notice an odor
• There is a change in color or shape
• Too much heat
• Leaking or odd noises

If any of the above happens and you feel in danger, call 9-1-1. If safe, move the device away from anything that can catch fire.

BATTERY DISPOSAL
• Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
• Recycling is always the best option.
• Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
• Do not put discarded batteries in piles.