

**AGENDA**  
**Disaster Fire and Safety Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**December 7, 2022**  
**7:00 PM**

District 1 – Kim-Mai Cutler  
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet  
District 3 –  
District 4 – Antoinette Stein

District 5 – Shirley Dean  
District 6 – Nancy Rader  
District 7 – Tobias Simmons  
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://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1619573531> 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 161 957 3531 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 October 26, 2022\*

**Action Items**

3. 2023 Commission Meeting Schedule\*
4. Designating a Commissioner as an Alternate member of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Core Group

### **Discussion Items**

5. Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Meeting #3 Assessment Priorities and Action Plan (Staff Presentation)\*
6. Update on Commission Recommendations to Council (Rader)
7. Berkeley Fire Code Update (Dean)
8. Fire Department Facilities Master Plan (Dean)
9. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

### **Adjournment**

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday October 26, 2022

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

Absent: Paul Degenkolb, Tobias Simmons

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May, Leah Greenbaum, Meagan Jones

Public: 6 Attendees; 5 public speakers

**Preliminary Matters**

Call to Order

J. Bedolla called meeting to order at 7:02pm

Approval of the Agenda

Approved by Acclamation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

5 speakers

1. Fire Department Staff Report

**Consent Items**

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of August 3, 2022\*

Motion to approve as submitted: Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 4 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Simmons, Degenkolb; 2

Abstain: Rader, Cutler

3. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of September 28, 2022\*

Motion to approve as submitted: Dean

Second: Stein

Vote: 4 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Simmons, Degenkolb; 2

Abstain: Rader, Cutler

## **Action Items**

## **Discussion Items**

4. Commission Minutes Format Including the Staff Report (Staff)
5. Adoption of the Berkeley Fire Code Update (Staff)
6. Measure FF and Measure GG Budget Follow Up (Bedolla)
7. Commission Workplan Implementation and Topic Reports (Bedolla)
8. Firefighter and Staff Recruitment Strategies (Bedolla)
9. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

## **Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn: Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 6 Ayes: Rader, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Bedolla, Stein; 0 Noes; 2 Absent:

Simmons, Degenkolb; Abstain:

Adjourned at 8:53p

# DFSC Staff Report

December 7, 2022

## 1. Measure FF Monthly Report

- a. Budget Overview – Still working in ERMA to produce and we are now with the Implementation Team trying to figure it out. Trying to get the EMRA team to design when an expense is being entered we can put the code along with it. We will go through each line and document what each project and program is and will report it out quarterly.
- b. Quarter 1 (July, August, September) report due in November  
Quarter 2 (October, November, December) report due in February  
Quarter 3 (January, February, March) report due in May  
Quarter 4 (April, May, June) End of Year Report due in 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 new updates.
    - **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: CWPP Presentation 12/7/22.
    - **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** –
      - Update: Inspections are still being continued year-round with an emphasis on re-inspections and high hazard complaint properties.
    - **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: all Retired Annuitants have submitted their documentation to return back to work and expected to be in the field within the next few weeks.
- **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 have been approved by the City Council on January 18th, 2022.
    - Update: 18 to background.
  - **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 update.
- **Recruitments:**
  - Communications Specialist (PIO) – Interviews were completed on December 1<sup>st</sup> and references are being checked.
  - Firefighter/Paramedic – We have seven new recruits in Academy 112<sup>th</sup> that started on October 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Paramedic – Physical exams were completed on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Moving candidates to background investigation phase and hoping to have 10 begin the paramedic Academy in late January.
  - Administrative Assistant – One candidate accepted the job offer and will start in late January.
  - Fire Inspector (Sworn) x2 – Interviews were completed and three candidates moved on to the background investigation phase.
  - The new EMS Captain started on 11/28
  - The new Emergency Medical Service Quality Improvement & Education Coordinator, who is a Registered Nurse was hired and will begin in December 12<sup>th</sup>
- **Safe Passage**
  - **Update:** No new updates.



- c. On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Berkeley fire crews responded to a vehicle into a house. The house was partially collapse but the crews quickly shored up the house and prevented further collapse.
- d. On November 13<sup>th</sup> during the Berkeley Half Marathon, a runner collapse near the finish line. Bystander CPR was initiated and our Paramedic crew was on the scene quickly and provided Advanced Life Support measures which included defibrillating the heart. The patient was brought back to life and was talking before reaching the Emergency Room.

5. Call Volume Report

<b>Fire Department Report by California Incident Type</b>		
	<b>October 2022</b>	<b>November 2022</b>
<b>Fires – including Encampment Fires</b> (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	37	34
<b>Encampment Fires</b> (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	22	15
<b>Explosion</b> - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	1
<b>Rescue &amp; EMS</b> (medical assist, vehicle accident)	902	830
<b>Hazardous Condition</b> - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	50	38
<b>Service Calls</b> (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	128	149
<b>Good Intent</b> (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	117	99



<b>False Alarm Calls</b> (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	179	191
<b>Severe WX</b> (lightening, wind storms)	0	1
<b>Special Incidents</b> (citizen complaints)	4	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>1,344</b>
	<b>Apparatus Count</b>	<b>Apparatus Count</b>
<b>Unit Utilization</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>3,043</b>

6. Commission Actions Status

<b>Date of Action</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Description of result</b>	<b>Notes</b>
12/1/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised	City Council 6/28/22 Agenda	<a href="#">Item 34</a>	
2/23/2022	Request for Timely Fiscal Information on Measures FF and GG	City Council 6/28/22 Agenda	<a href="#">Item 48</a>	
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	City Council 11/3/22 Agenda		11/21: Public Safety Committee positive recommendation of Staff Recommendation
5/25/2022	Annual Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment Memorandum	City Council	<a href="#">Communications Packet</a>	Submitted to Clerk for inclusion in Council Communication Packet

		6/14/22 Agenda	<a href="#">related to Item 17</a>	
5/25/2022	Request for One Additional Meeting of Disaster and Fire Safety Commission	City Council 7/26/22 Agenda	<a href="#">Item 26</a>	Additional Meeting Approved
6/22/2022	Red Curbs and Visible Signage	City Council 9/13/22 Agenda	<a href="#">Item 22</a>	
9/28/2022	FY 22-23 Commission Work Plan			Pending final edits from Commissioner Bedolla

# 2023 CALENDAR

## JANUARY

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## FEBRUARY

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## MARCH

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## APRIL

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## MAY

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## JUNE

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## JULY

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## AUGUST

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## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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### 2023 US FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

1 Jan	New Year's Day	4 Jul	Independence Day
2 Jan	New Year Holiday	4 Sep	Labor Day
16 Jan	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	9 Oct	Columbus Day
20 Feb	President's Day	11 Nov	Veterans Day
29 May	Memorial Day	23 Nov	Thanksgiving Day
19 Jun	Juneteenth	25 Dec	Christmas Day

## Refining a Preliminary Action Plan

**Survey 3 asks for input on a Preliminary Action Plan that includes the top strategies, projects and programs identified in Survey 2. The survey questions address who should have a role and responsibility for the Plan, your priority ranking of strategies, as well as, the percentage of available funds that you think should be expended on each strategy. The survey also provides an opportunity to include “something else” and to explain additional programs or projects that you think should be part of the Action Plan.**

**If you haven't filled out Survey 2, you might consider taking a moment to complete it at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CWPPSurvey2> to better understand the projects and programs each strategy covers.**

Who do you think needs to have a role and responsibility for implementing the Action Plan? *(check all that apply)*

- Elected officials (funding and policy direction)
- City staff (implementation)
- Property owners (hazard reduction actions on own property)
- All residents in Zone 2 and 3 (both property owners and renters in high fire areas)
- All residents citywide (everyone)
- Outside agencies (CAL FIRE, East Bay Regional Park District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, University of California Berkeley, etc.)
- Other (please specify)

Rank the order you think the strategies should be addressed in the Action Plan (1= first to 6 = last).

☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Prevention/ Communication ( <i>staffing, public awareness and education campaigns, risk assessments of individual homes, fire weather information</i> )
☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Safety and evacuation ( <i>evacuation plan and drills, roadway obstructions clearance/ safe passages, evacuation assistance, route planning, real-time communication</i> )
☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Residential mitigation ( <i>inspections, vegetation removal around homes, city funded programs, home hardening, community cleanup days, Firewise neighborhoods</i> )
☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Wildfire response ( <i>ignition detection, pre-attack planning and training with regional partners, mutual aid, local workforce development</i> )
☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Large-scale landscape treatments ( <i>city funding for incentives of hazardous tree and vegetation management on private property, hazardous tree and vegetation removal on public property, dead and dying tree removal for forest health</i> )
☰	⬆️⬇️⬆️	Something else

If you included "something else," please describe.

What percentage of available funding (Measure FF, grants, etc.) should be use for each of the strategies? (*Your answers should add up to 100%.*)

Prevention/ communication	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Safety and evacuation	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Residential mitigation	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Wildfire response	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Large-scale landscape treatments	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Something else	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

**What do you think of the CWPP planning process.**

On a scale of 1 to 5 how hard were the project documents to understand? (1=hard to 5=easy)

Hard		Moderate		Easy
★	★	★	★	★

How did you get information about the planning process and provide input to the CWPP? Which sources were most helpful? *(check all that apply)*

	Not used	Used but not helpful	Helpful	Very helpful
Attended Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meetings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visited the City of Berkeley webpage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Signed up mailing list and received City Newsletters via email	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emailed questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Berkeleyside or other local media outlets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visited the CWPP Hub to review information as it developed, including base maps, projects and FAQs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Answered on-line surveys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

Any final comments or ideas not captured in the three surveys?

Thank you for participating in our Survey!

Funding for the development of the Berkeley CWPP is provided by Measure FF, a parcel tax approved by Berkeley voters in 2020.

## Help develop an Action Plan to protect our community from wildfires

Key Message: Use online tools, email, or public meetings to provide input on an Action Plan that the City of Berkeley and community members can use to best reduce wildfire hazards and risks.

Share your thoughts via the [third online survey](#) on an Action Plan to protect the Berkeley community from wildfire.

In the survey we will rank priority projects and identify roles and consider responsibilities, funding needs and timetables that will be used to develop an Action Plan. Please complete the survey by December 31st.

If you missed the first or second on-line surveys, there is still time for your input.

- Survey 2 offered a framework with 10 types of hazard reduction strategies and asked you to prioritize various programs, projects and activities. Survey 2 is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CWPPSurvey2>.
- Survey 1 focused on awareness of wildfire issues and identifying what folks already have done around their own homes and neighborhoods to reduce the hazard. Survey 1 is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COBCWPP1>

Your continued input will help the City of Berkeley develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. This plan will lay out the hazards and risks that Berkeley faces from wildfires, and identify key goals, programs and projects to manage those hazards and risks.

## Attend the third meeting on December 7th

Learn about a preliminary Action Plan to reduce wildfire hazards and risks. Learn more about the tools you can use to submit your input into the process at our third meeting:

Disaster and Fire Safety Commission  
Wednesday, December 7th  
7:00 pm–9:00 pm  
Join on Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81595546232>

During this meeting, staff will share the developing Community Wildfire Protection Plan, a tool many other cities and counties use to prepare for wildfires. The third meeting will cover:

- Recap of process and timeline for developing the plan, along with an overview of the first and second meetings and [community base map](#).
- Information on how to share your ideas throughout the planning process.
- Preliminary action plan for implementation of highest priority projects.

## Other ways to get involved

Fill out the third online survey by December 31<sup>st</sup> to rank priority projects and provide input on roles, responsibilities, funding needs and timetables.

Sign up to our mailing list to receive updates on how to get involved. Input opportunities include online surveys and an interactive map. You can also send comments at any time to [cwpp@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:cwpp@cityofberkeley.info).

Make a plan to attend the January 25, 2023 Disaster and Fire Safety Committee meeting to discuss this the Draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

### Purpose of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan will identify goals and projects for residents, community members, and the City of Berkeley in order to manage the hazards and risks posed by wildfires.

The plan will include goals for improving wildfire response, community preparedness, fuel management, infrastructure, ignition reduction, home hardening, and more. Input from the public and other stakeholders is key to prioritizing these efforts.

This plan is one of several projects the Berkeley Fire Department is leading to better prepare our community for disasters, including the growing threat of wildfires. Funding for these efforts is provided by Measure FF, a parcel tax approved by Berkeley voters in 2020.

Stay informed about this project by visiting the [project webpage](#), [emailing us](#) with questions or comments, or signing up for the City [newsletter list](#) (delivered via email) — and join us for our third meeting on December 7th.

### Links:

- Project webpage: [Community Wildfire Protection Plan](https://berkeleyca.gov/safety-health/disaster-preparedness/community-wildfire-protection-plan) <https://berkeleyca.gov/safety-health/disaster-preparedness/community-wildfire-protection-plan>
- Online surveys to assess strategies, preliminary programs, projects and actions  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CWPPSurvey2>  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COBCWPP1>
- [City newsletter signup \(delivered via e-mail\)](#)  
[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CABERKE/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=CABERKE\\_185](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CABERKE/subscriber/new?topic_id=CABERKE_185)
- [Community base map to learn about wildfire hazards and risks](#) <https://cwpp-berkeley.hub.arcgis.com/>
- [Disaster and Fire Safety Commission](#) <https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/boards-commissions/disaster-and-fire-safety-commission>
- [Email](mailto:cwpp@cityofberkeley.info) [cwpp@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:cwpp@cityofberkeley.info)





Office of the City Manager

November 15, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: *Dee* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Re: FY23, Berkeley Fire Department Quarterly Report (Q1)

Attached you will find the Berkeley Fire Department's report for the first quarter of FY23. The goal of producing this report is to increase the transparency of the Department and provide concise yet detailed updates on the programs and projects in which the Department is currently engaged in. We welcome any feedback on improvements that would make it more useful to you.

Attachments: Berkeley Fire Department Quarterly Report

cc: Disaster and Fire Safety Commission  
Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Paul Buddenhagen, Deputy City Manager  
LaTanya Bellow, Deputy City Manager  
David Sprague, Interim Fire Chief  
Jenny Wong, City Auditor  
Mark Numainville, City Clerk  
Matthai Chakko, Assistant to the City Manager



**SEPTEMBER**

**2022**

**QUARTERLY  
REPORT**



**OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF AND ADMINISTRATION \_\_\_\_\_ 4**

The Office of The Fire Chief directs the City's fire prevention, suppression, and emergency medical service programs. This office conducts planning and budgeting, maintains the labor-management relationship, supports city management, and fosters cooperative working relationships with community groups and other agencies. \_\_\_\_\_ 4

- PROJECT 1: Evaluate and Reorganize Emergency Communications Center Operations \_\_\_\_\_ 4**
- PROJECT 2: Contract for a Standards of Coverage Report \_\_\_\_\_ 5**
- PROJECT 3: Project Management & Subject Matter Expertise Support \_\_\_\_\_ 5**
- PROJECT 4: Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP) \_\_\_\_\_ 6**
- PROJECT 5: Fire Station Solar & Lighting Transition \_\_\_\_\_ 7**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL SERVICES UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ 8**

The Administrative and Fiscal Services Division supports budget and fiscal policy, payroll, purchasing, administrative systems, record retention compliance, employee training and development, and the labor-management relationship. The Division also oversees strategic planning, grant writing, responses to Public Records Act requests, and performance tracking and reporting. \_\_\_\_\_ 8

- PROJECT 6: ERMA Implementation & Training \_\_\_\_\_ 8**
- PROJECT 7: Right-Sizing of Staffing in the Administrative & Fiscal Services Unit \_\_\_\_\_ 8**
- PROJECT 8: New Contracts & Requisitions Supporting Projects Funded by Measure FF \_\_\_\_\_ 9**
- PROJECT 9: Implementing Project Manager Budgeting \_\_\_\_\_ 10**

**OPERATIONS DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ 11**

The Operations Division's objective is the day-to-day delivery of emergency and non-emergency services to the City of Berkeley. This is accomplished through seven firehouses with seven Type I fire engines, two aerial ladder trucks, four advanced life support ambulances, one battalion chief, a Medical Specialist Team, a Hazardous Materials Response Team, two water rescue crafts, and 15 rescue swimmers. \_\_\_\_\_ 11

- PROJECT 10: Managing Overtime \_\_\_\_\_ 11**
- PROJECT 11: Cancer Prevention & Early Cancer Detection \_\_\_\_\_ 11**
- PROJECT 12: Improving Employee Health & Wellness \_\_\_\_\_ 12**

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ 13**

The Emergency Medical Services Division oversees the Department's pre-hospital care and treatment program for the Berkeley community. The Division oversees emergency medical services for large-scale events and provides standby services to contract EMS services to minimize the event's impact on the 9-1-1 system. \_\_\_\_\_ 13

- PROJECT 13: EMS Staffing & Deployment Redesign \_\_\_\_\_ 13**
- PROJECT 14: New Position Classifications & Recruitment Efforts \_\_\_\_\_ 15**
- PROJECT 15: Managing Increasing Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) \_\_\_\_\_ 15**
- PROJECT 16: Addition of an Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Position \_\_\_\_\_ 16**

**FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ 17**



The Fire Prevention Division decreases the number and severity of all fires in Berkeley through an active code-enforcement program, public education activities, engineering and plans review, and vegetation management. When fires occur, Fire Prevention staff investigate the fire origin and cause and, if needed, prosecute those who are responsible. \_\_\_\_\_ 17

**PROJECT 17: Adoption of 2022 Fire Code \_\_\_\_\_ 17**

**WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ 18**

The Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Division addresses local wildfire target hazards and performs community-based action planning to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure wildfire resilience. Action Planning provides the foundation and roadmap for the Department's work to prevent wildfires and limit the spread when they ignite. \_\_\_\_\_ 18

**PROJECT 18: Development of a Wildland Urban Interface Task Force and Work Plan \_\_\_\_\_ 18**

**PROJECT 19: Development of a Vegetation Reduction Program \_\_\_\_\_ 18**

**PROJECT 20: Strategic Reduction of Hazardous Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_ 19**

**PROJECT 21: Expansion of Chipping Services \_\_\_\_\_ 19**

**PROJECT 22: Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) \_\_\_\_\_ 19**

**PROJECT 23: Increasing Wildfire Safety Inspections \_\_\_\_\_ 20**

**PROJECT 24: Expanding Firewise Programs \_\_\_\_\_ 20**

**TRAINING DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_ 22**

The Division maintains a California State Fire Training Accredited Local Academy where new firefighters complete Firefighter I and II certifications. The Division also provides ongoing training and development to all positions in the Department. This is accomplished with the team: Assistant Fire Chief, three sworn members, and one non-sworn member who provides critical administrative support. \_\_\_\_\_ 22

**PROJECT 25: Enhanced Staffing \_\_\_\_\_ 22**

**PROJECT 26: Berkeley - Albany Fire Departments Partnership \_\_\_\_\_ 22**

**PROJECT 27: Improving Entry-Level Firefighter Recruitment \_\_\_\_\_ 23**

**PROJECT 28: Regional Leadership Academy \_\_\_\_\_ 23**

**PROJECT 29: Develop a Regional Training Consortium \_\_\_\_\_ 23**

**PROJECT 30: Training Facility Land Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_ 24**

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_ 25**

The Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates a suite of programs to build disaster resilience for the Berkeley community. These programs support personal preparedness, community connections, and government efforts that will help Berkeley respond to and recover from our next earthquake, fire, or other disasters. \_\_\_\_\_ 25

**PROJECT 31: Evacuation Route Study \_\_\_\_\_ 25**

**PROJECT 32: Evacuation & Warning Systems \_\_\_\_\_ 25**

**PROJECT 33: Improved and Increased Preparedness Activities \_\_\_\_\_ 26**



## OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF AND ADMINISTRATION

The Office of The Fire Chief directs the City's fire prevention, suppression, and emergency medical service programs. This office conducts planning and budgeting, maintains the labor-management relationship, supports city management, and fosters cooperative working relationships with community groups and other agencies.

**Problem Statement:** Due to significant and ongoing recruitment and hiring challenges resulting from the global pandemic, the Office of the Fire Chief (the Department) struggles to fulfill community needs through day-to-day operations, strategic planning efforts, and project and program management. The most significant challenges surround overseeing operational and programmatic priorities due to short staffing. The Department is working diligently to provide upgraded staffing facilities and reorganize its operations to support current and future staff and staffing needs.

### **PROJECT 1: Evaluate and Reorganize Emergency Communications Center Operations**

#### Summary

The Berkeley Emergency Communications Center contracted Federal Engineering Inc. to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, which will fulfill City Council's request to enhance operations, meeting the community's growing needs under the omnibus reimagining package. The project will examine existing dispatch capabilities and the City's goals to develop a gap analysis and path forward on how to triage calls, divert non-emergency calls—including mental health calls—to appropriate resources, and implement the delivery of emergency medical instructions to callers.

Federal Engineering (FE) Consultants' work will result in a wide-ranging plan to adjust daily operations in alignment with evolving emergency medical response needs. FEs work will include recommendations for:

- a more appropriate staffing model,
- additional hardware and software,
- how to implement pre-arrival and emergency medical dispatch systems,
- how to divert sub-acute calls to the most appropriate resource,
- improved training plan for dispatchers, and
- facility enhancements to the dispatch center over the next 36 months.

FY22: FE initiated Phase I on January 20, 2022. FE consultants conducted an onsite visit complete with staff interviews, focus groups, and an evaluation of the physical space. FE consultants also completed onsite visits, interviews, and observations in Piedmont Police and Fire Departments and Albany Fire Department. City staff collected relevant data, documentation, and information to assist FE with establishing a baseline analysis of communications operations and technology.



FY23 Quarter 1: FE conducted follow-up interviews with various City staff, reviewed and analyzed collected data and documentation, and delivered a draft report. BFD staff reviewed the draft Phase I report and expect a final draft before the end of CY 2022.

Expected Completion: Phase I, September 2022 – Phase II (Implementation) FY25-26

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**PROJECT 2: Contract for a Standards of Coverage Report**

Summary

The Department is undergoing an in-depth analysis of fixed and mobile resources to determine if the City is meeting national standards for call processing and response times; as a result, the Department will be empowered to determine the best deployment model to achieve a more effective response force with a focus on efficiency.

FY22: The Department provided the City Gate with the necessary data to conduct the initial standards of cover analysis and presented mid-project results to City Council on April 19, 2022.

FY23 Quarter 1: City Gate consultants completed the risk assessment and since included an assessment of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley's growth plans and the City's growth trends.

Expected Completion: FY 23 Quarter 1

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**PROJECT 3: Project Management & Subject Matter Expertise Support**

Summary

The Department onboarded a project management team to assist with long-term project planning, provide subject matter experts (SMEs) with specialized knowledge the Department doesn't currently have access to, and help ensure project goals and objectives consistently meet deadlines. Project management support is ongoing; it has been and will continue to be critical to improving organization, efficiency, and transparency. The contracted project managers continued providing support to organize complex recurring processes like recruitment and personnel transactions (e.g. promotions, resignations, and retirements) to retain institutional knowledge and refine and improve these processes.

FY22: Since October 2021, Ganey Science consultants (Ganey) have provided consulting assistance to the Department with program management of multiple Departmental projects and initiatives. Overall, the Ganey project management team (PMT) and SMEs organized Department projects using the Smartsheet project management platform. Specific project assistance includes:

- Enhancement of Fire and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Staffing and Deployment. The Ganey team assisted with staffing by developing a recruitment plan, marketing videos, a specialized website, and strategic social media posts. Ganey is also assisting with the development of a single-function paramedic academy curriculum.
- Risk Mitigation in the City's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Areas. Ganey assisted with WUI risk mitigation through developing a newsletter, postcards, and trifold brochure and has provided some assistance with grant application development for work in the WUI.



- Acquisition and Development of a Multi-Functional Property. Ganey performed a review of environmental studies performed on potential properties to be leased for a multi-functional training facility.
- Upgrade the Fire and EMS Dispatch Center. Ganey has conducted a third-party review of BFD's dispatch consultant's work and has been developing a quality improvement program for dispatch.
- In addition to project management and emergency services consulting support, Ganey has provided specialized technical support in various fields, including videography, marketing, information technology, grants management, and environmental planning. The PMT also added SMEs to our contract to assist with EMS quality improvement and developing a Regional Training Consortium.

FY23 Quarter 1: Consultants and SMEs with Ganey Science focused their efforts on a dispatch Quality Improvement model and presentation, current and future recruitment strategies to help the department target potential applicants, and the development of Paramedic entry-level Academy curriculum development. The project management team is focusing on new policy reviews and the wildland-urban interface programmatic support for vegetation management and evacuation.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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#### **PROJECT 4: Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP)**

##### Summary

Six (of seven) Berkeley Fire stations are undersized, in poor condition, needing remodels or replacement, and do not meet modern workplace configurations for cancer prevention. The goal of the FMP is to develop a report that will provide leadership with actionable recommendations in preparation for future infrastructure bond measures. Read the scope of service [here](#) and the timeline [here](#).

FY22: The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs by collaborating with the Public Works (PW) Department staff and Siegel and Strain Architects, with expertise in interdisciplinary planning and engineering. Department staff and consultants collaborated to determine future facility needs and new building layouts and designs for all fire facilities. The team is also developing floor plans for the new proposed BFD administration building and will bring an update to City Council for a work session in the Fall of 2022.

FY23 Quarter 1: Conceptual high-level designs for each fire facility were presented to staff. Research of other public/private partnerships (residential over firehouse) was completed. Final designs for the new Fire Department Headquarters were completed. Staff is tracking grants and legislation to assist with the cost of the associated work that will be required on all fire facilities.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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**PROJECT 5: Fire Station Solar & Lighting Transition**

Summary

The Department is collaborating with the City's Office of Energy and Sustainable Development and the Energy Efficiency Coordinator to transition stations to use high-efficiency lighting and renewable energy sources.

FY22: East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) invited four cities (Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward, and San Leandro) to participate in an innovative pilot procurement partnership to install solar power and storage on critical municipal facilities. Vendors will bid on installing solar power/storage on the portfolio of critical facilities through a long-term (20-year) power purchase agreement (PPA), where the vendor pays the upfront cost of the equipment/installation and owns and operates/maintains the equipment. The City would pay the vendor back on the electricity bill to EBCE using funds from the energy savings.

Solar and Battery: EBCE hired EcoMotion, Inc. to provide technical evaluations of Berkeley's critical facilities. They identified eligibility for facilities that could be included in the PPA and the estimated costs for electrical and solar roof upgrades.

	<u>Fire Station 1</u>	<u>Fire Station 5</u>
Berkeley's Estimated Roof Cost	\$ 28,160	\$ 107,448
Berkeley's Estimated Electrical Costs	\$ 98,649	\$ 53,257
Berkeley's Estimated Total Costs for Upgrades	\$ 126,809	\$ 160,705

	<u>Fire Station 1</u>	<u>Fire Station 5</u>
Solar PV Size (kW-DC)	22.4	53.8
Battery Storage (kWh)	45	30
Estimated Internal Rate of Return (unlevered pre-tax)	2.12%	10.68%
Estimated % of energy produced, based on current demand	63%	98%

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff received the Scope of Work for the LED lighting upgrades for Fire Houses 3, 4, 5, 7, and the Fire Warehouse. The date of the work has not yet been scheduled.

Expected Completion: Ongoing





## ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL SERVICES UNIT

The Administrative and Fiscal Services Division supports budget and fiscal policy, payroll, purchasing, administrative systems, record retention compliance, employee training and development, and the labor-management relationship. The Division also oversees strategic planning, grant writing, responses to Public Records Act requests, and performance tracking and reporting.

**Problem Statement:** The amount and complexity of work have significantly increased over the course of several decades for the Administrative and Fiscal Services Unit, and the Division has not increased staffing. The current staffing model does not allow for necessary redundancy in knowledge and skill causing excessive staff overtime and producing a high-stress work environment; especially, for time-sensitive recurring tasks, such as payroll.

### **PROJECT 6: ERMA Implementation & Training**

#### Summary

The Fire Department typically has the most complex payroll system in a city due to the shift schedule, the Fair Labor Standards Act, higher-class pay, shift trades, special team compensation, and multiple schedules that personnel move between. The implementation of ERMA has been challenging for the Department and its payroll staff, which is already challenged with day-to-day operations and has resulted in a significant number of payroll errors and time-consuming research and manual entry. The division is focused on processing payroll, correcting payroll errors, and responding to employee grievances related to ERMA.

**FY 22 Completed Work:** The Administrative and Fiscal Services Unit staff is diligently training on how to maximize the use of ERMA and mitigate payroll errors. The Department hired a temporary employee in March of 2022, who has focused their energy on addressing the several hundred reported payroll errors that have been logged by employees since the Fall of 2021.

**FY23 Quarter 1:** Staff participated in ERMA training that was focused on how to effectively organize and display ERMA data.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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### **PROJECT 7: Right-Sizing of Staffing in the Administrative & Fiscal Services Unit**

#### Summary

The Division's urgent business need is to enhance staffing to ensure employees are paid correctly, to see that payroll errors are addressed in a timely manner, and to ensure the Division is balanced with institutional knowledge, skills, and abilities. The historical staffing for this Division is inadequate and has led to multiple single points of failure where one employee's absence causes unacceptable impacts on the Fire Department's payroll process.



FY 22 Completed Work: The Department's request for additional FTEs as part of the FY23-24 Budget request was approved and has identified internal funds to help increase staffing within the Division.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Division has recruited and hired one of two new additional staff to the Division. This person is providing significant relief to Division and is focused on budget and reporting for all funds. The temporary employee that was helping to resolve hundreds of payroll errors and submit adjustments has departed after completing the lion's share of that work.

Expected Completion: FY22

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### **PROJECT 8: New Contracts & Requisitions Supporting Projects Funded by Measure FF**

#### Summary

The Division is processing new contracts for service and requisitions for purchases to support the new and ongoing projects funded by Measure FF. There's a critical need for contractual management and support with current staffing levels to keep projects moving forward.

FY 22 Completed Work: Since July 2021, the Division has negotiated and processed eleven new contracts, and another six are in process.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff has been working on processing contracts for the Departments Medical Director, a soft and hard inventory management solution, an amendment to software for defensible space inspection software to integrate chipping service appointment management, a new contract to provide support services for the Peer Counseling Unit, and a contract to provide upfitting (installation of lights and sirens) services for fire vehicles.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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## **PROJECT 9: Implementing Project Manager Budgeting**

### Summary

The Department is implementing a new process flow that delegates budget, purchase authority, and decision-making to the individuals within the organization that manages the program, project, or facility. The Department recognizes an opportunity to streamline processes, further improve the administrative workflow, and prepare staff to develop budget and purchase experience earlier in their career. Previously, all requests were directed to one person in the organization which centralized power and created a bottleneck impeding functional workflow and causing unnecessary busy work.

FY 22 Completed Work: Leadership solicited feedback from each program manager on how to improve purchasing process and communication. In FY23, staff will begin a trial using the Department's project management software to track budgets and purchases for two programs.

FY23 Quarter 1: The trial that will streamline the internal purchasing process and help managers track budgeting has been rolled out with two pilot programs and has so far been successful. Full implementation will begin in FY24.

Expected Completion: FY24

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## OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division's objective is the day-to-day delivery of emergency and non-emergency services to the City of Berkeley. This is accomplished through seven firehouses with seven Type I fire engines, two aerial ladder trucks, four advanced life support ambulances, one battalion chief, a Medical Specialist Team, a Hazardous Materials Response Team, two water rescue crafts, and 15 rescue swimmers.

**Problem Statement:** The Department has been substantially impacted by COVID-19 from FY21 through FY22. During that time, we continued to staff all BFD fire stations and deployed additional staff to assist with community testing, mass vaccination, wildfire season deployment, and in-City special events. The Department is working diligently to recover from the hiring freeze and extra work required to serve the Community throughout the pandemic.

### **PROJECT 10: Managing Overtime**

#### Summary

The fire service is facing its greatest recruitment and retention challenges in over 100 years. For the first time, departments are unable to find qualified firefighters, and permanent staff are changing departments. Substantial investment is needed for firefighter recruitment and training. The average timeline to replace an employee is 12+ months. Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) is challenged with the ability to evaluate our recruitment, training, and retention strategies.

**FY 22 Completed Work:** The open recruitment for the 112<sup>th</sup> entry-level academy was completed on May 31<sup>st</sup>; however, the total number of applicants is the lowest the Department has seen. The goal is to hire 16 firefighters to keep up with attrition, and staff is expecting eight to pass background testing.

**FY23 Quarter 1:** The 112th Academy is scheduled to begin on October 31st with eight (8) firefighters.

Staff is focused on enhancing how overtime is tracked so it can be reported by special projects. This will enhance the organizations' ability to understand the staff costs associated with various programs and projects, leading to more effective budgeting.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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### **PROJECT 11: Cancer Prevention & Early Cancer Detection**

#### Summary

Research shows a direct link between fire service work to cancer, and fire departments are experiencing substantially higher rates of illness among active and retired members. The City is committed to improving the work environment for staff. Leadership is exploring industry standards and best practices for personal protective equipment (PPE), workplace engineering, and policies and procedures that prevent or reduce exposure to carcinogens in the workplace.



FY22 Completed Work: The Department underwent two Requests for Proposals selecting Pinnacle LLC as its vendor for annual physicals, an effective program for early cancer detection, and preventative measures. BFD began planning for FY23 physicals.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department purchased additional carcinogen-resistant PPE for all firefighters providing another layer of defense to mitigate exposure to carcinogens in the workplace. Research is underway to replace aging specialty equipment used to wash and decontaminate firefighter protective clothing.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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## **PROJECT 12: Improving Employee Health & Wellness**

### Summary

First responders have a higher rate of chronic medical and psychological injury and illness directly correlated to shift work, traumatic experiences, and stress. Post-traumatic stress disorder and depression rates among firefighters are as much as five times higher than the rates within the civilian population. Employee wellness programs have been proven to reduce healthcare and workers' compensation costs and improve employee health.

FY 22 Completed Work: The Department published a Request for Proposal and selected O2X as its vendor, and selected a Human Performance Coach to lead a health and wellness program to improve the overall health of staff.

FY23 Quarter 1: There have been some major O2X highlights. July kicked off with "Intro to O2X" workshops for the Berkeley Police department, where members were introduced to the *Eat, Sweat, Thrive* model of O2X and encouraged to participate in the O2X Readiness Assessment to get an overall picture of their physical, nutritional, sleep, and stress health. August saw the first fitness challenge through O2X staff working with members of the Police Departments in a movement challenge where they recorded physical activity in healthy competition. September saw the finalizing of the new Paramedic Physical Abilities Test that Gary researched and developed in conjunction with AC McPartland and the EMS division in support of the new single-function paramedic academy. The test has been validated and is being implemented with prospective hires currently.

By the numbers over the last three months there have been:

- ✓ 65 station/department visits
- ✓ 40 strength and conditioning consults
- ✓ 19 nutrition consults
- ✓ 11 individual nutrition programs written
- ✓ 27 individual strength and conditioning programs written
- ✓ 1,444 days of strength and conditioning programming created
- ✓ 205 Athletic Training Treatment sessions
- ✓ 67 Injury Evaluations
- ✓ 28 Athletic Trainer clinic days

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Emergency Medical Services Division oversees the Department's pre-hospital care and treatment program for the Berkeley community. The Division oversees emergency medical services for large-scale events and provides standby services to contract EMS services to minimize the event's impact on the 9-1-1 system.

Problem Statement: The Department is facing challenges in keeping up with medical and other service call volumes due to increased call volumes over the last decade. Contributing factors are ongoing staffing and recruitment challenges since the pandemic, population growth, an aging population, and ongoing development within the city. The Department has an opportunity to evaluate, redesign, and implement updated operational models to work with our current staffing levels and ensure future operations are more efficient for future staff and the community.

### **PROJECT 13: EMS Staffing & Deployment Redesign**

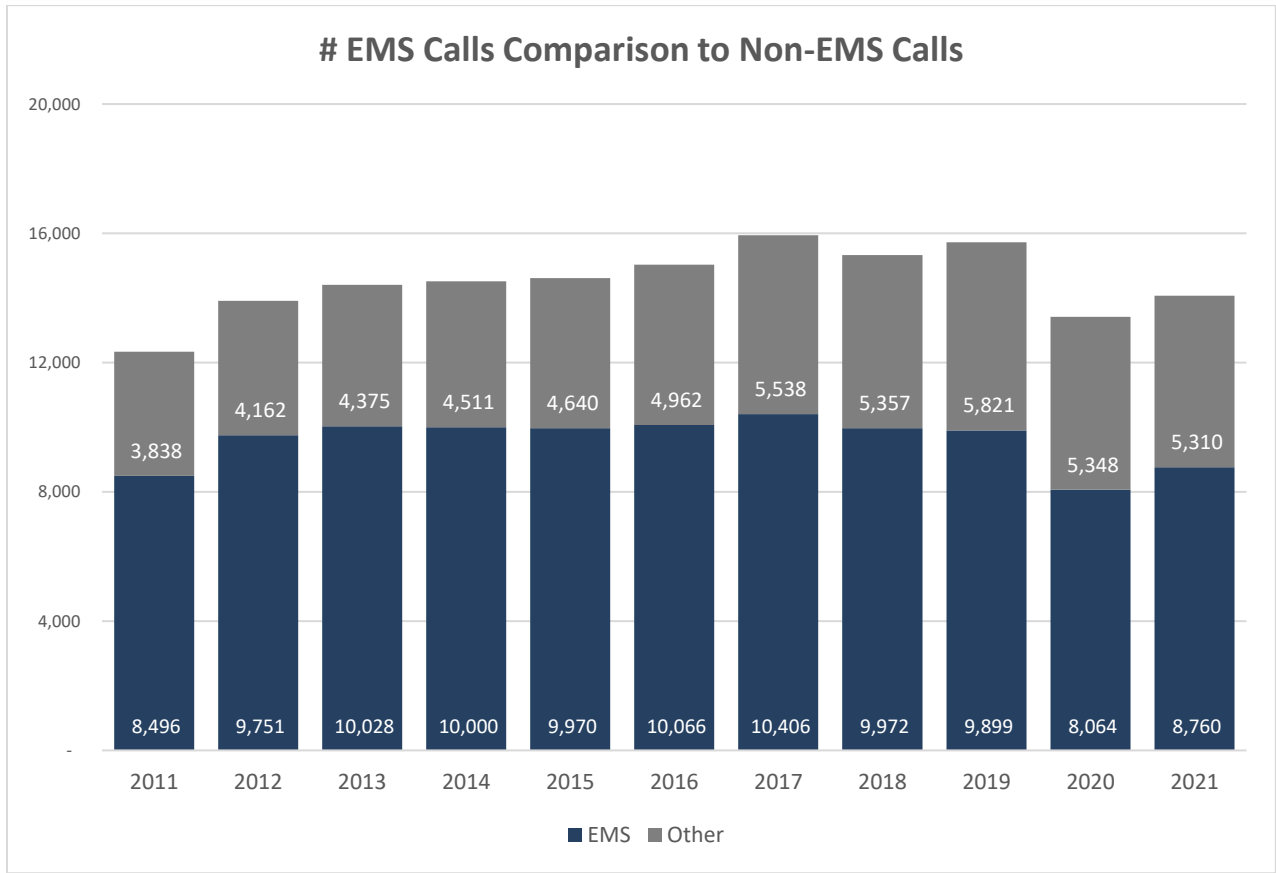
#### Summary

#### Background: Tracking & Predicting Changes to Call Volume

The chart below demonstrates the increase in call volume through 2019. The state of California estimates that the number of those over age 65 will nearly double by 2030 (according to the California State Department of Finance). When examining the population distribution of Berkeley, there is a significant segment of the population between the ages of 51-65 (about 20%) that will move into the center of the highest demand-for-service group by 2030.

Patients between the ages of 18-23, and those over 65, account for roughly half of all the documented patients in Berkeley. If patients over 50 are included, the total increases to approximately 70%. Older age groups are more likely to require transport.

The chart below illustrates a consistent upward trend for medical calls for service over the last decade (2020 & 2021 call volume was lower due to the pandemic).



#### Summary

A long-planned redesign of EMS staffing aims to mitigate calls for medical services by deploying more appropriate resources. This project is primarily focused on the planning efforts to adjust the ambulance staffing model by replacing traditional firefighter paramedic positions with EMTs and paramedics. Staff is looking at how this model will result in cost savings, allow for more flexibility in shift scheduling, create entry-level positions, and create a pipeline for local youth interested in EMS careers.

FY 22 Completed Work: Staff explored new ambulance deployment models by adding Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances staffed with EMTs and alternate methods to triage and assign resources. The Department collaborated with labor groups to develop a new Division staffed with EMTs and Paramedics. The collaboration ensured these new positions align with the Berkeley High School B-STEP Community Technical Education program and improve the organization's ability to attract a diverse workforce. The Personnel Board and the City Council approved said classifications, and the project management consultant finalized the recruitment strategy for FY23 Q1.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff is working with Human Resources, City Attorneys, and Labor to develop a new shift schedule, internal policies and procedures, recruitment process, and academy curriculum for the redesigned EMS deployment model. Two new/additional ambulances have arrived after a year+ of production (pandemic delays). Once additional ambulances are deployed, the Department can begin to optimize performance based on new operations.



Expected Completion: FY25

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**PROJECT 14: New Position Classifications & Recruitment Efforts**

Summary

The Department is working with the City Manager's Office, Human Resources, City Attorney, and IAFF Local 1227 on the development and implementation of new job classifications, work schedules, staffing models, recruitment plans, and initial and ongoing curriculum for the academy. The transition to EMTs and Paramedics is expected to start in FY23.

FY 22 Completed Work: The Limited Term Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic positions were developed, approved, and added to the CalPERS retirement system.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department completed a recruitment campaign for paramedics and is moving candidates through the selection process in preparation for the Department's first academy in early 2023.

Expected Completion: Phase I completed; Phase II is ongoing

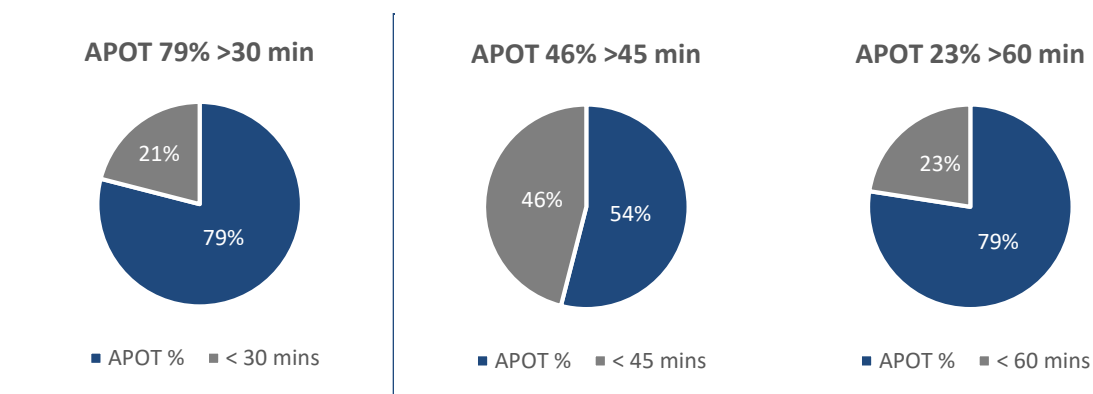
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**PROJECT 15: Managing Increasing Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT)**

Summary

One of the major changes that directly affect ambulance Unit Hour Utilization is the increase in the physical offloading of patients from the ambulance to a hospital bed. This project is a more in-depth analysis of problem identification and exploration of ways in which BFD can improve APOT times.

FY 22 Completed Work: BFD staff analyzed to better understand the scope of the problem. The average time an ambulance spent offloading a patient in 2011 was under 38 minutes and has since increased to 47 minutes in 2021. On twenty-three percent of calls, ambulance staff are waiting to offload patients greater than 60 minutes. BFD anticipates a significant increase in offloading times should Sutter close Alta Bates and consolidates to a single facility in Oakland.







FY23 Quarter 1: Staff engaged with local hospital administrators and found no measurable interest in reducing APOT times at local facilities. The Department and a coalition of other public transport agencies are engaging key stakeholders at the State level to address this issue.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

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**PROJECT 16: Addition of an Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Position**

Summary

The Department developed and created a new job classification to manage the Department's Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program, providing a higher level of retrospective call audits, data analysis, and staff education. The position will be a critical component of the dispatch re-design and the Department's ambulance system re-design.

FY 22 Completed Work: The Department formed a labor-management committee to research effective CQI programs throughout the State to recruit the right person. The proposed modifications to this classification include renaming Fire Department EMS Coordinator position title and modifying the characteristics, duties, knowledge, abilities, minimum qualifications, and pay that align it with comparable classifications in other jurisdictions.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff are currently working through the candidate selection and interview process. Onboarding of this new key position is anticipated before the end of December 2022.

Expected Completion: FY23 Quarter 1

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## FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The Fire Prevention Division decreases the number and severity of all fires in Berkeley through an active code-enforcement program, public education activities, engineering and plans review, and vegetation management. When fires occur, Fire Prevention staff investigate the fire's origin and cause and, if needed, prosecute those responsible.

Problem Statement: The complexity and volume of the Division's work have significantly increased over the past two decades with no adjustments to staffing, which impacts the level of service the Division can provide to internal stakeholders and the community for plan reviews and approvals. The Department has an opportunity to update and improve local fire codes and reorganize staffing to meet current community needs.

### **PROJECT 17: Adoption of the 2022 Fire Code**

#### Summary

The State of California has adopted a new 2022 fire code which will go into effect on January 1, 2023. Berkeley has local conditions specific to our community that affect our local fire and life safety and has adopted multiple fire code amendments in the past that are designed to address these concerns.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff has drafted amendments for this adoption cycle which echo the State's mandate with regard to vegetation management and provide local clarification that will help with implementation.

Expected Completion: FY23

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## WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE DIVISION

The Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Division addresses local wildfire target hazards and performs community-based action planning to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure wildfire resilience. Action Planning provides the foundation and roadmap for the Department's work to prevent wildfires and limit the spread when they ignite.

**Problem Statement:** With 30 years of accumulated vegetation overgrowth and a lack of effective enforcement and mitigation, the City has faced significant challenges and opportunities to become more wildland fire safe. This new Division is solely staffed by retired firefighters due to the Department's staffing challenges, who have identified several wildfire mitigation and prevention projects critical to the community's safety. Permanent staff will supplement and eventually replace retired annuitants as the Department's staffing stabilizes through the end of FY22 and into FY23.

### **PROJECT 18: Development of a Wildland Urban Interface Task Force and Work Plan**

#### Summary

The WUI problem is complex and challenging. To make substantial and meaningful reductions to the risk and potential of wildfire to the community, a multi-departmental coordinated effort is required. A WUI task force composed of representatives from the City Manager's Office (CMO), City Attorney's Office (CAO), Public Works (PW) Department, Parks Recreation and Waterfront (PRW) Department, and the Fire Department have been convened, and are meeting regularly to understand the new unfunded state mandates, policies, and lead the development of an implementation plan to complete all required activities in Berkeley.

The Task Force will develop a comprehensive plan that provides guidance at the strategic and tactical levels for the work that needs to occur to bring the community into alignment with best practices along five major lines of work, including (1) Minimizing Risks to Existing, and New Land Uses; (2) Fuel Modification and Land Management; (3) Protecting Public Health; (4) Increasing Equity; and (5) Disaster Response, Recovery, and Maintenance.

**FY23 Quarter 1:** Staff is researching best practices on new federal and state policies and building a draft plan that will be reviewed by various stakeholders, including the Mayor and City Council.

**Expected Completion:** Draft Plan Completed in FY23, Q2

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### **PROJECT 19: Development of a Vegetation Reduction Program**

#### Summary

The volume and spacing of vegetation in the community are not in compliance with best practices pertaining to fire risk reduction or state guidelines. Staff is working on a program to provide education, enhanced enforcement, and mitigation of hazardous vegetation, especially in Fire Zones 2 and 3.



FY23 Quarter 1: Staff is researching best practices that balance the reduction of hazardous vegetation with environmental concerns.

Expected Completion: Draft Plan Completed in FY23, Q2

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**PROJECT 20: Strategic Reduction of Hazardous Vegetation**

Summary

Work with partner departments to treat hazardous vegetation in the community. This will reduce the risk associated with wildfire in the community and residential areas. There is a significant risk of a wildfire igniting on the ground level and tree canopy with down and dead brush and unkempt ladder fuels.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff worked with Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department staff to identify key projects on public land that required the removal of hazardous vegetation.

Expected Completion: On-going

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**PROJECT 21: Expansion of Chipping Services**

Summary

Studying other jurisdictions that provide chipping services shows that they can substantially improve voluntary compliance with Defensible Space Inspections and increase the volume of hazardous vegetation removed with chipping programs.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff began a high-level process to evaluate the existing chipping service levels and to envision how it can be streamlined and better aligned with inspections. This included a meeting with staff managing a similar program in Marin and multiple discussions with Public Works, Parks, Recreation and Waterfront, and Fire Department staff.

Expected Completion: FY23, Q4

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**PROJECT 22: Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)**

Summary

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 resilience. It will serve as the foundation and roadmap for the Department's work to prevent wildfires and limit the spread when they ignite. The Department contracted Wildland Resource Management to complete an internal plan and a preliminary schedule to address the six task segments in the CWPP, identify available city resources, and establish a steering committee.

FY22 Completed Work: The CWPP process kicked off in May, confirming a steering committee with stakeholders representing the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission, City of Berkeley Parks and Recreation Department, Hills Emergency Forum, Diablo Firesafe Council, Berkeley Office of Emergency Services, and the BFD. The CWPP Steering Committee identified processes for public participation via an online hub site with survey tools slated to launch at the end of July and through September.



Committee members have communicated the CWPP process to neighboring agencies at the Hills Emergency Forum (HEF) monthly meetings. They will continue to keep our neighboring agencies informed and involved throughout the process.

The Community-Based Map is a key component of the CWPP that will create a shared vision of the existing City of Berkeley wildfire environments. The Community Based Map was initiated and used to display the wildfire layers as the data was gathered and finalized.

FY23 Quarter 1: The CWPP Core Team released Survey 2, and the Berkeley Fire Hazard Mapping at the September 28, 2022, Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meeting. For Plan consistency, Fire Zones 1, 2, and 3 will be used as the formal risk map. The CWPP Hazard Map also acknowledges adjacent regional hazards, risks and of collaborative mitigation actions. New data is coming in the next year from both regional mapping and detailed data from Berkeley inspectors as they complete defensible space inspections and home hardening recommendations for the homes in Zone 2 and 3. CWPP Survey 2 focuses on strategies and projects as we develop our CWPP Action Plan.

Expected Completion: FY23 Quarter 3

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### **PROJECT 23: Increasing Wildfire Safety Inspections**

#### Summary

Per California State regulatory body, the Department had to expand the traditional hazardous fire area vegetation inspection program to include all properties in fire Zones 2 and 3. This increased the number of inspections by 83% (+7,184). The Department could not promote the permanent full-time Inspectors necessary to complete the increased inspection requirements.

FY22 Completed Work: Increased number of inspections in Zones 2 and 3. The Department is recruiting additional personnel to fill positions for Fire Inspectors (see project 17) and, in the interim, hired retired annuitants (RA) to perform inspections and begin transitioning administrative tasks from paper to mobile technology. This upgrade aims to improve the re-inspection, citation, and violation processes. The Chief promoted a permanent full-time Chief to lead the division. Our team of Retired Annuitants aims to complete the first inspection cycle with 8,500 inspections by July 2022.

FY23 Quarter 1: The first full-time Inspector was onboarded to the Division; two additional inspectors will be recruited. Staff is working to complete the transition and implementation of a new Defensible Space Inspection (DSI) software and mobile tablets.

Expected Completion: On-going

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### **PROJECT 24: Expanding Firewise Programs**

#### Summary

The WUI Division staff are delivering presentations to the community about Berkeley's identified WUI, the importance of defensible space, vegetation management, home hardening, and what FireWise status means. FireWise criteria were developed by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and are intended



to build community, learn, and implement vegetation management and home hardening practices. The more FireWise groups Berkeley has, the more eligible the City is for grant funding.

FY22 Completed Work: Staff worked with Acacia, an 11-home neighborhood, through the application and approval of FireWise status. Acacia has officially been recognized as the City's first official NFPA FireWise group. Recognizing a Firewise neighborhood or Zone requires collaborative organizing to create a board and develop a 3-year wildfire reduction plan.

Division staff is assisting several other neighborhoods in navigating the application and approval of their FireWise status. There are conflicting guidelines from the NFPA and Cal FIRE that have caused delays in the approval process.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Community Outreach Program continues to engage with the residents located in High Fire Hazard Zones 2 and 3. They facilitated community meetings focusing on two wildfire mitigation strategies:

- Home Hardening - actions taken to reduce home ignition from wildfire/embers
- Creating a Defensible Space - Vegetation management to reduce the spread of a fire

Berkeley's first FireWise community was recognized; command staff attended an event with neighbors the day the official signs were installed.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

---



## TRAINING DIVISION

The Division maintains a California State Fire Training Accredited Local Academy where new firefighters complete Firefighter I and II certifications. The Division also provides ongoing training and development to all positions in the Department. This is accomplished with the team: Assistant Fire Chief, three sworn members, and one non-sworn member who provides critical administrative support.

**Problem Statement:** The scope and complexity of the Training Division's operations have substantially changed over time. Most incoming technical calls occur less frequently but pose a higher risk to civilians and fire personnel. To adequately meet Federal, State, and Local mandates for training and ensure that fire personnel is ready to respond to all calls for service, BFD must implement considerable changes to the Training Division. This includes adequate staffing, funding for external SMEs, utilizing collaborative partnerships, acquiring an adequately sized training facility, and providing the physical resources necessary to conduct hyper-realistic training that simulates the work environment.

### **PROJECT 25: Enhanced Staffing**

#### Summary

The Department's Division of Training has been critically understaffed for decades. The Division has been led by a manager that splits their time and efforts with the Emergency Medical Services Division. To properly function, the Division needs a dedicated full-time Manager, a minimum of three full-time staff, and an additional full-time supporting role.

FY22 Completed Work: Training was removed from the EMS Division in August of 2022 and was provided with a dedicated assigned Assistant Fire Chief and an additional Captain through a budget-neutral reorganization. These staffing changes have increased the Divisions' capacity for work.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department is evaluating the additional staffing needs of this Division following the expansion of permanently assigned staff.

Expected Completion: FY24

---

### **PROJECT 26: Berkeley - Albany Fire Departments Partnership**

#### Summary

The Berkeley and Albany Fire Departments respond to calls in collaboration on a daily basis. In FY22, the Departments initiated a formal training relationship that focused on training staff to better align response protocols.

FY22 Completed Work: The pilot project was initiated and has shown to be mutually beneficial for the Departments and both communities. The two Departments are formalizing the partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding.



FY23 Quarter 1: A final draft of the MOU was completed.

Expected Completion: FY23

---

**PROJECT 27: Improving Entry-Level Firefighter Recruitment**

Summary

Department Staff is reducing the recruitment process timeline from nine to six months and is targeting specific qualified employees. BFD, like all fire departments, is struggling to find qualified employees in the applicant pool. See Project 3 for recruitment details.

FY22 Completed Work: Nine firefighter-paramedics from the 110th Academy graduated on October 1st, 2021, and will complete their probation by May 2023.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department's 111th Academy graduated with seven firefighter/paramedics on June 24<sup>th</sup> and will begin two-year probation.

Recruitment for the 112<sup>th</sup> entry-level firefighter/paramedic academy was completed, and eight (8) offers were accepted.

The two additional staff assigned to the Training Division on October 2<sup>nd</sup> are planning for the upcoming academy in October.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

---

**PROJECT 28: Regional Leadership Academy**

Summary

The Department was awarded FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant to design and facilitate a regional leadership series for current and prospective leaders. Classes are running monthly through August of 2023.

FY22 Completed Work: The Department hosted sessions through June but paused during the CY22 fire season.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department is planning to resume leadership courses from October through FY24, Q1.

Expected Completion: FY24 Quarter 1

---

**PROJECT 29: Develop a Regional Training Consortium**

Summary

The Department is working with Contra Costa and Alameda Counties to pursue a regional training consortium. Training is a critical Division within each fire agency but is chronically understaffed and under-





resourced. The intent to consolidate and share resources will allow multiple agencies to complete more drills and education and reduce the overall operational cost associated with training.

FY22 Completed Work: The Department hosted retired Chief Eric Tomlinson from the South King County Regional Fire Training Consortium in Washington State. Chief Tomlinson worked with Department staff to present the history and benefits of the consortium in King County to Chief Officers of nearly every department in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. This was an Initial presentation that helped to launch this long-term, multi-jurisdictional project.

FY23 Quarter 1: Coordination and planning meetings have occurred between several core Departments that have expressed interest in this project. Draft agreements and budgets are being developed that will eventually be presented to each City's legislative leaders for consideration.

Expected Completion: Ongoing

---

### **PROJECT 30: Training Facility Land Acquisition**

#### Summary

The Department needs a training facility and is actively engaged in identifying a 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 the property, and the proximity of residential neighborhoods, this facility will have to be located outside City boundaries. This presents exciting opportunities for regional collaboration with other fire departments and a community college district.

FY22 Completed Work: The Department sought suitable land to purchase or lease within 20 minutes of the City. Two properties were identified in the City of Richmond, and the Department sought permission to negotiate a lease and develop high-level site plans.

FY23 Quarter 1: The City is working with Legal Department to discuss training grounds with the City of Richmond. This conceptual plan would allow for funding to be invested in an existing piece of public property that could provide a shared training space for multiple regional agencies.

Expected Completion: Property Acquisition FY22, Development FY26

---



## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates a suite of programs to build disaster resilience for the Berkeley community. These programs support personal preparedness, community connections, and government efforts that will help Berkeley respond to and recover from our next earthquake, fire, or other disasters.

**Problem Statement:** The Disaster Commission and Fire Safety Commission identified improving Berkeley's emergency notifications as a priority. *AC Alerts* historically have a low opt-in rate. To ensure communication is adequate when needed and accommodates those without access to electronic notifications, the Department is utilizing this opportunity to conduct an evacuation route study, improve evacuation and warning systems, and improve and increase our preparedness activities.

### **PROJECT 31: Evacuation Route Study**

#### Summary

This study will better inform the Department on what engineering controls (traffic controls at intersections, contraflow traffic, reducing mobilization times, and building new roads or using fire roads as additional evacuation routes) are most useful during a complex evacuation in the City of Berkeley.

FY23 Quarter 1: Staff is working through the procurement process to hire a consultant to perform this work.

Expected Completion: FY24

---

### **PROJECT 32: Evacuation & Warning Systems**

#### Summary

One of several priority projects for the Disaster Fire Safety Commission and City Council is the purchase and installation of a city-wide outdoor warning system to assist with emergency notifications.

FY22 Completed Work: Staff worked to research and piggyback on a contract with Genasys to provide the City with an Outdoor Warning System (OWS). Staff engaged in a laborious process of identifying the 15 locations for the speakers and working to negotiate leases to use the sites for this long-term project. The first five speakers have been delivered and should be installed by the end of CY22.

FY23 Quarter 1: The Department took delivery of the physical outdoor warning equipment. Five sites around the City will have the systems installed by the end of CY22. The remaining sites have more complex planning and permitting that is required which required an amendment to the Genasys contract, which will be going to Council in FY23, Q2.



Staff is working on an RFP to hire a consultant to perform an evacuation route study. This will better inform us on what engineering controls (traffic controls at intersections, contraflow traffic, reducing mobilization times, and building new roads or using fire roads as additional evacuation routes) are most useful during a complex evacuation in the City of Berkeley.

Expected Completion: FY24

---

### **PROJECT 33: Improved and Increased Preparedness Activities**

#### Summary

Office of Emergency Services and Wildland Urban Interface Division are collaborating to level up the preparedness activities.

FY22 Completed Work: Continued to strategize information sharing on preparedness activities, including building out the Department's [webpage](#).

FY23 Quarter 1: Hosted community workshops to help prepare the community to make decisions on evacuation. The Department hosted a wildfire evacuation exercise and the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; several other departments participated: Wildland-Urban Interface Division, Suppression, and the Planning and Public Works Departments.

Expected Completion: FY24

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# City of Berkeley Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

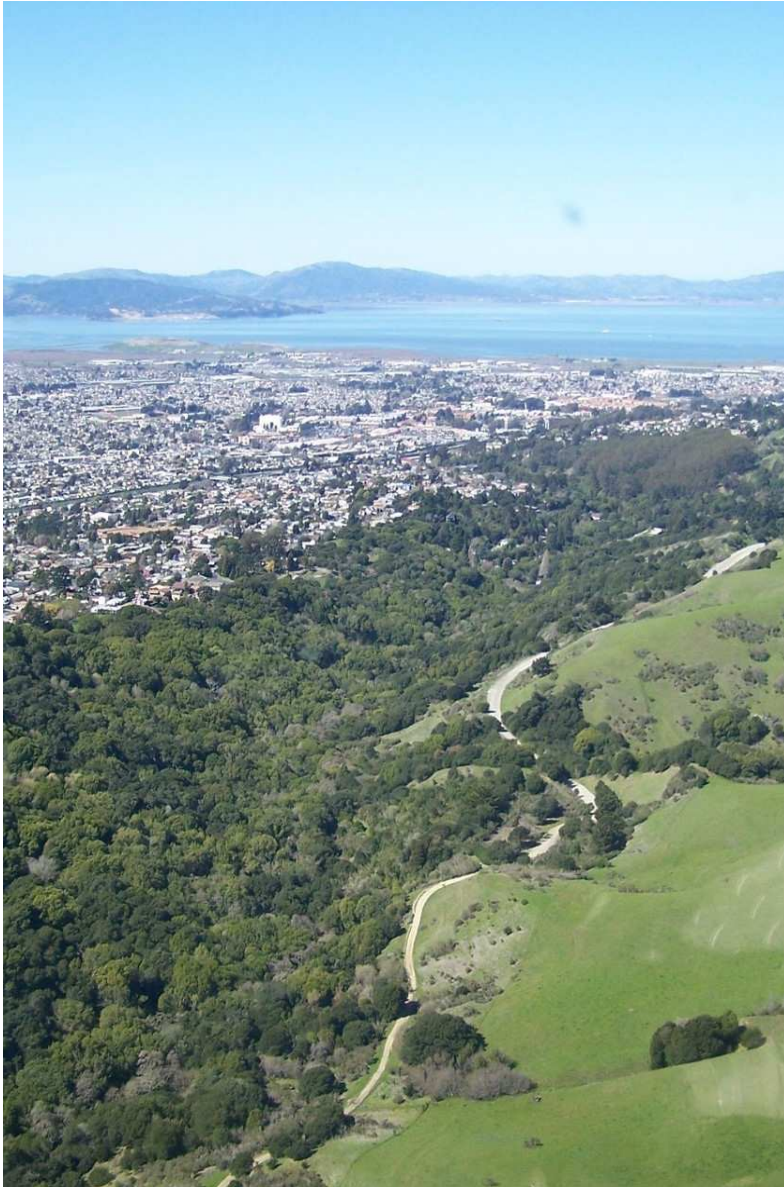
CWPP Disaster and Fire  
Safety Commission  
Meeting #3

December 7, 2022





# Agenda



- Introduction to the CWPP
- Public Engagement
  - Survey #2 – prioritizing projects, programs and activities
  - Survey #3 – building an action plan
  - City website + CWPP Hub
- Action Plan for Implementation
- Additional FAC strategies  
*coordination with existing efforts outside of CWPP*
- Next Steps

# Berkeley CWPP Process

## Engagement

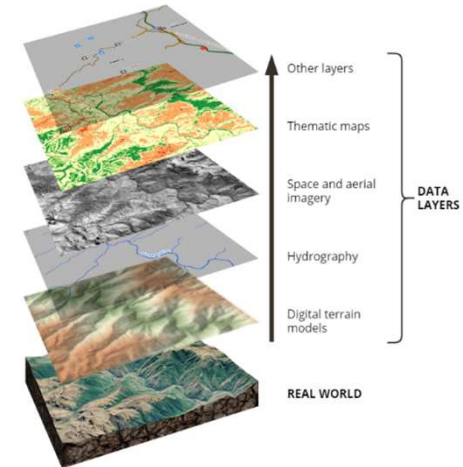
Engage interested parties

## Assessment

Existing conditions + risk assessment + recommendations + priorities

## Action

Finalize action plan + 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](mailto:cwpp@cityofberkeleyinfo)

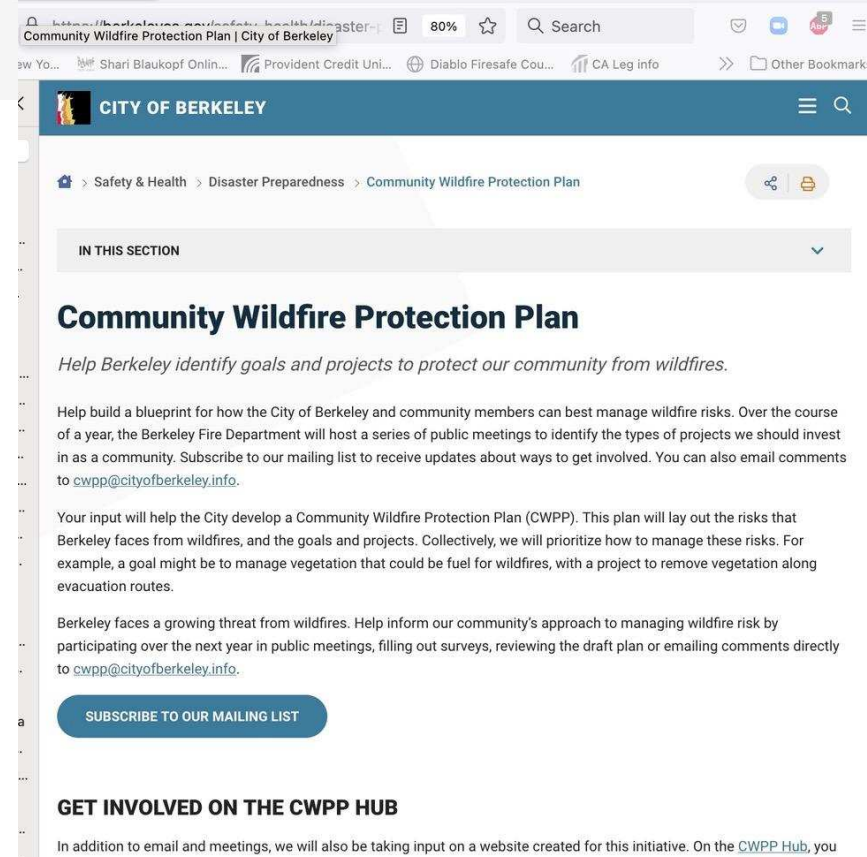
**News**

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](mailto: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](mailto:cwpp@cityofberkeley.info).

[SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST](#)

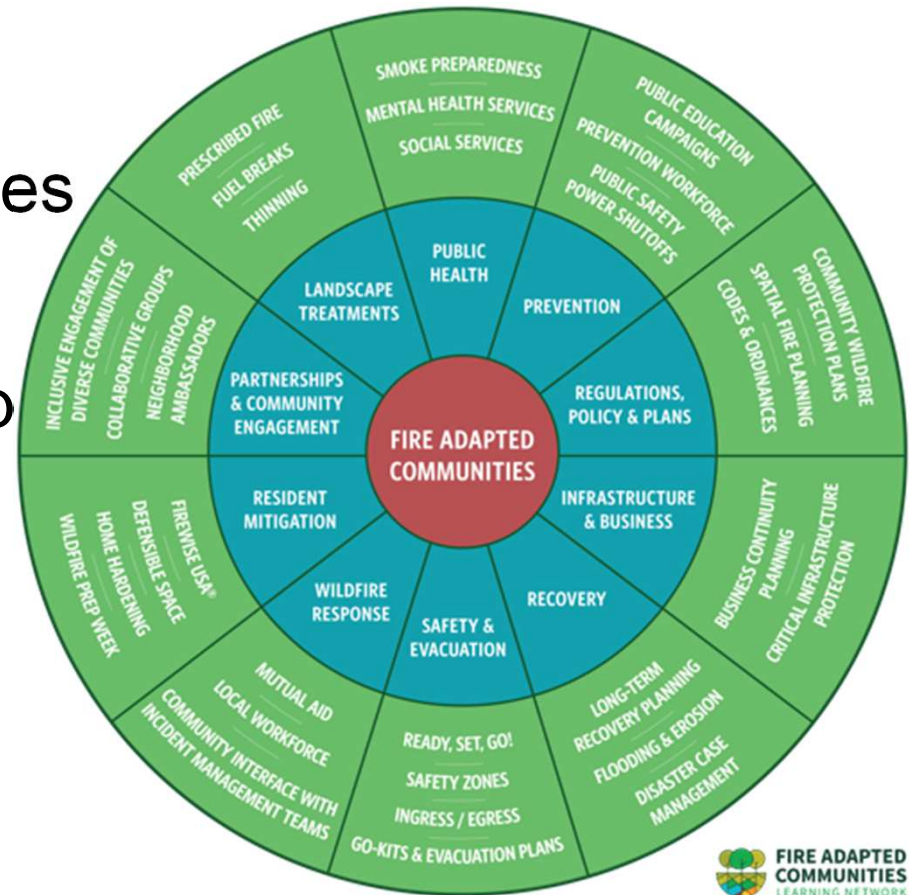
**GET INVOLVED ON THE CWPP HUB**

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 Community Survey #2

- Aimed at establishing priorities
- Using Fire-Adapted Communities
- Organized via 10 strategies
- Survey asks for selection of top projects or ideas per strategy
- Final ranking of strategies







# CWPP Community Survey #2

## Results still coming in . . .

**Berkeley CWPP 2022 - Survey 2**  
Monday, December 05, 2022

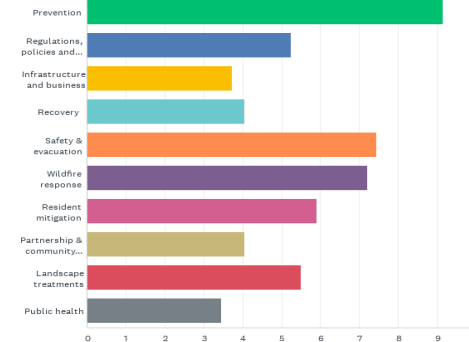
### 1. Select your top two projects or ideas within the "Prevention" hazard reduction strategy

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



### 11. Rank the groups of potential hazard reduction strategies (1= favorite to 10 = least favorite).

Answered: 36 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL	SCORE
Prevention	65.71%	17.14%	5.71%	5.71%	0.00%	2.86%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.86%	95	9.14
Regulations, policies and plans	6.25%	6.25%	3.12%	18.75%	12.50%	3.12%	6.25%	18.75%	6.25%	3.12%	32	9.25
Infrastructure and business	0.00%	5.88%	5.88%	5.88%	5.88%	2.94%	20.59%	20.59%	5.88%	26.47%	34	9.74
Recovery	3.03%	3.03%	0.00%	3.03%	12.12%	18.18%	15.15%	22.22%	15.15%	9.09%	33	4.00
Safety & evacuation	8.62%	38.24%	20.59%	2.94%	5.88%	5.88%	5.88%	0.00%	2.94%	0.00%	34	7.44
Wildfire response	8.62%	11.76%	32.35%	20.59%	8.62%	11.76%	0.00%	2.94%	0.00%	2.94%	34	7.21
Resident mitigation	0.00%	9.38%	15.62%	15.00%	0.38%	0.38%	18.75%	6.25%	3.12%	3.12%	32	5.81
Landscape treatments	0.00%	3.03%	6.06%	9.09%	9.09%	15.15%	9.09%	12.12%	27.27%	0.00%	33	4.00
Public health	8.62%	5.88%	8.62%	5.88%	17.65%	20.59%	8.62%	11.76%	5.88%	5.88%	34	5.50

### 5. Select your top two focus areas, projects or ideas within the "Safety and Evacuation" hazard reduction strategy.

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



### 7. Select your top three projects or ideas within the "Resident mitigation" hazard reduction strategy.

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



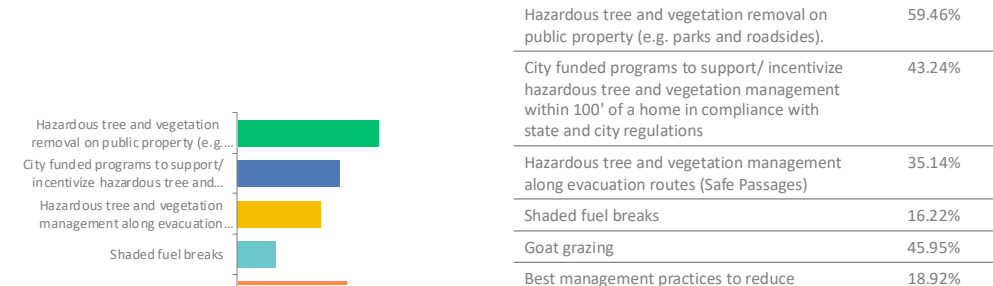
### 6. Select your top two projects or ideas within the "Wildfire response" hazard reduction strategy

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



### 9. Select your top three projects or ideas within the "Landscape treatments (large scale vegetation management)" hazard reduction strategy.

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



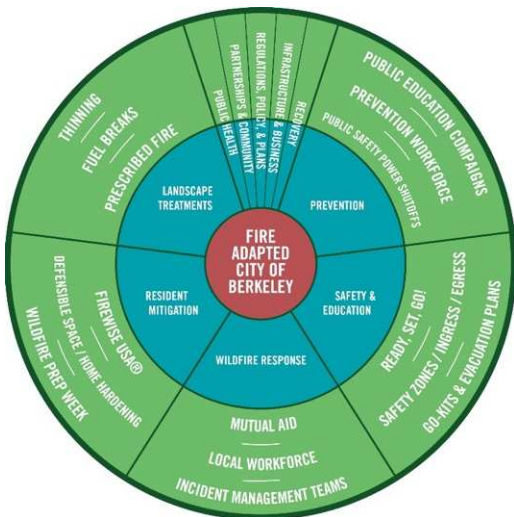


# CWPP Community Survey #3

## Building an Action Plan

Asks for input on:

- Role & responsibilities for implementing the CWPP Action Plan
- Order of addressing strategies in the Action Plan



### Ρεφινινγ α Πρελιμ ιναρψ Αχτιον Πλαν

Συρραψ 3 ασκ φορ ιναρψ ονα Πρελιμ ιναρψ Αχτιον Πλαν τηατ ιναλδεσ τηε τοπ στρατηγ ιεσ, προφρατ ανδ προγραμ σ ιδεντιφιδ ιν Συρραψ 2. Τηε συρραψ θυεσ ιονσ αδρεσσω ηο σ ηουλδ τηε α ρολε ανδ ρεσπονσ ιβιλιτυ φορ τηε Πλαν, ψουρ προοριτυ ρανκινγ οφ στρατηγ ιεσ, ασ ωελλασ, τηε περχενταγε οφ ακαυλαβλε φονδσ τηατ ψου τηινκ σ ηουλδ βε εξπενδεδ ον εαχη στρατηγ ιε. Τηε συρραψ αλσο προσιδεσ αν οππορτυνιτυ το ιναλδεε Πσομ ετηινγ ελσε □ ανδ το εξπλαιν αδδιτιοναλ προγραμ σ ορ προφρατ τηατ ψου τηινκ σ ηουλδ βε παρτ οφ τηε Αχτιον Πλαν.

Ιφ ψου ηαπενεξ φιλδ ουτ Συρραψ 2, ψου μ ιγητ χονσ ιδερ τακινγ α μ ομ εντ το χομ πλετε ιτ ατ ηετρεσ://ωωω.συρραψμ.ονκεψ.χομ /ρ/ΧΩ ΠΠΣυρραψ2, το βεττερυνδερστανδ τηε προφρατ ανδ προγραμ σ εαχη στρατηγ ιε ψορρεσ.

Ω ηο δο ψου τηινκ νεεδσ το ηαπε α ρολε ανδ ρεσπονσ ιβιλιτυ φορ ιμ πλεμ εντινγ τηε Αχτιον Πλαν? (check all that apply)

- Ελεχτεδ οφφιασ (φονδινγ ανδ πολεμ διρεχτιον)
- Χιτη σιαφ (ιμ πλεμ ενταπιον)
- Προπερψ σω νερσ (ηαζαρδ ρεδυχτιον αχτιονσ ον σω ν προπερψ)
- Αλλρεσιδεντσ ιν Ζονε 2 ανδ 3 (βοηη προπερψ σω νερσ ανδ ρεντερσ ιν ηη η φρε αρεσ)
- Αλλρεσιδεντσ χιτη οιδε (επερhone)
- Ουτπιδε αγενηεσ (ΧΑΑ ΦΙΡΕ, Εαστ Βαψ Ρεγιοναλ Παρκ Διστρικτ, Εαστ Βαψ Μουνιχιπαλ Υτιλιτυ Διστρικτ, Λαορνεχε Βεργκελέψ Νατιοναλ Λαβορατοριψ Υνιερσπιτυ οφ Χαλιφορνια Βεργκελέψ ετλ.)
- Οτρερ (πλεσασ σπεχιψ)

Ρανκ τηε ορδερ ψου τηινκ τηε στρατηγ ιεσ σ ηουλδ βε αδδρεσσεδ ιν τηε Αχτιον Πλαν (1= φιρστ το 6 = λαστ).

- Πρεσεντιον/ Χομ μ υνιατιον (σάφινγ, πυβλιχ αω αρνεσσανδ εδυατιον χαμ παινσ, ρισκ ασεσσιμ εντσ οφ ινδιδιυαλ ηομ εσ, φρε ωεατηερ ινφορμ ατιον)
- Σαφεν ανδ επαχυατιον (επαχυατιον πλαν ανδ δριλεσ, ροαδ ωαψ οβστροχτιονσ χεαρανχε/ σιαφε πασσαιεσ, επαχυατιον ασσιστανχε, ρουτε πλάννινγ, ρεαλτιμ ε χομ μ υνιατιον)
- Ρεσιδεντιαλ μ ιτιατιον (ινασπεχτιονα πεγεατιον ρεμ οπαλαρουνδ ηομ εσ, χιτη φονδεδ προγρ ιμ σ, ηομ ε ηαρδενινγ, χομ μ υνιτη χε ανυπ δαμσ, Φρεω ιεσ νε ιγ ηβορσοδσ)
- Ω υδ φρε ρεσπονεσ (ιγ νιτιον δε τεχπιον, πρε-αττακ πλάννινγ ανδ τραινινγ ωιτη ρεγιοναλ παρτνερσ, μ υτυαλ αιδ, λοχαλω ορκοφορχε δεσπλοπμ εντ)
- Λαρη ε-σχαλε λανδσχαπε τρεατμ εντσ (χιτη φονδινγ φορ ιναχεντιασ οφ ηαζαρδ ουστρεσ ανδ πεγεατιον μ αναγεμ εντ ον πριεατε προπερψ ηαζαρδ ουστρεσ ανδ πεγεατιον ρεμ οπαλ ον πυβλιχ προπερψ δεαδ ανδ δψμνγ τρεε ρεμ οπαλ φορ φορσε τηε αλτη)
- Σομ ετηινγ ελσε

Ιφ ψου ιναλδεδ ετομ ετηινγ ελσε, Ύπλεσσε δεσχιριβε.



# CWPP Community Survey #3

## Building an Action Plan

Asks for input on (continued):

- % of available funding for each strategy
- CWPP process questions
  - How hard were documents to understand
  - 7 Information sources and helpfulness
- Final comments

Ω ηατ περχε νταγε οφ απαυλαβλε φυνδινγ (Μεασυρε ΦΦγ γραντσ, ετχ.) σηουδ βε υσε φορε αχη οφ τηε στρατεγιε σ? (Ψουρανσωερεσ σηουδ αδδ υπ το 100%.)

Πρεσεντιον

Σαφετυ ανδ επαυατιον

Ρεσινδενπαλμ ιτηατιον

Ωιδφρερεσπονσε

Λαγιε-σχαε λανδσχαε τραατιεντ

Σομ ετηνγ ελε

**What do you think of the CWPP planning process.**  
 Ον α σχαε οφ 1 το 5 ηοω ηαρδ ωερε τηε προφεχτ δοχυμ εντσ το υνδερεστανδ?  
 (1= ηαρδ το 5= εασυ)

Ηαρδ Μοδερατε Εασυ

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

---

How did you get information about the planning process and provide input to the CWPP? Which sources were most helpful? (check all that apply)

	Not used	Used but not helpful	Helpful	Very helpful
Attended Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meetings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visited the City of Berkeley webpage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Signed up mailing list and received City Newsletters via email	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emailed questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Berkeleyside or other local media outlets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visited the CWPP Hub to review information as it developed, including base maps, projects and FAQs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Answered on-line surveys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

Any final comments or ideas not captured in the three surveys?

Thank you for participating in our Survey!  
 Funding for the development of the Berkeley CWPP is provided by Measure FF, a parcel tax approved by Berkeley voters in 2020.



# City Website

Fire Disaster Preparedness

## 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.



Published: July 29, 2022 Last Updated: August 2, 2022

Share your thoughts via an [online survey](#) or at an upcoming meeting as we start developing a plan to best protect the Berkeley community from wildfires – which are more frequent, destructive, and fast-moving than ever.

In the survey, we'll want to know how you see your community's risk level, what risks you see, and what actions you think will help your neighborhood. Please complete the survey by August 31.

Your input over the next eight months will help us develop a plan that will lay out the hazards and risks that Berkeley faces from wildfires, and identify key goals, programs, and projects to manage those hazards and risks.

Throughout the fall and winter, we will have more opportunities for you to share feedback, including interactive maps, virtual meetings, and online surveys. We aim to finalize the plan by March 2023.

- CITY OF BERKELEY (HTTPS://WWW.BERKELEYCA.GOV)**
- Housing Authority (<https://bha.berkeleyca.gov/>)
- Public Library (<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/>)
- Rent Board (<https://rentboard.berkeleyca.gov/>)
- School District (<https://www.berkeleyschools.net/>)

Community & Recreation (/community-recreation) > News Share (https://www.adc)

### News

Subscribe to receive news updates ([https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CABERKE/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=CABERKE\\_1](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CABERKE/subscriber/new?topic_id=CABERKE_1)) in your email inbox, or follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/cityofberkeley) (<https://twitter.com/cityofberkeley>).



Help develop an Action Plan to reduce wildfire hazards and risks (/community-recreation/news/help-develop-action-plan-reduce-wildfire-hazards-and-risks)



1 of 6

- City Services
- Community & Recreation
- Safety & Health
- Construction & Development
- Doing Business
- Your Government

Community & Recreation > News > Help develop an Action Plan to reduce wildfire hazards and risks Share Print

Fire Disaster Preparedness

## Help develop an Action Plan to reduce wildfire hazards and risks

Attend our next public meeting on December 7 and fill out our online survey by December 31. Your input will help us identify key goals, programs, and projects to manage wildfire hazards and risks.



Published: November 30, 2022 Last Updated: November 30, 2022

Complete a quick survey or come to an upcoming meeting to build out a plan to protect Berkeley from

#### Media Contact

**Keith May**  
Assistant Chief, Fire Department  
(510) 981-5508  
[kmay@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:kmay@cityofberkeley.info)

#### STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared City

[VIEW OUR STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

#### News

# CWPP Hub



COB CWPP Hub | CWPP Main Website



**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!

**Hazard and Risk Assessment**



**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 surrounding areas.



**Fire Hazard Severity Zones**  
A map showing CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) within the city of Berkeley as of 2018.



**City of Berkeley Council Districts**  
A map showing districts within the City of Berkeley.



**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.



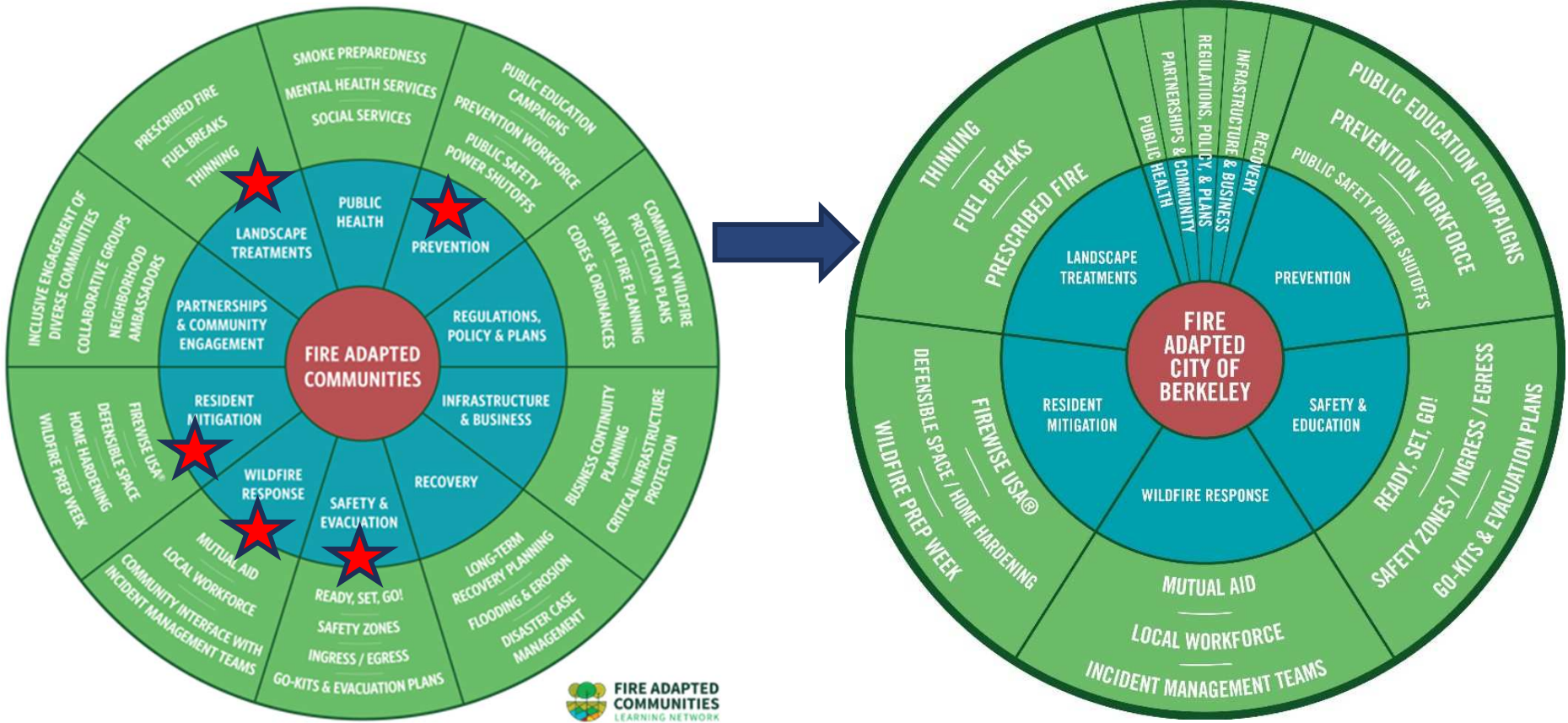
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Frequently Asked Questions**





# Statement of Priorities

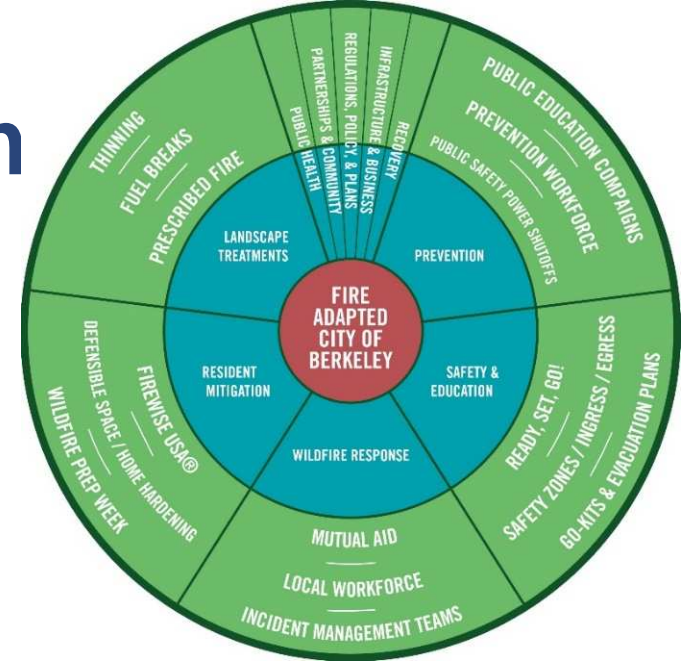


Five priorities: Prevention, Resident Mitigation, Safety + Evacuation, Wildfire Response, and Large-scale Landscape Treatments



# Action Plan for Implementation

- Project/ Program Description
- Roles and Responsibilities + Beneficiaries
- Time + Effort Required
- Funding Required



Berkeley CWPP Action Plan

Draft 11/23/22

Priority from Survey 2	Strategy	Program/ Project	Location <i>City property or ROW, private property</i>	Role/ Responsibility <i>city, property owner, business, joint, individual</i>	Beneficiary	Time Requirement <i>short, moderate, long, sequenced</i>	Effort required <i>easy, moderate, hard</i>	Funding Requirement <i>\$, \$\$, \$\$\$, \$\$\$\$</i>
1.1	Prevention	City workforce (for outreach + vegetation removal crews)	Zone 2 & 3	City staff	Private property owner	Moderate	Moderate	\$\$\$
1.2	Prevention	City inspectors for risk assessment of individual property and homes	Zone 2 & 3	City staff	Private property owner	On-going (existing + expansion)	Moderate	\$\$
1.3	Prevention	Public awareness & education campaign; multi-language. Including partnerships and community engagement. Partner community groups (Firewise, HOAs, Hillside Fire Safety Group).	City wide	City staff + partners	City wide residents	On-going (existing + expansion)	Easy	\$
1.4	Prevention	Fire weather information (red flag alerts)	City wide	City staff + NOAA + partners	City wide residents	On-going (existing + expansion)	Easy	\$
2.1	Safety & Evacuation	Road network - safe passages in road right-of-way (striping, no parking signs +enforcement, travelway obstructions)	Zone 2 & 3	City staff	Residents zone 2 & 3 (zone 1 along major evacuation routes)	Moderate term - expand ongoing	Hard	\$\$
2.2	Safety & Evacuation	Evacuation assistance (residents' recognition of limits of available assistance)	Zone 2 & 3	City staff + Resident	Residents zone 2 & 3 (zone 1 along major evacuation routes)	Moderate term	Moderate	\$\$
2.3	Safety & Evacuation	Ingress/ egress route planning	Zone 2 & 3	City staff	Residents zone 2 & 3 (zone 1 along major evacuation routes)	On-going (existing + expansion)	Moderate	\$
3.1	Resident Mitigation	Vegetation removal around homes - Defensible space + inspections and enforcement (including undeveloped properties + vacant homes) + criteria for "hazardous vegetation"	Zone 2 & 3	City staff + Resident	Private property owner	Moderate term expand ongoing	Moderate	\$\$
3.2	Resident Mitigation	Incentives to create Zone 0 around homes. Remove easily ignitable materials on homes (paper, fabric, plastics). Criteria for "non-combustible" materials.	Zone 2 & 3	City staff + Resident	Private property owner	Moderate term	Moderate	\$ - \$\$\$

# Action Plan for Implementation

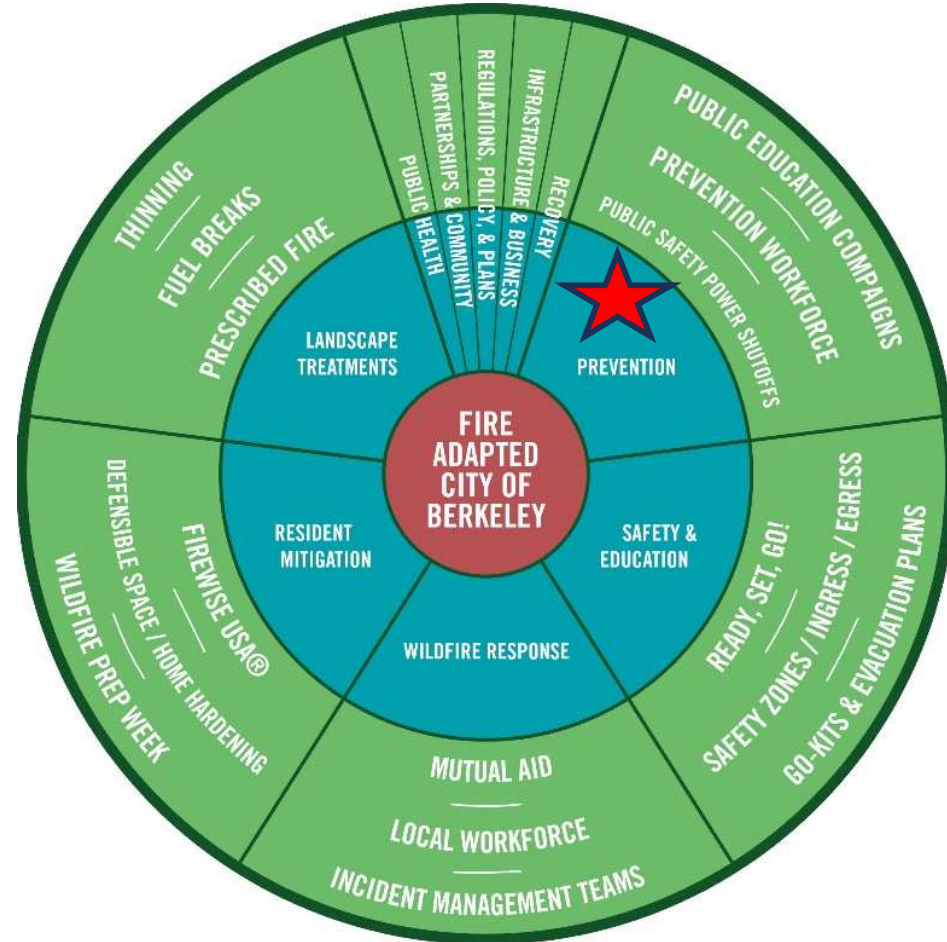
## Prevention

City workforce (for outreach + vegetation removal crews)

- Location: City-wide
- Role/ Responsibility: City staff
- Beneficiary: City wide residents
- Time: On-going (existing + expansion)
- Effort: Easy
- Funding: \$

Fire weather information (red flag alerts)

- Location: City-wide
- Role/ Responsibility: City staff
- Beneficiary: City wide residents
- Time: On-going (existing + expansion)
- Effort: Easy
- Funding: \$





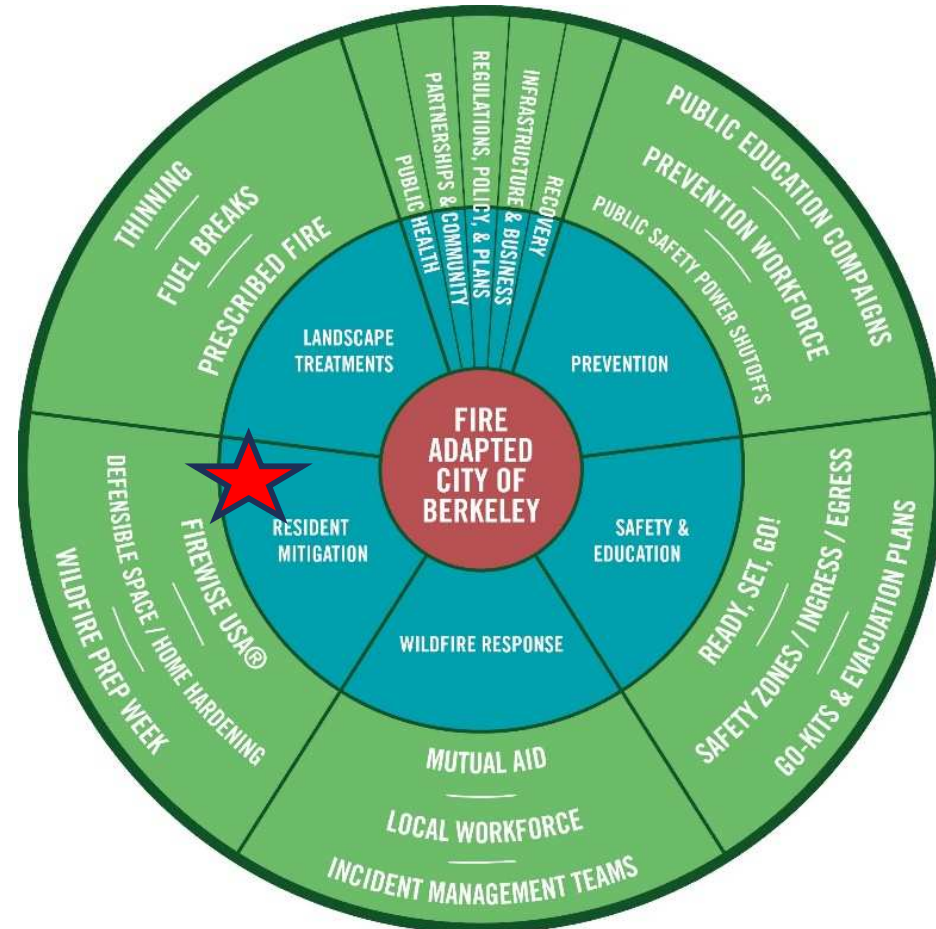


# Action Plan for Implementation

## Resident Mitigation

Vegetation removal around homes - Defensible space + inspections and enforcement (including undeveloped properties + vacant homes) + criteria for "hazardous vegetation"

- Location: Zone 2 & 3
- Role/ Responsibility: City staff + Resident
- Beneficiary: Residents/Community
- Time: Moderate term expand ongoing
- Effort: Moderate
- Funding: \$\$



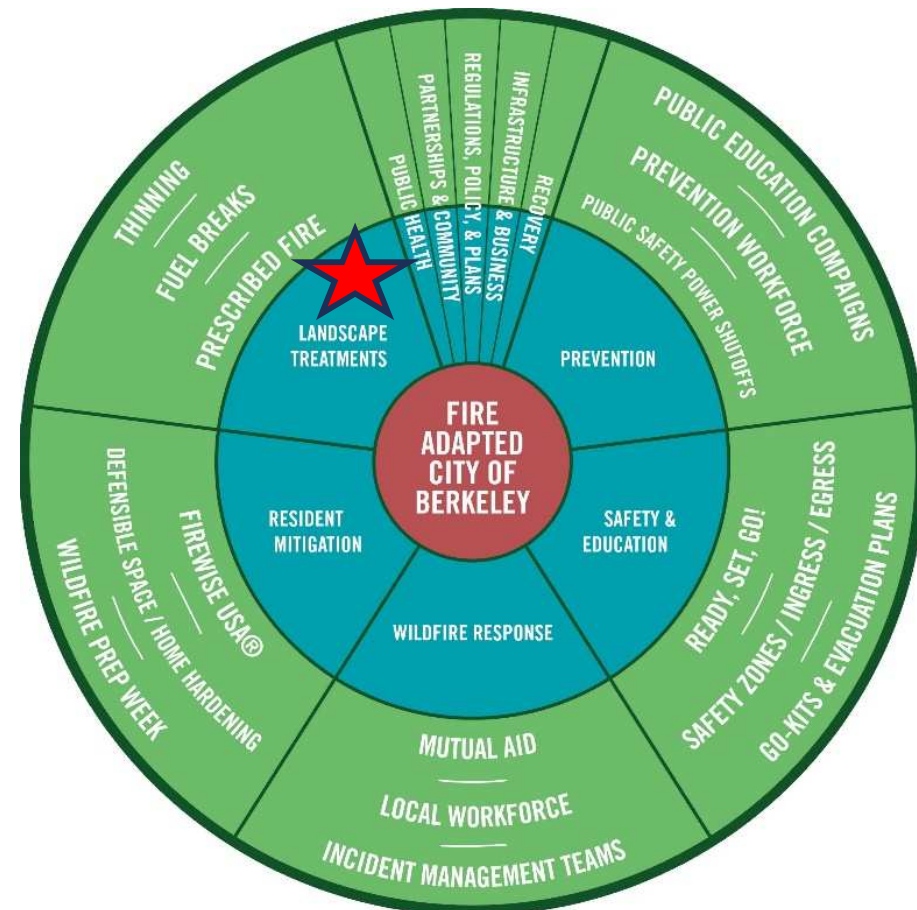


# Action Plan for Implementation

## Large Scale Landscape Treatment

Incentive for wildfire hazardous tree and vegetation management within 100' of homes (cost share, SNAP, chipping, green waste , eucalyptus management, etc.)

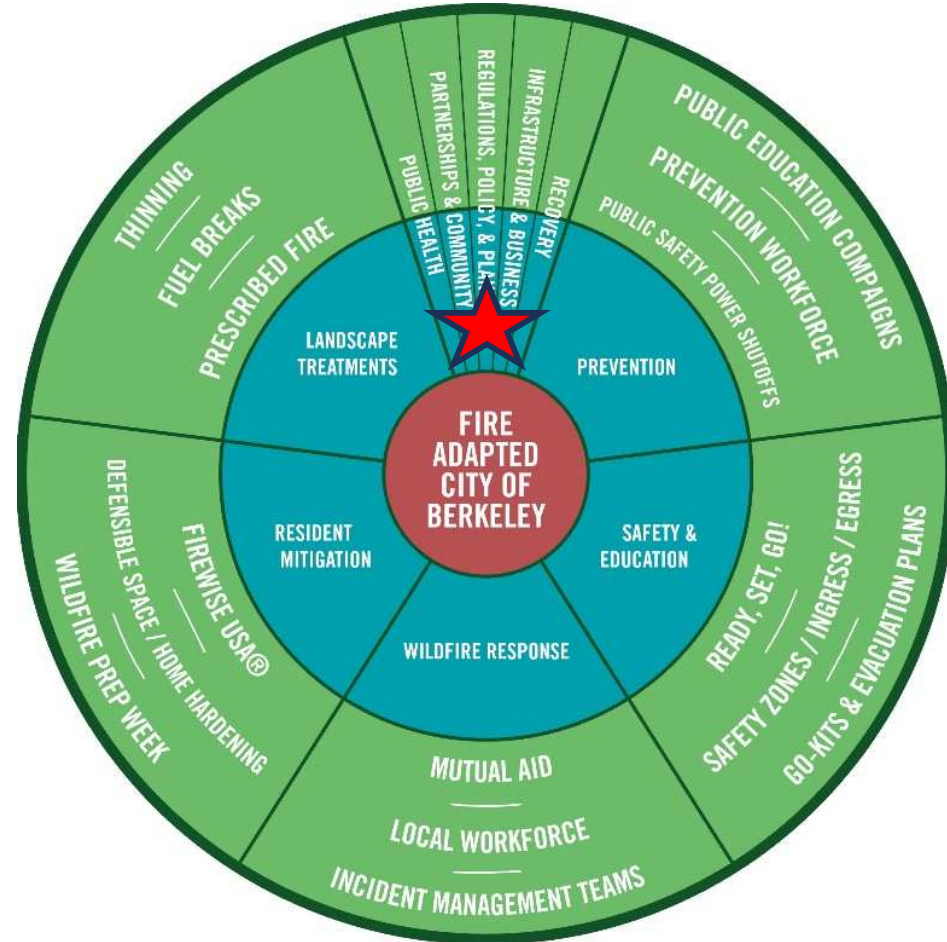
- Location: Zone 2 & 3
- Role/ Responsibility: City staff + Resident
- Beneficiary: Private Property Owner
- Time: On-going
- Effort: Moderate
- Funding: \$\$ - \$\$\$





# Action Plan for Implementation

- Additional FAC strategies: coordination with existing efforts outside of CWPP
  - Regulations, policies, plans
  - Infrastructure and business
  - Recovery
  - Partnership & community engagement
  - Public health
- Additional topics provided by public to be included in strategies





## Next Steps

- Surveys #1,2,& 3 close December 31, 2022.
- Develop Draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- Circulate Draft for Public Review and Comment - early Spring 2023.
- Finalize CWPP and present to agency partners and required signators – DFSC + CAL FIRE + BFD.
- Present to City Council for signature.



**Thank you!**

**Questions?**



## Chin, Khin

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**From:** May, Keith  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** Chin, Khin  
**Subject:** FW: Hopkins Street Designation as an Evacuation and Emergency Vehicle Access route

Commissioners,

Please see the email chain below from a community member.

Best,

*Keith May*

Interim Deputy Fire Chief  
Public Information Officer  
Berkeley Fire Department  
2100 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
510-981-5508 office  
[kmay@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:kmay@cityofberkeley.info)

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit." Aristotle*



Website: <https://www.cityofberkeley.info/WildfireEvacuationZonehaven> [AC Alert](#)

*Please be aware that e-mail communication can be intercepted in transmission or misdirected. The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential. If you are NOT the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately with a copy to [HIPAAPrivacy@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:HIPAAPrivacy@cityofberkeley.info) and destroy this message immediately.*

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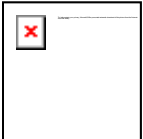
**From:** Candace Hyde-Wang <candacehw@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2022 11:39 AM  
**To:** May, Keith <KMay@cityofberkeley.info>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hopkins Street Designation as an Evacuation and Emergency Vehicle Access route

**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.

Hi Mr. May,

Would it be possible to read this into the record at tonight's meeting of the Disaster and Fire Preparedness?

Thank you!



Candace Hyde-Wang - GREEN  
Realtor® • #983422  
510.541.4661  
1575 Hopkins Street, Berkeley, CA 94707  
[candacehydewang.com](http://candacehydewang.com) •  
[www.linkedin.com/in/candacehydewang](https://www.linkedin.com/in/candacehydewang)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jim Offel** <[jimoffel17@gmail.com](mailto:jimoffel17@gmail.com)>

Date: Wed, Dec 7, 2022 at 10:59 AM

Subject: Hopkins Street Designation as an Evacuation and Emergency Vehicle Access route

To: <[fire@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:fire@cityofberkeley.info)>, <[kmay@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:kmay@cityofberkeley.info)>, <[PolicyCommittee@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:PolicyCommittee@cityofberkeley.info)>

Cc: Kesarwani, Rashi <[rkesarwani@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:rkesarwani@cityofberkeley.info)>, Susan Wengraf <[swengraf@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:swengraf@cityofberkeley.info)>, Mayor Jesse Arreguin <[mayor@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:mayor@cityofberkeley.info)>, Jim Offel <[jimoffel17@gmail.com](mailto:jimoffel17@gmail.com)>

TO: Fire Chief, City of Berkeley; Members of the Disaster and Fire Commission; Members of the Policy Committee, Public Safety

I am writing on behalf of a community organization, Friends of Hopkins Street, to seek your guidance regarding current plans to narrow Hopkins Street with the installation of Class IV bike lanes between the intersection with Gilman and the intersection with Henry Street. Our primary concern is the section between Gilman and McGee (after which the street becomes progressively wider to its terminus at Henry Street).

We have made repeated inquiries to city staff but have not received written responses of any kind regarding our concerns.

Our understanding is that Hopkins Street has been designated as an evacuation route for Berkeley residents to the east (in the hills) and is also a designated route for emergency vehicle ingress and egress.

The current plan for the Hopkins Corridor includes narrowing the street to accommodate Class IV bike lanes and we are concerned about whether this complies with current law, policy and best practices regarding evacuation routes.

Specifically, three recent CA laws have passed that may affect street design and access in Berkeley. We believe that street designs that include permanent intrusions into the right of way should not be undertaken before SB 99, AB 747, and AB 1409 have been satisfied. A guidance document was issued by ABAG: [https://abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-11/Resource\\_Guide\\_05\\_Evacuation\\_Considerations.pdf](https://abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-11/Resource_Guide_05_Evacuation_Considerations.pdf)



Short quotations of the laws are below:

**SB 99:** Existing law requires the safety element to address evacuation routes related to identified fire and geologic hazards. Existing law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan...to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards...

This bill would require the city or county, upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2020, to review and update the safety element to include information identifying residential developments in hazard areas that do not have at least 2 emergency evacuation routes.

**AB 747:** This bill, upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan on or after January 1, 2022...would require the safety element to be **reviewed and updated as necessary to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios.**

**AB 1409:** Existing law, upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan on or after January 1, 2022... **requires the safety element to be reviewed and updated as necessary to identify evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios.**

This bill would also require the safety element to be reviewed and updated to identify **evacuation locations.** By increasing the duties of local planning officials with respect to the update of general plans, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. CALTRANS has issued design guidance that can be referred to when updating our local evacuation planning:

"If a project is on an evacuation route, an assessment should be made on the project's potential to impact the route and what may be done to enhance the route's efficiency and effectiveness at moving significant numbers of people and vehicles...The needs of the community and route will vary but the information needed for assessment includes, but is not limited to: • the population of the community • percentage of that population expected to use the route during an evacuation • percentages and descriptions of citizens who may require buses or special transportation needs • types and numbers of vehicles expected to use the route during an evacuation • commute patterns • locations of schools and hospitals – either as a facility that requires evacuation or as a destination refuge area • the need for emergency services to use the route to access to the community while the route is also being used for evacuations (note that the emergency services can include large pieces of equipment transported on large trucks) • location of recreational or tourist areas • the need of residents, visitors, and tourists to remove pets and livestock.

A Project Initiation Document (PID) should address the needs of the route as it functions under emergency conditions as well as under normal conditions. The scope of the project should identify resource and information needs as well as a general idea on how the evacuation route can be maintained and enhanced as much as possible. **Potential conflicts between project goals, such as Complete Streets needs versus vehicular needs during an evacuation, need to be identified and addressed.**

**Complete Streets features provide improvements to the community but have the potential to create challenges in an evacuation. Consider the use of Class II bike lanes**

**on evacuation routes instead of Class IV as a way of providing an unobstructed pavement width. Place all fixed objects (light posts, street furniture, parkettes, etc.) setback as far from the edge of the traveled way as feasible.**

We have received no assurances from city staff that these guidelines have been applied to this project and are concerned that this project is being rushed to meet a different deadline (that of the street paving schedule) rather than following appropriate and necessary review.

In the interest of public safety, we are seeking your assurance that you will collectively ensure that this project does not proceed without this review.

Thank you.

Jim Offel  
Steering Committee, Friends of Hopkins Street

# Policy Committee: Public Safety

November 21, 2022

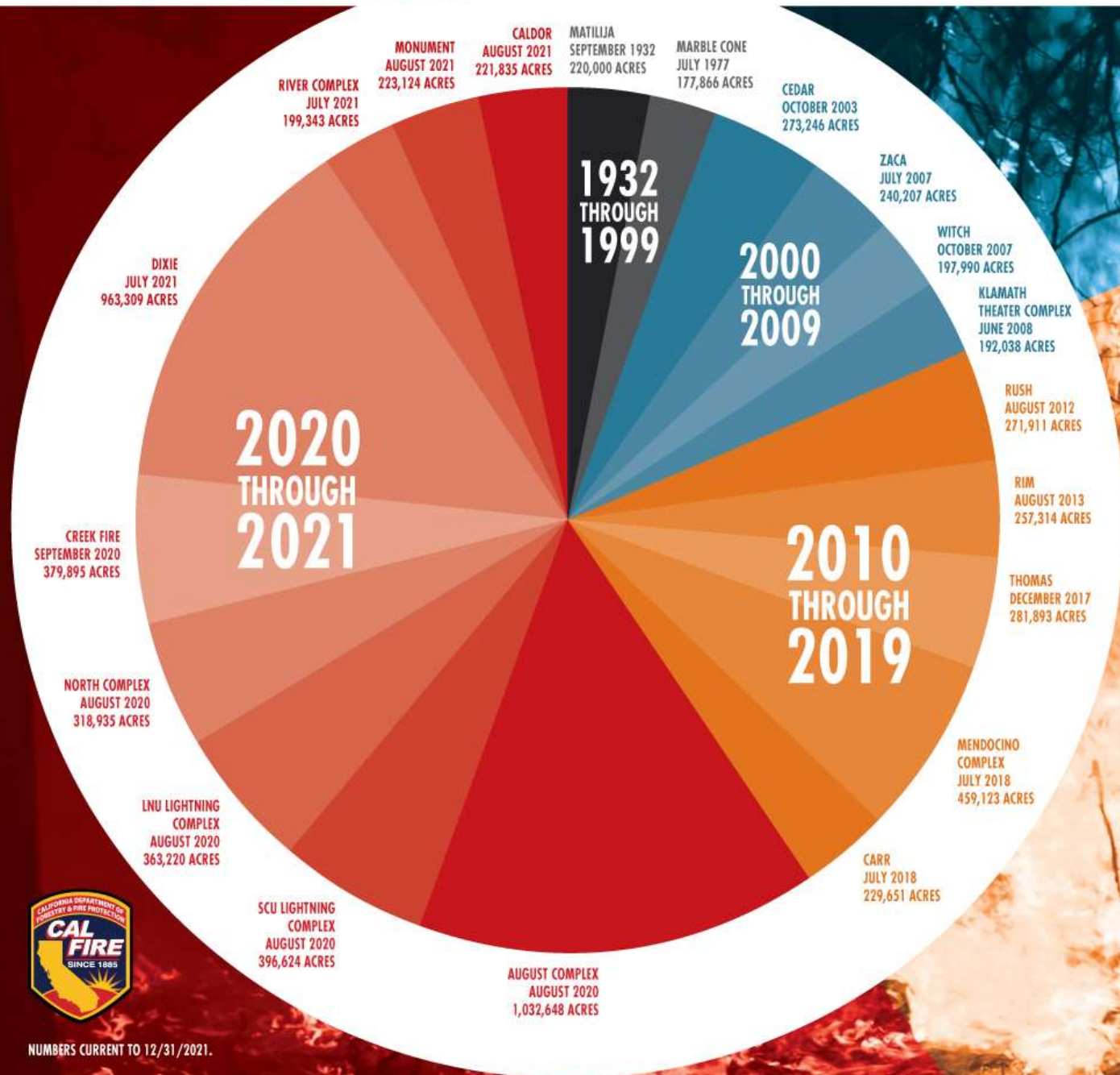


# Goals for Today

Provide an overview of planned activities to improve wildfire prevention and response for the City of Berkeley and to address the recommendations from the DFSC.

- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Work Plan
- Defensible Space Inspections
- Vegetation Management
- Home Hardening

## TOP 20 LARGEST CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES



NUMBERS CURRENT TO 12/31/2021.

# WUI Work Plan

Summary: A comprehensive guide for all WUI related policy and programs organized along four lines of work

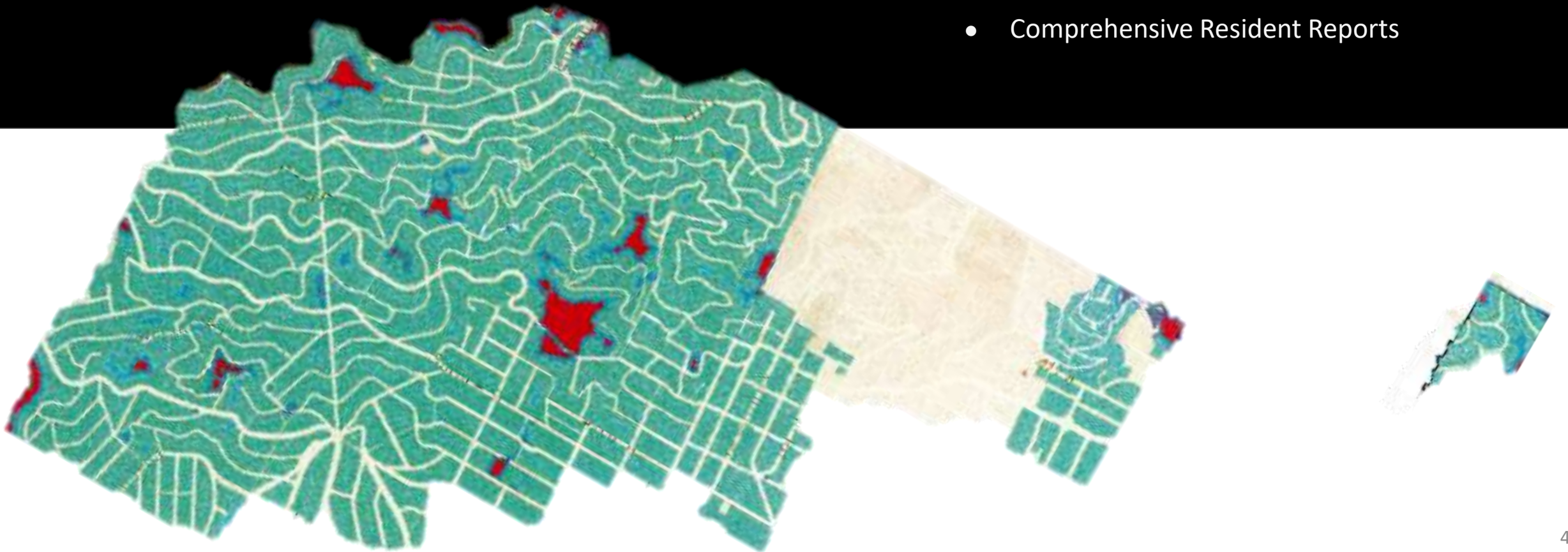
**\*DRAFT\***

<b>Land Use and Home Hardening</b>	<b>Fuel Modification and Land Management</b>	<b>Community Wide Readiness Activities (Resident and Agency Responsibility)</b>	<b>Wildfire Response (Agency Responsibilities)</b>
Improve DSI Inspection Process	Continue to adopt best practice veg. mgmt. (CalFIRE, etc)	Develop post disaster capacity	Identify strategic wildfire control areas
Improve Citation & Enforcement Process	Balance fuel modifications with environmental impacts	Translate disaster prep. & response messaging	Develop advanced operational and command level training
Home Hardening Campaign	Create demonstration landscapes in public spaces	Maintain existing City plans	Early detection technology
Code modifications adopting best practice home hardening	Public/private partnerships to support veg management	Conduct community exercises	Analyze speed and weight of deployment
Analyze impacts of development in FZ 2 & 3	Coordinate with adjacent public landowners on fuel mgmt. proj.	Establish public education programs for prevention, response, and resilience	Coordinated/regional notification and evacuation procedures
Consider modifications to land use & planning	On-going education for DSI inspectors	Design, procure, install, and maintain OWS	Perform an evacuation time study

# Defensible Space Inspections (DSI)

## Immediate Enhancements:

- Fire Code Adoption
- Pre-Season Education & Outreach
- Public / Private Partnership
- Enhanced & Integrated Chipping Service
- New Software
- Comprehensive Resident Reports



# Vegetation Mgmt.

How do we **work together** as a community to comply with state regulations and scientifically and experientially proven best practice?

*We think it looks like...*

- Education & Public Outreach
- Build a Coalition of the Willing
- Clear Post Inspection Instructions
- Remove Barriers
  - Examples of “What Right Looks Like”
  - One Time Grant/Incentive Programs
  - Enhanced Chipping Services
- CEQA / HazVeg Removal Process

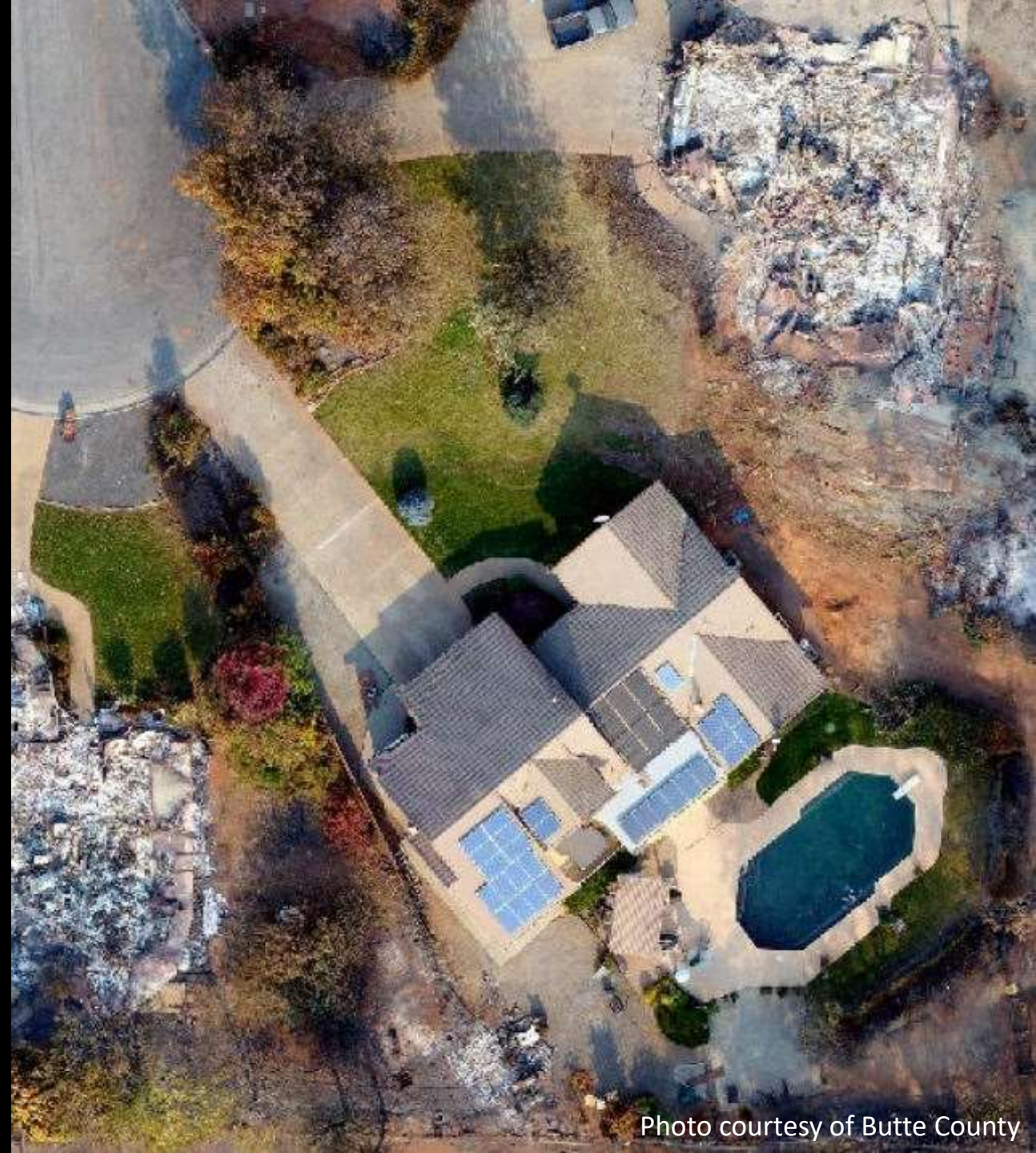
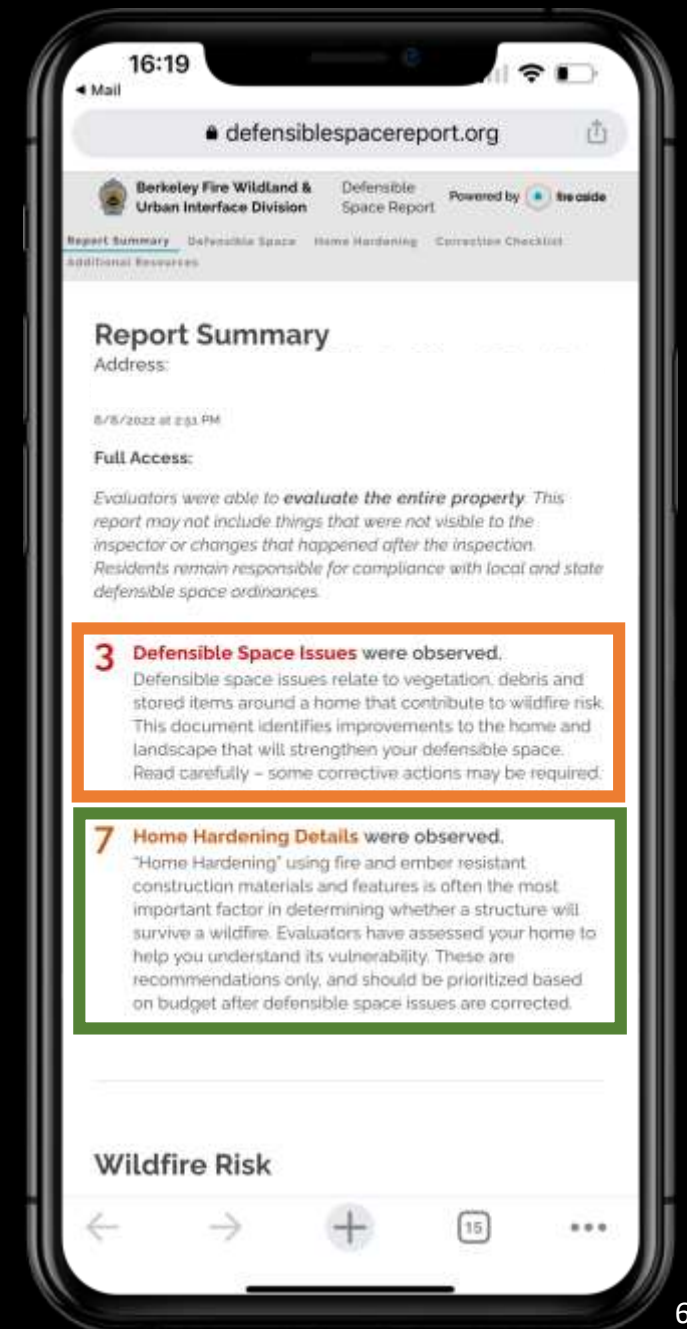


Photo courtesy of Butte County

# DSI Report: Overview

Each discovery has content customized by Berkeley Fire which is classified as a violation or recommendation

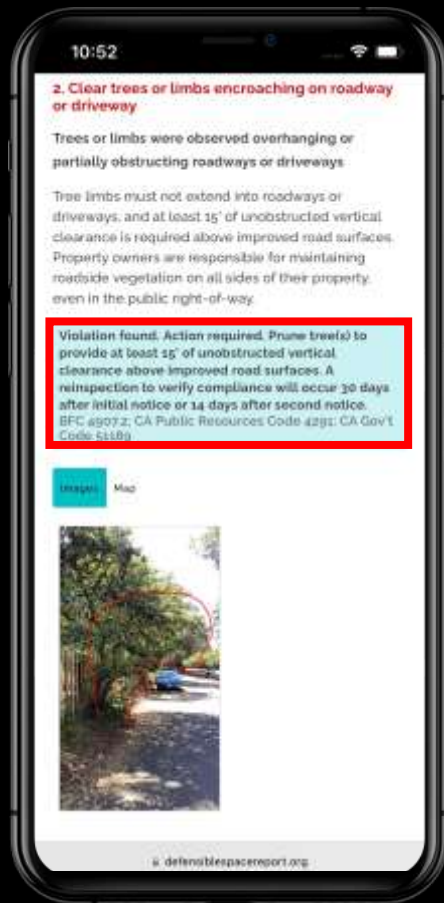
- **What:** Most people are time starved - what we need them to take away
- **Why:** Explains details related to the discovery
- **When:** Set expectations & urgency (or not) and consequences (or not)
- **Where:** Help residents understand where the specific problem is located
- **Resources:** Information & tools to help solve the problem including Fire Safe websites, grants / direct assistance, chipping, etc.



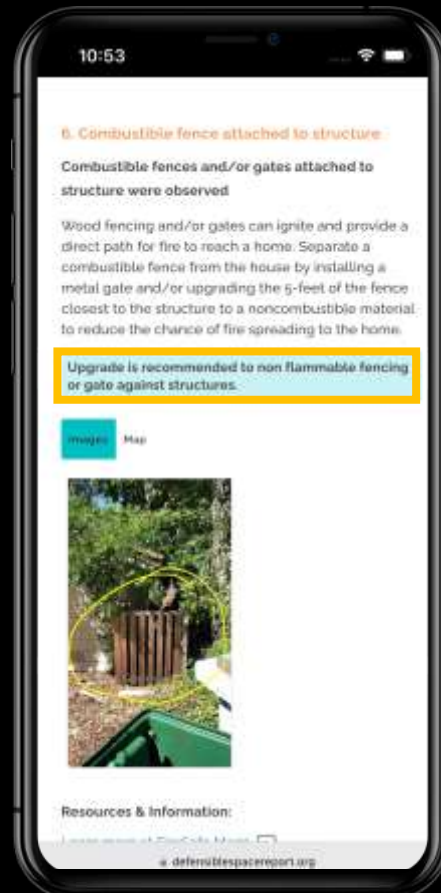


# Helping residents understand requirements and recommendations around their home for adapting to wildfire

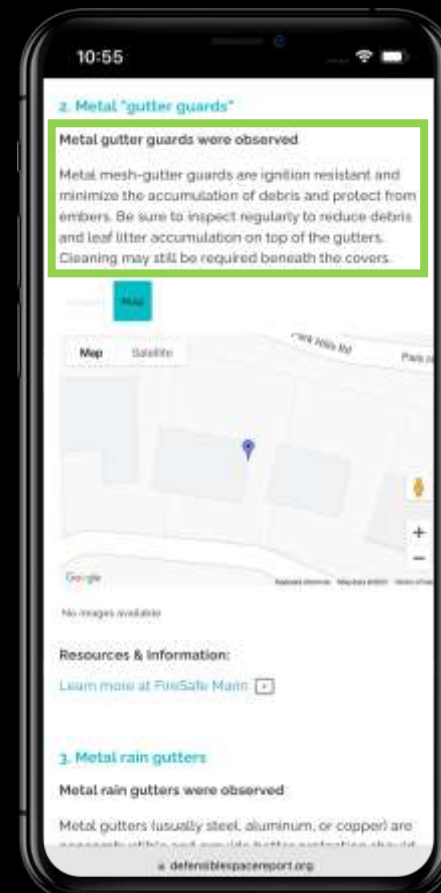
## Violation



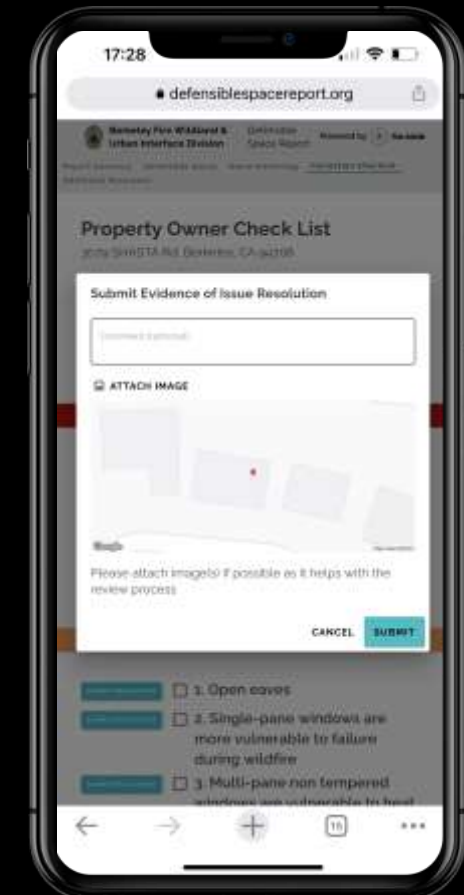
## Recommendation



## + Reinforcement



## Correction





# Home Hardening

Addresses the most vulnerable components of a house with building materials and installation techniques that increase resistance to heat, flames, and embers that accompany most wildfires.

- Applies to all pre-2008 construction
- **Includes many simple, inexpensive steps**
- Focus on sides facing other structures < 100'
- Importance increases with SSD < 30'

What does success look like for Berkeley?

- Integration with DSI & resident report
- Education & Public Outreach
- Grant / incentive programs
- **All** homeowners (city wide) should begin hardening
- City will be targeting high-risk sections

# FY23 Measure FF Budget

The City is projecting collections of \$8,600,000 for the FY23 budget. The Department has allocated **\$3,265,974 or 38% of that** to wildland related FTE, programs, projects, and equipment.

Personnel Costs		Projects, Programs, Equipment	
WUI Chief (1)	\$384,685	Veg. Mgmt.	\$1,000,000
WUI Inspectors (3)	\$750,908	Safe Passages	\$500,000
Consultants/SMEs	\$200,000	Office Lease	\$240,000
		Public Education	\$100,000
		OWS Maint.	\$44,200
		Vehicles	\$26,181
		CWPP	\$20,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$1,335,593</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$1,930,381</b>



Thank you

