

AGENDA
Disaster Fire and Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2022
7:00 PM

District 1 – Kim-Mai Cutler

District 5 – Shirley Dean

District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet

District 6 – Nancy Rader

District 3 –

District 7 – Tobias Simmons

District 4 – Antoinette Stein

District 8 – Paul Degenkolb

Mayor’s Appointee- Jose Luis Bedolla

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and the state declared emergency, this meeting of the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and presents imminent risks to the health of attendees. Therefore, no physical meeting location will be available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81595546232> If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the “raise hand” icon by rolling over the bottom of the screen.

*To join by phone: Dial 1-669-900-9128 and enter Meeting ID 815 9554 6232 If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. Please be mindful that all other rules of procedure and decorum will apply for Commission meetings conducted by teleconference or videoconference*

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

Approval of the Agenda

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

1. Fire Department Staff Report

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of June 22, 2022*

Action Items

3. Commission Annual Workplan (Bedolla)*

Discussion Items

4. Community Wildfire Protection Plan Community Input Process (Staff Presentation)
5. Community Communications About 2022 Fire Season (Bedolla)
6. Fire Department Facilities Master Plan (Dean)
7. CERT Training (Bedolla)
8. Safe Passages Program Update (Bedolla)
9. June 28, 2022 Council Meeting - Consideration of Various DFSC-related Budget Items* (Rader)
 - a. Rader Communication to Council
 - b. Measure GG and FF Tax Rates
 - c. Parking Enforcement in Fire Zones 2 and 3
10. Berkeley Strategic Plan Quarterly Report on Wildfire Safety* (Rader)
11. California and Berkeley Fire Code Updates (Rader)
12. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

Adjournment

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday June 22, 2022

Present: Jose Luis Bedolla, Shirley Dean, Tobias Simmons, Paul Degenkolb, Toni Stein, Nancy Rader, Kim-Mai Cutler, Weldon Bradstreet

Absent:

Staff: Khin Chin

Public: 4 Attendees : Benay Dara-Adams, Kelly Hammargren, C Chen

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

J. Bedolla called meeting to order at 7:01pm

Approval of the Agenda

Move Item 3 to Discussion after Item 8

Approved by Acclamation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Kelly Hammargren- Environment and Climate Commission record commission meetings. Make a request to the Planning Commission through a public records request to obtain meeting recordings.

K. Cutler arrived at 7:07pm

W. Bradstreet arrived at 7:09pm

Benay Dara-Adams asked about the current status of the April 27 recommendation to City Council on Expanded Fire Prevention Inspections.

1. Fire Department Staff Report

DFSC Staff Report

June 22, 2022

1. Measure FF Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview – No Update

i. Program Review

1. **Standards of Coverage Analysis** – The Department is undergoing an in-depth analysis of fixed and mobile resources to determine the best deployment model and to ensure the Department is responding effectively and efficiently.

- Status: Working with vendor to provide additional data from the City that will allow them to complete the process, sometime late Fall of 2022

2. **Project Management and Subject Matter Expert (SME)** – Through this contract, the Department has relied on a team of professionals that have varied background including in project management, information technology, videography, marketing and industry specialists that have specific skills in emergency medical service and training.

- a. Status: No New Updates

3. **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – The CWPP is a comprehensive risk analysis that addresses local target hazards and includes a community-based action plan to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure resiliency. It will serve as the foundation and roadmap for the Departments work to prevent wildfire and limit the spread when they ignite.

- a. Update: Staff is working with IT Department to create the online ARCGIS public portal and survey links.

4. **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** – No reporting for this month.

5. **Retired Annuitants** – The retired annuitants are largely focused on performing vegetation inspections for properties in fire zone 2 and 3. They are also looking at transitioning the inspection from paper to mobile technology, re-tooling the re-inspection, citation, and violation process. The Department has also expanded its traditional hazardous fire area program to include all properties in fire zones 2 and 3.

- a. Update: No New Updates

6. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment** – Single Function Job Classifications & Recruitment:

- a. The Division has worked collaboratively with Local 1227 and Human Resources to draft single function EMT and Paramedic Job Classifications which were approved with elation at the December Personnel Board meeting and were approved by the City Council on January 18th, 2022.

- i. Update: No New Updates

- 7. Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP): Berkeley Fire Department stations are undersized, in poor condition and in need of remodels or replacement. The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs. This process will provide the City leaders of today and tomorrow with actionable information ahead of future infrastructure bond measures.

- i. Update: Will have a Closed Work Session with City Council to deliver a mid-project report in late August/early September after Council Recess.

- 8. Dispatch Study: Our goal, per Council direction is to enhance the dispatch center so it can triage calls, divert non-emergency calls (including mental health calls) to appropriate resources like the SCU; and provide emergency medical instructions to callers.

- i. Status: No New Updates

9. Recruitments:

- a. Shift Fire Inspector Recruitment –These are filled by existing fire department personnel and are used to assist with fire investigations and other inspection related activities in the built environment.

- i. Update: In-service training is scheduled for July.

- b. Sworn Fire Inspector Recruitment – Recruitment is on-going.

- i. Update: No New Updates

- 10. **Division of Training Property** – The Department is actively engaged to find a piece of property that will meet the City’s needs for the training and development of its emergency responders and support staff. Due to zoning, the cost of property and the proximity of residential units to most property in Berkeley, this location will likely be outside the City proper. This presents exciting opportunities for regional collaboration with other fire departments and a community college district.

- a. Update: As we move forward with recognizing a property, we will be working with involved agencies to do a joint presentation to all of those city’s elected officials.

- ii. Implementation & Metrics

1. **Outdoor Warning System** – Site updates
 1. Zaytuna College – 2401 LeConte Ave (roof mount) – in permitting with edits required for building and property footprint and separations, site plan, calculations, framing plan and structural details loads
 2. City Hall – 2180 Milvia Street (roof mount) in permitting with edits required for framing plan.
 3. Harbor Watch Tower – 125 University Ave. in permitting with edits required for building and property footprint, separation distances, and calculations.
 4. Berkeley Animal Care – 1 Bolivar Drive (roof mount) in permitting with edits required for framing plan.
 5. Fire Station # 7 – 3000 Shasta Road (wall mount) in permitting with edits required for building and property footprint, separation distances, and elevation drawing.

iii. RFP Updates

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants

2. Measure GG Monthly Report –
 - a. Budget Overview – No Update
 - b. Emergency Services Coordinator Position
 - i. The OES Division has hired for the open Emergency Services Coordinator. Leah Greenbaum will start on July 18th.

3. Department Activities

- a. One of the biggest news we have to report came up suddenly. Fire Chief Abe Roman is retiring from the City of Berkeley and has accepted a position with the San Rafael Fire Department. We are sad to see him leave the City, but recognize his difficult decision to do what he feels is right for his family.

Dave Sprague will be the Interim Fire Chief and Keith May will be the Interim Deputy Chief. The command team has been well positioned by Chief Roman to succeed. During the last two years, did a lot to flatten the organization, create transparency within the command group, and push information and decision making out and down. This has created a situation where one person’s departure – even an essential one – can be absorbed by the remaining personnel with little lost in transition.

- b. On May 24th, Fire Academy Class 111th will be graduating. Graduation will occur at Urban Adamah, 1151 Sixth Street in Berkeley.
- c. Grants – No new update.

4. Safe Passage

- Update: We have been working with Transportation and Traffic to repaint existing red curbs and replacing “no parking signs” that have faded as well as painting red in front of hydrants.

5. Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type		
May 24, 2022 – June15, 2022		
Fires – including Encampment Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	18	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)		
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	

Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	600	
Hazardous Condition - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	28	
Service Calls (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	89	
Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	55	
False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	115	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	0	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	1	
TOTAL	906	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	2,004
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6. Commission Actions Status

12/1/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised			In Agenda Process for 6/28 City Council Meeting
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2/23/ 2022	Request for Timely Fiscal Information on Measures FF and GG			In Agenda Process for 6/28 City Council Meeting
4/13/ 2022	Budget Recommendation for Parking Enforcement			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department, Police Department
4/27/ 2022	Measure FF Budget Recommendation - Expanded Fire Prevention Inspection			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
5/25/ 2022	Annual Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment Memorandum	City Council 6/14/22	Communications Packet related to Item 17	Submitted to Clerk for inclusion in Council Communication Packet
5/25/ 2022	Request for One Additional Meeting of Disaster and Fire Safety Commission			In Agenda Process for 7/26 City Council Meeting
12/1/ 2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised			In Agenda Process for 6/28 City Council Meeting

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of May 25, 2022*

Motion to approve as submitted: Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb, Stein; 0 Noes; 0

Absent; 1 Abstain: Rader

Action Items

3. Commission Annual Workplan

This item was heard after Item 8 under Discussion Items

4. Update on Red Curbs and Faded Parking Signs/Repairs for June Meeting* (Bedolla)

Motion to allow Commissions Dean, Rader, and Bedolla finalize language of the report to submit a recommendation to Council on remedial actions to improve emergency vehicle access and residents' ability to evacuate in the event of a wildfire: Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 8 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent;; 0 Abstain:

Discussion Items

5. Community Communications About 2022 Fire Season (Bedolla)

6. CERT Training Recap from May (Staff)

7. New Commission Webpage (Staff)

8. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Dean

Second: Stein

Vote: 8 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent;; 0 Abstain.

Adjourned at 9:08p

Berkeley Disaster and Fire Safety Commission

Draft WORK PLAN – FY 2023-2024

Mission Statement

The Disaster and Fire Safety Commission serves as the public oversight group for Berkeley’s Measure GG and Measure FF funds, charged with reviewing the budget on a regular basis to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the intent of the voter approved measures, recommending the appropriate annual increase to the tax rate, and recommending new programs and policy positions requiring Measure GG and Measure FF funding. The ultimate goal of the Commission is to increase community safety, resilience, and education for community disaster preparedness. The commission also reviews and makes recommends on items referred by the City Council or other Commissions.

Summary of FY 2022-2023 Work Plan Activities

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Resources</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
1.	Oversight of measure GG and FF Funds	Commission and staff	Review approved budget versus spent on a quarterly or monthly basis	Provide annual budget recommendations to City Council Provide a quarterly memo based on results of budget reports Track recommendations through the City review process	A. Ensure that Fire Stations remain open (GG) and provide a gap spend for personnel. B. Improvement of City resilience via emergency preparedness, and reduction of wildfire risk (FF) and City-wide hardening.
2.	Home hardening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vegetation inspection • building envelope 	Commission and staff time	Review inspection program and implementation	Provide inputs to annual program targets based on approved annual budget Provide monthly input to staff reports Provide code recommendations as needed to Fire Marshal or Building Department for home hardening	A. Ensure a systematic and consistent approach to inspections across the community B. Ensure best practices and code including home hardening recommendations

Topic	Resources	Activities	Outputs	A. Outcomes
3. Wildland-urban interface (WUI)	Commission and staff time, interface and coordination with City departments	Participate in and promote CWPP process Provide input to annual vegetation program including goals, funding, and process	Use a systematic approach to address vegetation management in WUI areas Coordinate with Parks & Recreation on approved target areas Promote third party efforts (private non-public efforts)	B. Reduction of overall vegetation that could fuel a fire within City limits C. Coordinating City wide efforts D. Coordination of third party efforts
4. Safe passages	Commission and staff time, interface and coordination with City departments	Restart the Safe Passages program Mobilize CERT volunteers Reach out to community groups	Develop additional recommendations that address Safe Passages recommendations on parking restrictions and red curb restrictions, notification and alerts, and evacuation planning Propose budget from City funding sources	A. Develop recommendations and strategic plan for the implementation of a Safe Passages B. Coordinate City wide emergency efforts for official implementation
5. Community Outreach	Commissioner and time	Education to the public on disaster and fire safety programs Coordinate with private groups Coordination and inclusion with BFD personnel	Develop an annual program and outreach process Schedule information sessions across the City Solicit input for programs and goals	A. Inform the community of the issues, programs and goals B. Solicit community input
6. City Outreach	Commissioner and staff time	Provide input to City Commissions Provide input to City leaders	Inform City commissions of DFSC plans Provide input in open forums Respond to referrals	A. Ensure communications with the City officials

Nancy Rader
1198 Keith Avenue
Berkeley CA 94708
nraderhome@gmail.com

June 26, 2022

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
2180 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

Via email to: council@cityofberkeley.info

Re: 6/28/22 Agenda Item #44 -- Lack of Public Oversight of Measure FF Funds

Dear Mayor Arreguín and Council Members,

Summary: The Council designated the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (DFSC or Commission) as the oversight body for the expenditure of Measure FF funds, but the Commission has not been able to fulfill its duties because it has not been provided with sufficient budget or program information from the Fire Department (Department). You have only just been made aware of this, given that it has taken up to 15 months for the City Manager/Department to transmit the DFSC's recommendations to Council. Therefore, as an individual member of the Commission, I urge you to take the following actions:

1. Adopt the budget provisionally as it pertains to Measure FF, or otherwise ensure that major funding commitments are not made until such time as the DFSC's recommendations can be considered,
2. Request that the Department and City Manager expedite their transmission to Council of the DFSC's April 27, 2022, Recommendation for an Expanded Fire Prevention Inspection Program and related FY 23 and FY 24 budget recommendations, which address the extreme wildfire risk posed by overgrowth of hazardous vegetation, and
3. Ensure that the next Fire Chief is committed to working collaboratively with the DFSC to develop a Measure FF implementation plan.

Background and Further Detail

Seeking to assure voters that Measure FF funding would be spent for its intended purposes and with public oversight, six weeks prior to the 2020 election, Council designated the DFSC as the Citizens' Oversight Committee for the expenditure of Measure FF funds, which replicated the Commission's duties with respect to Measure GG. Council empowered the Commission to "request detailed expenditure plans for tax proceeds annually, which shall be provided to it as early in the budget process as feasible" and to "make recommendations to the City Manager and the City Council as to ... how any tax proceeds should be spent" and may "obtain a report on actual expenditures."

The proposed budget for Measure FF and GG funds on the June 28th agenda does not benefit from any meaningful review or oversight from the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission (DFSC) nor has Council received the Commission's official recommendations in a sufficiently timely manner to allow for their meaningful consideration by Council. (The lack of timely transmission of Commission actions is why I am writing to you as an individual commissioner.) In short, the oversight process for Measure FF funds is largely dysfunctional.

Your agenda packet contains two DFSC memos, which illustrate the dysfunction:

- Item 34 (PDF-pp. 11 and 335) was initially adopted by the DFSC at its February 24, 2021, meeting and pertained to the proposed FY 22 budget, not the FY 23 budget before you. This recommendation memo to Council was preliminary and noted that “the Commission expects to follow up with more specific recommendations on [FY 22] funding allocations.” However, the Commission received no further budget information from the Fire Department after that point. At the Commission’s December 2021 meeting, it was discovered that this memo had never been sent to Council and the memo was amended to note that “As of Dec. 2021, the Commission has not been supplied with a Measure FF budget.”
- Item 48a (PDF-pp. 16 and 1025) is a DFSC recommendation to Council adopted in February 2022 but has just now arrived at Council. The memo request timely and detailed information on Measure GG and Measure FF budgets to enable the Commission to do its job in providing oversight and advice to the City Council about the use of Measure GG and FF funds. As you have just received this memo, time has obviously run out to act on it in time to allow the DSFC to assess the FY 23 budget.

The Administration’s response to these memos reflects the problem. Its response to Item 34 (PDF-p. 341) does not inform Council that the memo is now 15 months old, and disingenuously states that the Fire Department “will continue to provide” budget information that has not been provided. Similarly, Fire Chief Roman’s response to Item 48a (PDF-p. 1029) states that the City Manager and Fire Department “will continue to provide” information that it has not provided, and that it will do so “as much as feasible.”

While the Department and the City has been focused on responding to the coronavirus pandemic and has been short of staff, that is not sufficient excuse for the near-complete lack of engagement with the Commission regarding how Measure FF funds should be spent, what its priorities should be, and what, in fact, Measure FF funds have been spent on. I note that, prior to his departure in April 2021, Chief Brannigan did engage a Commission subcommittee in a detailed, line-item discussion of an early draft of the Department’s Measure FF budget for FY 2021. That engagement ended with Brannigan’s departure. Given the extreme threat that wildfire poses to the entire city, effective use of Measure FF funds should be one of the city’s highest priorities.

Therefore, I urge you to take the following actions:

1. Adopt the budget provisionally as it pertains to Measure FF until such time as the DFSC is provided sufficient information to assess the budget and make its recommendations and for those assessments and recommendations to be considered by Council, or otherwise ensure that major funding commitments are not made until such time as the DFSC's recommendations can be considered.
2. Request that the Fire Department/City Manager expedite its transmission to Council of the DFSC's April 27, 2022, Recommendation for an Expanded Fire Prevention Inspection Program and related FY 23 and FY 24 budget recommendations (attached). This memo reflects the Commission's concern that the tremendous vegetative fuel loads within Fire Zones 2 and 3 must be reduced quickly to reduce the likelihood and impacts of a catastrophic wildfire.
3. Ensure that the next Fire Chief is committed to developing a plan for Measure FF that clearly sets forth budget and policy priorities with meaningful input from the Commission, and that allows for budget tracking to ensure that plan goals are being achieved.

Sincerely,



Nancy Rader
Member, Disaster and Fire Safety Commission
nraderhome@gmail.com

July 24, 2022

To: Commissioners, DFSC
Fr: Commissioner Rader
Re: Measures FF and GG Tax Rates

As you know, the City Council officially designated the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission as the citizens' oversight committee for expenditure of the proceeds of Measure FF. Among the Commission's other powers, the Commission may "make recommendations to the City Manager and the City Council as to the rate at which the tax should be set."

For your information, at the June 28, 2022, Council Meeting, Council adopted the City Manager's proposed tax rates for Measures GG and FF for FY 2023 (see next page). As you are aware, these proposed tax rates were not presented to the DFSC for review. Perhaps the Commission should request of the City Manager that the Commission be apprised of the proposed tax rates and reasoning in future years, sufficiently in advance of the items going to Council.

Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300

8. FY 2023 Tax Rate: Fund Firefighting, Emergency Medical Response and Wildfire Prevention (Measure FF)

From: City Manager

Recommendation: Adopt second reading of Ordinance No.7,822-N.S. setting the FY 2023 tax rate for funding Firefighting, Emergency Medical Response and Wildfire Prevention (Measure FF) in the City of Berkeley at the annual tax rate of \$0.1126 (11.26 cents) per square foot of improvements.

First Reading Vote: All Ayes.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300, Abe Roman, Fire, (510) 981-3473

12. FY 2023 Tax Rate: Fund Fire Protection and Emergency Response and Preparedness (Measure GG)

From: City Manager

Recommendation: Adopt second reading of Ordinance No.7,826-N.S. setting the FY 2023 tax rate for funding Fire Protection and Emergency Response and Preparedness in the City of Berkeley at the rate of \$0.05818 (5.818 cents) per square foot of improvements for dwelling units and setting the rate for all other property at \$0.08804 (8.804 cents) per square foot of improvements.

First Reading Vote: All Ayes.

Financial Implications: See report

Contact: Henry Oyekanmi, Finance, (510) 981-7300, Abe Roman, Fire, (510) 981-3473

Project Highlights

The following pages highlight some of the projects that are underway or recently completed.



Focusing on Wildfire Safety

Project: Wildfire Safety and Public Education Program

Progress: 25% Complete

Budget: \$3,000,000 (Measure FF)



Chris Pinto, Retired Annuitant (former Assistant Fire Chief), Project Manager

In a time of increased annual wildfire risk, it's more important than ever that Berkeley focuses on wildfire safety. Berkeley's Fire Department is proud to share the steps taken to develop its Wildfire Urban Interface (WUI) Division as a part of an umbrella Wildfire Safety and Public Education Program. The Department has successfully enlisted the assistance of retired firefighters (i.e., retired annuitants) who bring institutional knowledge and expertise to support this important work during a crucial time of need versus demand. They are assisting with completing vegetation management inspections, writing policies and procedures that will guide the WUI Division's activity, engaging in community education and outreach about creating defensible space and wild fire safety procedures, and working to establish more FireWise communities. A FireWise community meets voluntary criteria on an annual basis and retains an "In Good Standing Status" after engaging in a collaborative framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level (National Fire Protection Association). The Fire Department is also excited and optimistic about its forthcoming Community Wildfire Prevention Plan (CWPP), a comprehensive plan to determine how best to direct financial and personnel resources to effectively address wildfire safety concerns.



July 26, 2022

Jose Bedolla, Chair
Disaster & Fire Safety Commission

I wanted to formally introduce myself and provide you with my vision for collaboration between the Disaster Fire Safety Commission (Commission) and the Berkeley Fire Department (Department). Unfortunately, I am out of town on a trip that was planned for the Summer of 2020, which my family is finally taking, I will return on August 10th. My Staff will be coordinating a recurring meeting schedule with you so we can hit the ground running.

I am a third generation Berkeley native; I live in the city along with my wife Maia, two kids Thelonious (7) and Aisha (5), and most of my immediate and extended family. I am a proud product of the Berkeley Unified School District and have a deep passion and commitment to create educational career pathways from the High School to attainable City careers, including within the Department. My grandfather Stanley Sprague, retired from the Department in 1977 after 22 years of service and I couldn't be more proud to carry on his legacy of progressiveness, integrity, and creativity.

I was hired in October of 2001 and have progressed through the Department holding most ranks in the organization. I believe my reputation is that of a progressive, action-oriented person who is always seeking ways to improve the workplace and the quality of service the Department provides to our community. I have demonstrated this on countless occasions through contributions and improvements to Department operations, funding, structure, administrative systems, policy, procedure, training, interdepartmental communication and expectations, and improvements to our promotional process.

We have tremendous opportunity in front of us to improve the community's preparation for and resilience following large-scale emergencies, including wildfire, for the first time since the hills assessment that was transiently in-place following the 1991 firestorm. I, along with Interim Deputy Chief May, Emergency Service Coordinator Khin Chin, Assistant Chief Dan Green and the rest of our team believe the Commission is a critical community partner that can be better utilized in this effort.

DAVID SPRAGUE / INTERIM FIRE CHIEF
2100 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY 510.981.3473
DSPRAGUE@CITYOFBERKELEY.INFO



I look forward to closely collaborating with you and the rest of the Commission. What I can promise right away is that you will experience clear and transparent communication from our team. I will attend the September Commission meeting and provide you a detailed overview of the FY23 plans and approved budget for Measure FF. ERMA is still unable to generate the detailed on-going budget reports that I want for internal operations and which I know the Commission also wants. I will personally be working with Staff to try and find a solution over the coming months. I also want to engage the Commission in a discussion to find other opportunities that are meaningful and achievable in FY23.

In short, we've got lots of work to do and I have the utmost faith in our community to be on the cutting edge of whatever we put our minds to. Let's roll up our sleeves...

Thank you for your commitment and for the work that is to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Sprague".

David Sprague, Interim Fire Chief

cc:

Kim-Mai Cutler, DFSC Commissioner
Weldon Bradstreet, DFSC Commissioner
Antoinette Stein, DFSC Commissioner
Shirley Dean, DFSC Commissioner
Nancy A. Rader, DFSC Commissioner
Robert Tobias Simmons, DFSC Commissioner
Paul Degenkolb, DFSC Commissioner
Keith May, DFSC. Secretary
Khin Chin, DFSC Staff

Chin, Khin

From: Shirley Dean <shirley.dean@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 3:34 PM
To: Chin, Khin
Subject: Material for August 3, 2022 DFSC Meeting
Attachments: 2022 08 03 Dean Memo to DFSC Cal Fire Defensible Space Info.docx

Importance: High

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Khin,
I note from the agenda several items that might benefit from this information regarding defensible space. For example Items #3 and 5.

I have attached some material copies from the CalFire website and a link to a You Tube video on the same subject.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4JpOdS9ffl>

Can these two items be sent to DFSC Commissioners so they can review before the meeting? And will it be possible that the video can be played during the meeting so that the public Has a chance to see it?

Thank you,
Shirley Dean

Defensible Space

Keep your property lean and green to help protect your family and home.

Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Defensible space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it helps protect your home from catching fire—either from embers, direct flame contact or radiant heat. Proper defensible space also provides firefighters a safe area to work in, to defend your home.

Defensible Space Zones

Zones 1 and 2 currently make up the 100 feet of defensible space required by law. Assembly Bill 3074, passed into law in 2020, requires a third zone for defensible space. This law requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop the regulation for a new ember-resistant zone (Zone 0) within 0 to 5 feet of the home by January 1, 2023. The intensity of wildfire fuel management varies within the 100-foot perimeter of the home, with more intense fuels' reduction occurring closer to your home. Start at the home and work your way out to 100 feet or to your property line, whichever is closer.



Zone 0 - Ember Resistant Zone

Zone 0 extends 5 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

The ember-resistant zone is currently not required by law, but science has proven it to be the most important of all the defensible space zones. This zone includes the area under and around all attached decks, and requires the most stringent wildfire fuel reduction. The ember-resistant zone is designed to keep fire or embers from igniting materials that can spread the fire to your home. The following provides guidance for this zone, which may change based on the regulation developed by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

- Use hardscape like gravel, pavers, concrete and other noncombustible mulch materials. No combustible bark or mulch
- Remove all dead and dying weeds, grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches and vegetative debris (leaves, needles, cones, bark, etc.); Check your roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc.
- Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet
- Limit plants in this area to low growing, nonwoody, properly maintained plants
- Limit combustible items (outdoor furniture, planters, etc.) on top of decks
- Relocate firewood and lumber to Zone 2
- Replace combustible fencing, gates, and arbors attach to the home with noncombustible alternatives
- Consider relocating garbage and recycling containers outside this zone
- Consider relocating boats, RVs, vehicles and other combustible items outside this zone

Zone 1 – Lean, Clean and Green Zone

Zone 1 extends 30 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer.

- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds (vegetation).
- Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Remove branches that hang over your roof and keep dead branches 10 feet away from your chimney.
- Trim trees regularly to keep branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.
- Relocate wood piles to Zone 2.
- Remove or prune flammable plants and shrubs near windows.
- Remove vegetation and items that could catch fire from around and under decks, balconies and stairs.
- Create a separation between trees, shrubs and items that could catch fire, such as patio furniture, wood piles, swing sets, etc.

***During times of drought when green landscaping cannot be achieved due to water restrictions be sure to remove all dead or dying material from Zone 1.**

Zone 2 – Reduce Fuel Zone

Zone 2 extends from 30 feet to 100 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer.

- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Create horizontal space between shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Create vertical space between grass, shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Remove fallen leaves, needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches. However, they may be permitted to a depth of 3 inches.
- All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of 10 feet of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.

Zone 1 and 2

“Outbuildings” and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior.

DFSC Staff Report

August 3, 2022

1. Measure FF Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview – Next scheduled update will be the Year-end report at the end of September or beginning of October

i. Program Review

- **Standards of Coverage Analysis** – The Department is undergoing an in-depth analysis of fixed and mobile resources to determine the best deployment model and to ensure the Department is responding effectively and efficiently.
 - Status: No update
- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – The CWPP is a comprehensive risk analysis that addresses local target hazards and includes a community-based action plan to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure resiliency. It will serve as the foundation and roadmap for the Departments work to prevent wildfire and limit the spread when they ignite.
 - Update: Presentation on Agenda.
- **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** – We have complete 8500+ annual inspection that began in the summer of 2021. The inspection program has transition from paper to the new Defensible Space Inspection (DSI) program. All properties are being imported into the DSI program so we can follow up with re-inspections and not lose the violation data on those properties.

On July 27th we kicked off the new Inspections Season along with going live with the DSI iPad inspection program. We have changed to a year-long inspection cycle from the previous 5-month cycle that will reset every May 1st. We are collecting data with the software to track various home hardening vulnerabilities (roof types, gutters, eaves, windows, vents, fences, decks, and sidings as examples). These inspection times will increase due to the home hardening assessments and using the digital format with iPads. These increased times will benefit the department and the property owners as there is much more information collected and shared with the homeowner following the inspection. This should result in a more-clear process for the homeowner and ultimately less questions and follow-up.

The first two areas that we are starting the new inspection season will be the Panoramic Area and properties east of Grizzly Peak Blvd.

- **Retired Annuitants** – The retired annuitants are largely focused on performing vegetation inspections for properties in fire zone 2 and 3. They are also looking at transitioning the inspection from paper to mobile technology, re-tooling the re-inspection, citation, and violation process. The Department has also expanded its traditional hazardous fire area program to include all properties in fire zones 2 and 3.
 - Update: Currently we have 9 field inspectors and 4 administrative still performing work for the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Division.
- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment – Single Function Job Classifications & Recruitment:**
 - The Division has worked collaboratively with Local 1227 and Human Resources to draft single function EMT and Paramedic Job Classifications which were approved with elation at the December Personnel Board meeting and were approved by the City Council on January 18th, 2022.
 - Update: Recruitment for our first class of Paramedics has begun! We will take a snapshot of the applicant pool on and move that group ahead through the process. We plan to hire groups of 10 with an ALS Academy of eight weeks followed by Field Training Observation.
- **Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP):** Berkeley Fire Department stations are undersized, in poor condition and in need of remodels or replacement. The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs. This process will provide the City leaders of today and tomorrow with actionable information ahead of future infrastructure bond measures.
 - Update: Will have a Closed Work Session with City Council to deliver a mid-project report in September after Council Recess.
- **Dispatch Study:** Our goal, per Council direction is to enhance the dispatch center so it can triage calls, divert non-emergency calls (including mental health calls) to appropriate resources like the SCU; and provide emergency medical instructions to callers.
 - Status: No New Updates

- **Recruitments:**
 - No new updates.

- **Division of Training Property** – The Department is actively engaged to find a piece of property that will meet the City’s needs for the training and development of its emergency responders and support staff. Due to zoning, the cost of property and the proximity of residential units to most property in Berkeley, this location will likely be outside the City proper. This presents exciting opportunities for regional collaboration with other fire departments and a community college district.
 - Update: No new updates.

ii. Implementation & Metrics

Outdoor Warning System –5 complete sets of the Outdoor Warning System equipment have been delivered in June to cover the five pilot sites. 10 more sets of the equipment will be ready to ship August 12th

HY Architects have been added as contractors to provide:

Provide permitting services for documentation of location of the initial 5 pilot sites and installation and to provide construction documents, Department of State Architect approval services and construction administration for documentation of location and installation for emergency broadcast speakers at eight Berkeley Unified School District campuses. These services include Schematic Design (site, building and roof plan), Construction Documents (building, roof plan and may include elevations), and Agency Review (follow up on questions, clarifications).

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants							
As of:	8/3/2022	Vegetation Management Inspections					
AI Inspections							
	Inspected	No Violation Found	Violations Found	Re-Inspection Required	Re-Inspection Completed	Re-Inspection No Violation Found	Re-Inspection w/Violations Found
Foley	449	234	215	215	12	3	9
Frankel	1194	1108	86	86	3	3	
Greene	97	68	29	29	350	317	33
Guzman	1		1	1			
Higgins	817	622	195	195	2	2	
Johnson	877	505	372	372	67	52	15
Lee	202	167	35	35	213	192	21
Marbury	654	379	275	275	424	337	87
McCracken	104	70	34	34	105	70	35
Nagamoto	687	546	141	141	113	107	6
Pinto	13	7	6	6	98	80	18
Ward	431	293	138	138	362	237	125
Williams	1628	1384	244	244	11	5	6
Totals	7154	5383	1771	1771	1760	1405	355
Total Inspections	7,154						
% Completed	100%						
Remaining	0						

2. Measure GG Monthly Report –

- a. Budget Overview – Next scheduled update will be the Year-end report at the end of September or beginning of October.

3. Department Activities

- a. One of the biggest news we have to report came up suddenly. Fire Chief Abe Roman has returned from the City of Berkeley and has accepted a position with the San Rafael Fire Department. We are sad to see him leave the City, but recognize his difficult decision to do what he feels is right for his family.

Dave Sprague will be the Interim Fire Chief and Keith May will be the Interim Deputy Chief. The command team has been well positioned by Chief Roman to succeed. During the last two years, did a lot to flatten the organization, create transparency within the command group, and push information and decision making out and down. This has created a situation where one person’s departure – even an essential one – can be absorbed by the remaining personnel with little lost in transition.

- b. We have concluded our second-round interviews for Academy 112 and have sent 15 candidates to the background process.

- c. Grants – Recognizing that we do not have the bandwidth, we are leaning into our contractor to scope out proposals that would further our programs and identify grant opportunities that match the department’s needs.

4. Safe Passage

- Update: We have been working with Transportation and Traffic to repaint existing red curbs and replacing “no parking signs” that have faded as well as painting red curbs around hydrants.

5. Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type		
	June, 2022	
	July, 2022	
Fires – including Encampment Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	29	
	31	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	3	
	7	
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	
	4	
Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	790	
	783	
Hazardous Condition - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	52	
	35	
Service Calls (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	136	
	120	

Public

Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	85 113	
False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	148 192	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	0 0	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	1 3	
TOTAL	1,241 1,281	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	2,676 2,831
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6. Commissions Actions Status

Date of Action	Topic	Result	Description of result	Notes
12/1/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised	City Council 6/28/22 Agenda	Item 34	
2/23/2022	Request for Timely Fiscal Information on Measures FF and GG	City Council 6/28/22 Agenda	Item 48	
4/13/2022	Budget Recommendation for Parking Enforcement			Staff Review for Response; Police Department
4/27/2022	Measure FF Budget Recommendation - Expanded Fire Prevention Inspection			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
5/25/2022	Annual Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment Memorandum	City Council 6/14/22 Agenda	Communications Packet related to Item 17	Submitted to Clerk for inclusion in Council Communication Packet
5/25/2022	Request for One Additional Meeting of Disaster and Fire Safety Commission	City Council 7/26/22 Agenda	Item 26	Additional Meeting Approved
6/22/2022	Red Curbs and Visible Signage			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department

DRAFT Fire Department Messaging Plan: Summer 2022

1. Tools, workshop to make a fire weather plan (June 8)
2. Safely celebrate July 4th – Avoid fireworks, certain hillside roads (June 30 – should publish earlier if info available)
3. Make your property fire safe: Part 1
4. Prepare now for fire season: Berkeley Fire Department recommends hills residents plan to stay elsewhere during “Extreme Fire Weather”, (Aug 3)
5. Learn your evacuation zone to act quickly on evacuation warnings, orders,
6. Sign up for AC Alert
7. Outdoor warning system?
8. Make your property fire safe: Part 2 – our new online inspection tool
9. Firewise (WUI)
10. Community wildfire protection plan (WUI)



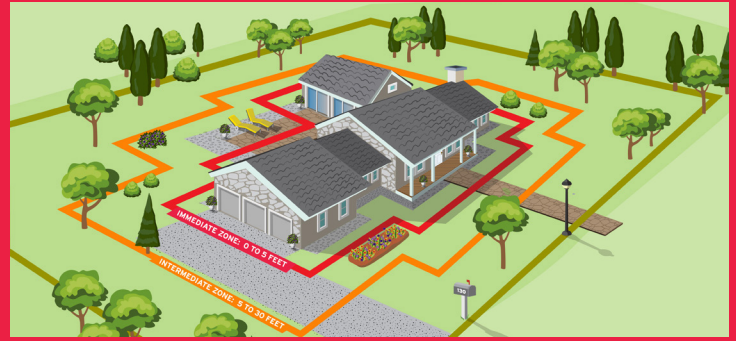
ABE ROMAN / FIRE CHIEF

2100 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704 510.981.5585
BDFIREPREVENTION@CITYOFBERKELEY.INFO

To: «Owner_Name»
«Merged_Address» «Unit»
«City» «Zip»

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION STEPS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE



■ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

1. HOME IGNITION ZONES

To increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire, choose fire-resistant building materials and limit the amount of flammable vegetation in the three home ignition zones. The zones include the **Immediate Zone**: (0 to 5 feet around the house), the **Intermediate Zone** (5 to 30 feet), and the **Extended Zone** (30 to 100 feet).

2. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang the home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches in the **Immediate Zone** (0 to 5 feet around the house). Keep your landscape in good condition.

■ FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION

3. ROOFING AND VENTS

Class A fire-rated roofing products, such as composite shingles, metal, concrete, and clay tiles, offer the best protection. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Box in eaves, but provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

4. DECKS AND PORCHES

Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

5. SIDING AND WINDOWS

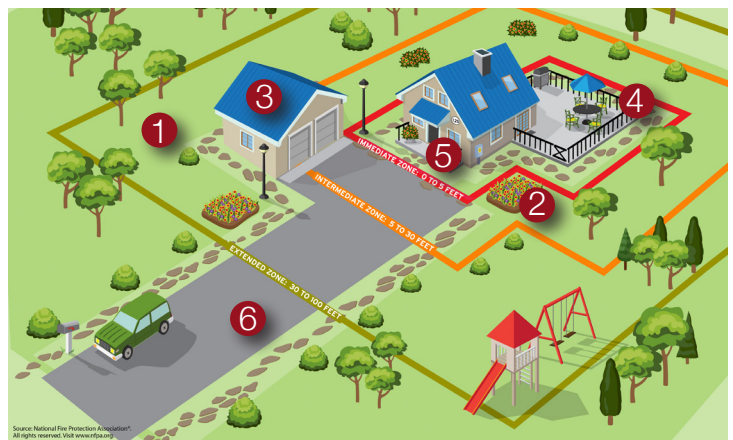
Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster, or stucco, and use dual-pane tempered glass windows.

■ BE PREPARED

6. EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACCESS

Ensure your home and neighborhood have legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicle access.

- Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock.
- Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place.
- Always evacuate if you feel it's unsafe to stay—don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire.
- Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations.
- Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.



**TALK TO YOUR LOCAL FORESTRY AGENCY
OR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE SPECIFIC WILDFIRE RISK
WHERE YOU LIVE.**



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

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Order a Reducing Wildfire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)



Wildland Urban Interface Self-Inspection Checklist

- Address – make sure your address is clearly visible from the street.
- Combustible debris – remove leaves and needles from roof, gutters and ground with greater frequency during summer and fall. This debris is extremely vulnerable to ember and radiant-heat ignition.
- Stacked/piled combustibles – move woodpiles and other combustible materials at least 10' from structure.
- Seasonal grasses and weeds – remove/cut down to 3" or less.
- Decks – remove combustibles stored under or near decks. Enclose under-deck area with solid material to prevent ember capture and ignition.
- Vegetation contacting structures – trees, shrubs and vines should be maintained as to not transmit fire to the structure. Trees and shrubs must be pruned to create separation from structures.
- "Ladder Fuels" – this refers to vegetation that connects from a low level up into the tree canopy. Ladder fuels need to be broken apart. Create separation between shrubs and trees to minimize flame spread upward.
- Tree Limbs – remove limbs from ground up to 10'. Remove no more than 1/3 of the tree canopy to maintain healthy tree.
- Chimney – install a spark arrester and maintain trees to provide a minimum of 10' of clearance from chimney – this applies whether the chimney is used or not.
- Roadway – clear shrubs and trees 10' horizontally from edge of road. Ground cover and low shrubs that do not readily transmit fire are acceptable. Also, maintain a minimum of 13'6" of vertical clearance above road to provide for emergency vehicle access.

*The "NFPA How To Prepare Your Home" sheet is a general guideline. This checklist contains specific guidelines for Berkeley properties.





May 13, 2022

Dear Berkeley Neighbor,

Fires in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) area have grown in intensity and size over the last 20 years. In 1991, the Oakland-Berkeley Firestorm was seen as rare fire behavior driven by the most extreme conditions. Yet, we are now seeing this extreme fire behavior in California year after year.

Our primary concern at the Berkeley Fire Department is enhancing resident safety, but we cannot accomplish this alone. This letter is a call to action. The Berkeley Hills are designated by the City of Berkeley and the Office of the State Fire Marshal as “Very-High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.” Through the hard work of all residents in the Berkeley WUI area, we can improve our community’s resistance to wildfire.

May 1st is the symbolic first day of our 2022 WUI inspection season. Our inspectors are currently out in the field putting in the work to provide direction to property owners for necessary correction. By choosing May 1st, we are providing time for our at-risk residents and our inspectors to determine the work needed and accomplish it before the intense summer and autumn conditions bring fire season to its peak.

All residents in the Berkeley WUI need to create defensible space on their property. Defensible space is the creation of a buffer to slow the spread of wildfire to structures. I have included a diagram and self-inspection checklist to help you assess and address your property. An important concept to consider when assessing your property is the volume of combustible vegetation. Properties that are densely planted with trees and shrubs pose a threat. Homeowners on these properties should focus on reducing the overall vegetation mass. For more information on defensible space, please go to Berkeleyca.gov/fire and click the Vegetation Management link on the right.

Together, with the Berkeley Fire Department and all WUI residents working as a team, we can harden our community to the destructive forces of wildfire. We all have an impact on each other in the wildland-urban interface – for better or worse. Let’s work to make it the best it can be.

Sincerely,

Abraham Roman, Fire Chief



ABRAHAM ROMAN / FIRE CHIEF

2100 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY, BERKELEY CA 94710 510.981.5585
BDFIREPREVENTION@CITYOFBERKELEY.INFO



City of Berkeley Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

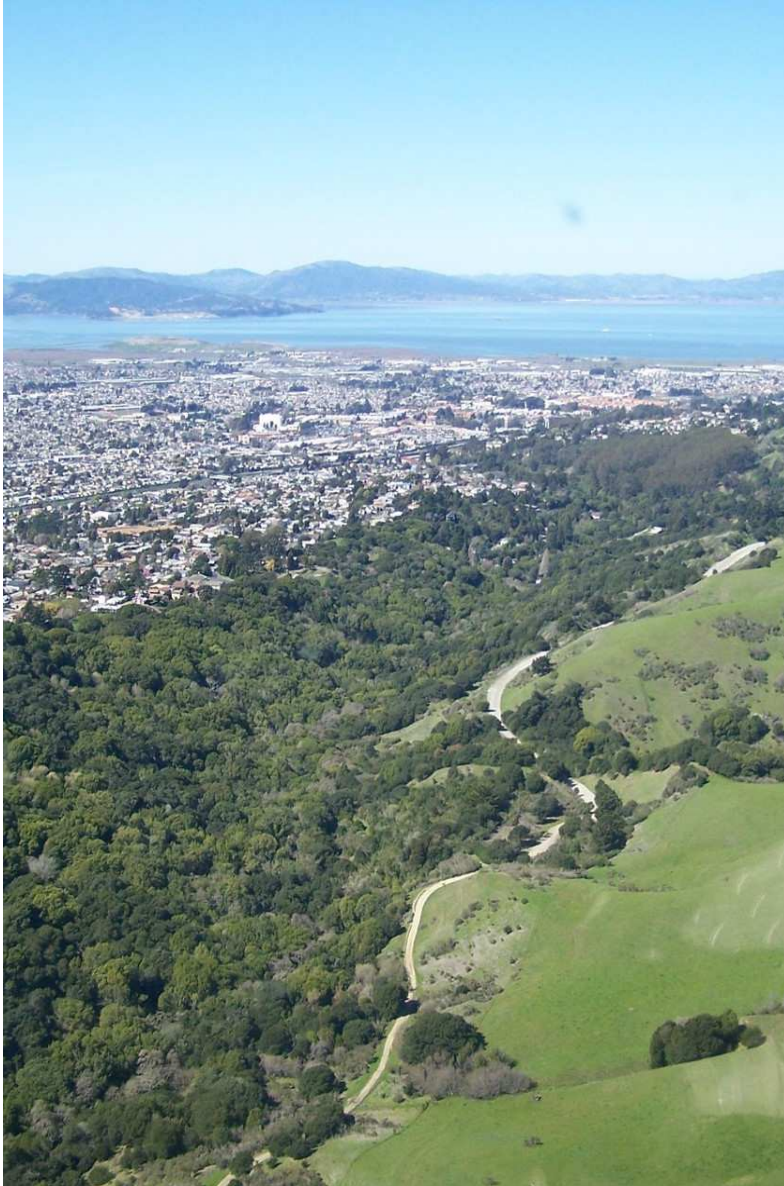
CWPP Disaster and Fire Safety
Commission Meeting #1

August 3, 2022





Agenda



- What is the CWPP?
- Process and Timeline
- Public Engagement
- Community Base Map
- Next Steps + Questions



What is a CWPP?

A CWPP is a planning mechanism for communities to address their wildfire risk.



CWPP: Three Basic Criteria

Based on the Federal 2003 Healthy Forest Restoration Act:

1. Collaboration

- Local, state government representatives, in consultation with federal agencies,
- Other interested parties



2. Prioritize Fuel Reduction Projects

- Fuel reduction treatments, recommended types and methods
- Other types of risk reduction

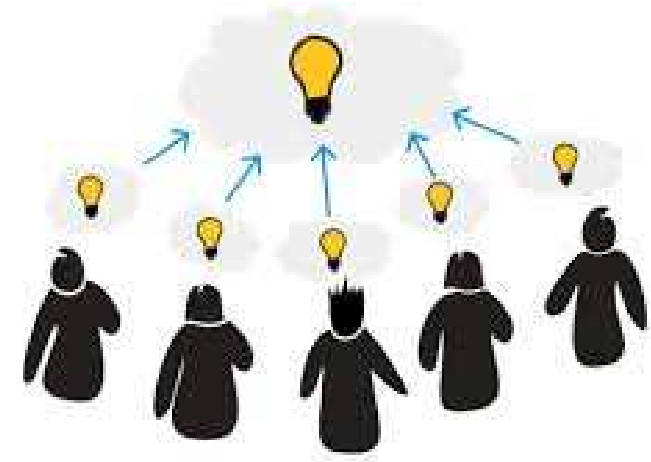


3. Address Structure Ignitability

- Recommend measures to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the plan area



Diagram 1 - Defensible Space



Results-Outcomes

- Shared vision of current situation
- Common, shared, or parallel paths for improvement
- Compatible planning documents
- Open statement of priorities
- Increased potential for funding/efficiency
- Greater collaboration with partners/stakeholders

Berkeley CWPP Participants

Stakeholders in the CWPP

- Residents
- Special interest groups
- Firewise groups
- City departments (Planning, Parks, Forestry, Public Works, etc.)
- Berkeley Fire Department
- CAL FIRE (Santa Clara Unit)
- City Council

CWPP signators (required)

- Berkeley Fire Department
- CAL FIRE (Santa Clara Unit)
- City Council



Measure FF is funding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Berkeley CWPP Process

Engagement

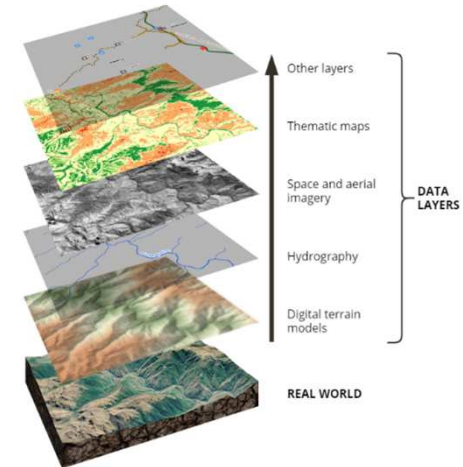
Engage interested parties

Assessment

Existing conditions + risk assessment + recommendations + priorities

Action

Finalize action plan + assessment strategy + monitoring and update






Public Engagement

- Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meetings
- Media Releases
- Newsletters (sign up on e-mail list)
- Surveys
- Through online City website and Hub
 - FAQs
 - Community Base Map feedback
- E-mail cwpp@cityofberkeleyinfo

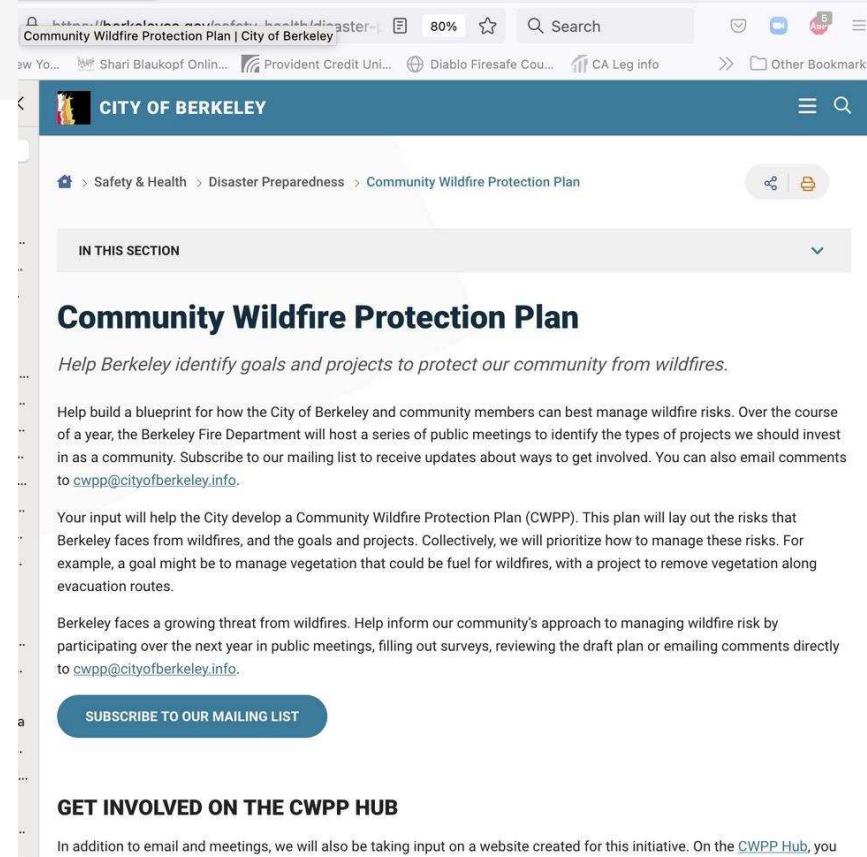
News

Subscribe to receive [news updates](#) in your email inbox,



Help shape plan to protect our community from wildfires

Attend a public meeting on August 3 and fill out an online survey by August 31 to give input on how the City and community can best reduce wildfire risk.



Community Wildfire Protection Plan | City of Berkeley

CITY OF BERKELEY

Safety & Health > Disaster Preparedness > Community Wildfire Protection Plan

IN THIS SECTION

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Help Berkeley identify goals and projects to protect our community from wildfires.

Help build a blueprint for how the City of Berkeley and community members can best manage wildfire risks. Over the course of a year, the Berkeley Fire Department will host a series of public meetings to identify the types of projects we should invest in as a community. Subscribe to our mailing list to receive updates about ways to get involved. You can also email comments to cwpp@cityofberkeley.info.

Your input will help the City develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). This plan will lay out the risks that Berkeley faces from wildfires, and the goals and projects. Collectively, we will prioritize how to manage these risks. For example, a goal might be to manage vegetation that could be fuel for wildfires, with a project to remove vegetation along evacuation routes.

Berkeley faces a growing threat from wildfires. Help inform our community's approach to managing wildfire risk by participating over the next year in public meetings, filling out surveys, reviewing the draft plan or emailing comments directly to cwpp@cityofberkeley.info.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST

GET INVOLVED ON THE CWPP HUB

In addition to email and meetings, we will also be taking input on a website created for this initiative. On the [CWPP Hub](#), you

CWPP Hub

City of Berkeley CWPP Hub

Maps to support a wildfire resilient city.

This website is being used to inform and collect feedback on the maps used in the City of Berkeley's effort to create a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Help us by perusing the map tools on this site and providing feedback. Scroll down for more information or to use our tools.

Map Gallery

Use these tools to explore the CWPP's mapped data.

Come back for additional maps as we develop more!



Berkeley CWPP Community Base Map

A web app used to showcase the City of Berkeley's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)...



Map Your Project Web Map App

A web map application to gather project locations throughout the City of Berkeley and surroundin...



Fire Hazard Severity Zones

A map showing CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) within the city of Berkeley as...



City of Berkeley Council Districts

A map showing districts within the City of Berkeley.



How to Use this Hub

How to Use this Hub

A short tutorial on how to use the City of Berkeley's Hub, Community Base Map, and other online tools.



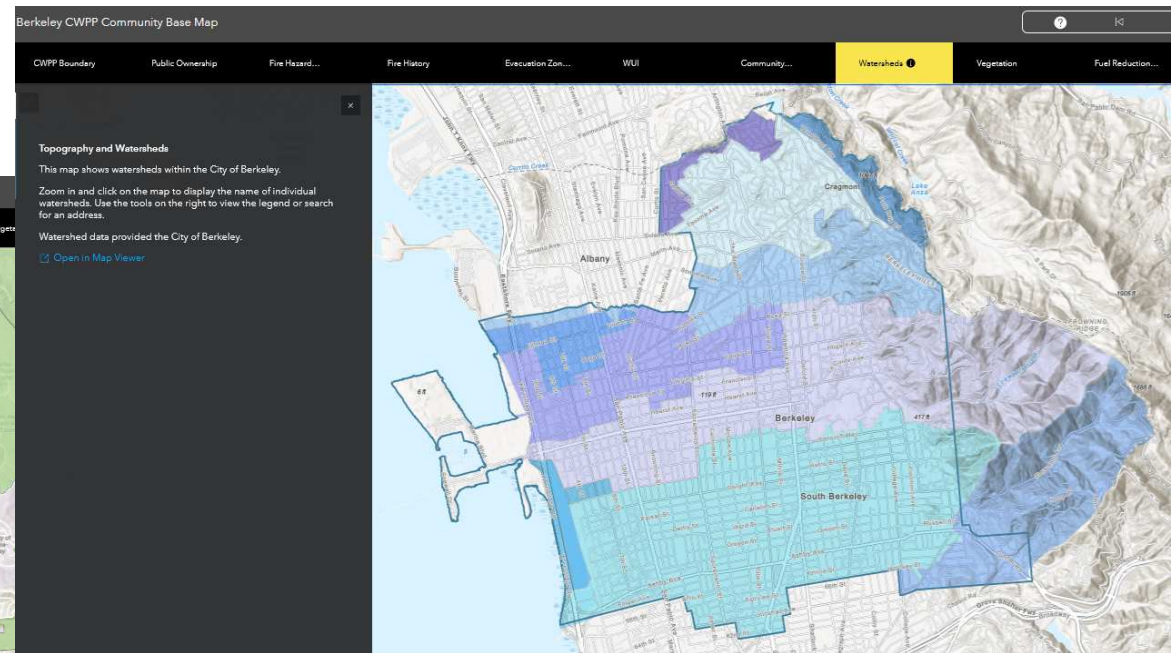
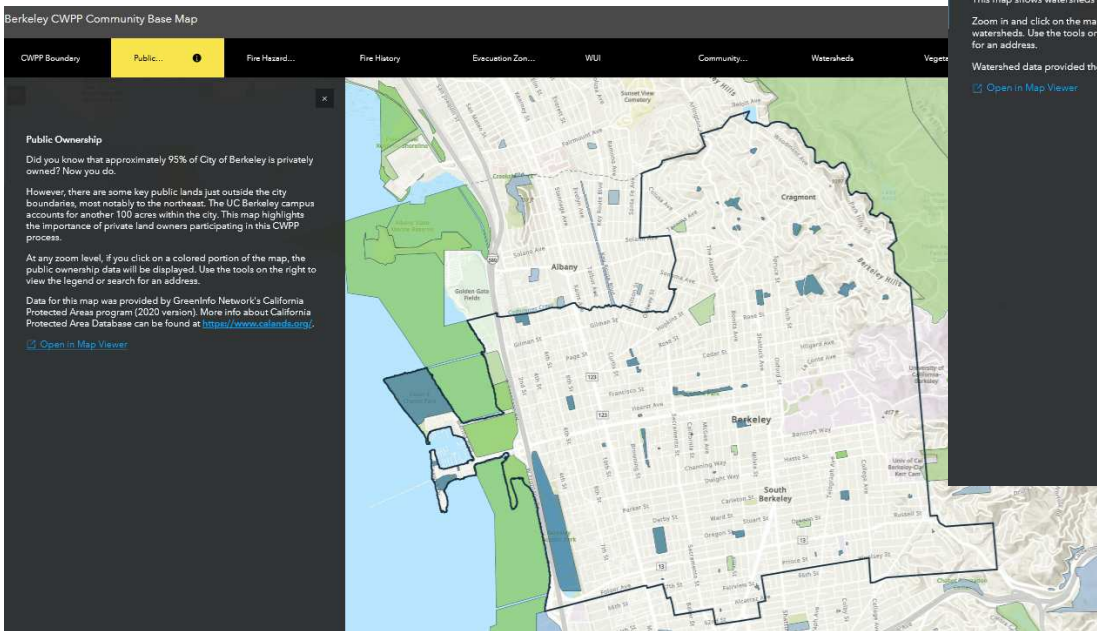
Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions



CWPP Hub: Community Base Map

- Opportunity to find out about existing conditions, with maps
 - Covers CWPP boundary, public ownership, fire hazard, fire history, evacuation zones, community assets, topography and watersheds, vegetation and fuel reduction projects



Next Steps

CWPP Team

- Continue to gather Existing Conditions
- Describe hazard and risk, projects and priority opportunities
- Develop Community Survey #2 for input on projects and priorities
- Develop Newsletter #2 and Media Release
- DFSC Meeting #2 Sept 28, 2022

Community

- Respond to Survey #1
- Sign-up for newsletter
- Email questions for FAQs,
- Participate in DFSC Meeting #2 Sept 28, 2022
 - Think about potential hazard reduction programs
 - Think about existing programs that need support



Thank you!

Questions?