

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday May 25, 2022

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

Absent: Toni Stein, Nancy Rader

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May, Liam Garland

Public: Attendees 3: Kelly Hammargren, Ray Yep,

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

W. Bradstreet called meeting to order at 7:01pm

Approval of the Agenda

Approved by Acclamation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Kelly Hammergren said that staff notification to commission members for commission related items that are heard in other public meeting should be improved. Commissioners are not made aware of when items are heard in other meetings.

Kim-Mai Cutler arrived at 7:05

1. Fire Department Staff Report

DFSC Staff Report

May 25th, 2022

1. Measure FF Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview – No Update

i. Program Review

1. Standards of Coverage Analysis – The Department is undergoing an in-depth analysis of fixed and mobile resources to determine the best

deployment model and to ensure the Department is responding effectively and efficiently.

- Status: Following the presentation to the City Council on April 19th, the Department is working to determine how to fund the one major recommendation that has not already been planned and funded, a resource to handle low acuity EMS calls for service.
2. **Project Management and Subject Matter Expert (SME)** – Through this contract, the Department has relied on a team of professionals that have varied background including in project management, information technology, videography, marketing and industry specialists that have specific skills in emergency medical service and training.
 - a. Status: The project management team has been helping us find and transition to a project management platform and has been providing Subject Matter Expert (SME) assistance for a variety of projects.
 3. **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – The CWPP is a comprehensive risk analysis that addresses local target hazards and includes a community-based action plan to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure resiliency. It will serve as the foundation and roadmap for the Departments work to prevent wildfire and limit the spread when they ignite.
 - a. Update: The core team was selected and met on May 13th. The project is estimated to take nine months to complete.
 4. **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** – See chart below.
 5. **Retired Annuitants** – The retired annuitants are largely focused on performing vegetation inspections for properties in fire zone 2 and 3. They are also looking at transitioning the inspection from paper to mobile technology, re-tooling the re-inspection, citation, and violation process. The Department has also expanded its traditional hazardous fire area program to include all properties in fire zones 2 and 3.
 - Update: As the Department nears the point where it will be adding permanent staff to the Division, it will be working with HR and the CAO to determine how and if the retired annuitants can stay on board.
 6. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment – Single Function Job Classifications & Recruitment:**

- a. The Division has worked collaboratively with Local 1227 and Human Resources to draft single function EMT and Paramedic Job Classifications which were approved with elation at the December Personnel Board meeting and were approved by the City Council on January 18th, 2022.
 - i. Update: We are nearing the time when we will begin recruitment for both of these classifications. The hiring process will take approximately 3-6 months, then they will participate in an eight week academy and then they will begin their field training time.
- 7. Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP): Berkeley Fire Department stations are undersized, in poor condition and in need of remodels or replacement. The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs. This process will provide the City leaders of today and tomorrow with actionable information ahead of future infrastructure bond measures.
 - i. Update: The team is working through the data analysis and planning process and will deliver a mid-project report to the City Council in late July.
- 8. Dispatch Study: Our goal, per Council direction is to enhance the dispatch center so it can triage calls, divert non-emergency calls (including mental health calls) to appropriate resources like the SCU; and provide emergency medical instructions to callers.
 - i. Status: The study continues and we project that we will have the final report completed in August of this year.
- 9. Recruitments:**
 - a. Shift Fire Inspector Recruitment –These are filled by existing fire department personnel and are used to assist with fire investigations and other inspection related activities in the built environment.
 - i. Update: In-service training is scheduled for July.
 - b. Sworn Fire Inspector Recruitment – Recruitment is on-going.
 - i. Update: We plan to promote an additional three inspectors sometime in 2022, when staffing permits.
- 10. **Division of Training Property** – The Department is actively engaged to find a piece of property that will meet the City’s needs for the training and development of its emergency responders and support staff. Due to zoning, the cost of property and the proximity of residential units to most property in Berkeley, this location will likely be outside the City

proper. This presents exciting opportunities for regional collaboration with other fire departments and a community college district.

- a. Update: We are moving forward with lease negotiations for a property in Richmond and we are also engaged in discussions with departments throughout Alameda and Contra Costa with regard to creating a training consortium.

ii. Implementation & Metrics

- 1. **Outdoor Warning System** –We are still facilitating the permit process between the COB and vendor. We have also started planning the permitting process with the State Department of Architecture which is the permitting authority for the school district.

iii. RFP Updates

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants

As of:	5/23/2022	Vegetation Management Inspections						
All Inspections								
	Inspected	No Violation Found	Violations Found	Re-Inspection Required	Re-Inspection Completed	Re-Inspection No Violation Found	Re-Inspection w/Violations Found	
Foley	297	140	157	157				
Frankel	1029	957	72	72	3	3		
Greene	95	66	29	29	276	247	29	
Guzman	1		1	1				
Higgins	684	544	140	140	2	2		
Johnson	594	319	275	275				
Lee	121	86	35	35	204	185	19	
Marbury	490	263	227	227	104	68	36	
McCracken	102	70	32	32	97	66	31	
Nagamoto	365	277	88	88	67	62	5	
Pinto	13	7	6	6	95	77	18	
Ward	330	217	113	113	326	208	118	
Williams	1446	1271	175	175	5	5		
Totals	5567	4217	1350	1350	1179	923	256	
Total Inspections	7,220							
% Completed	77%							

2. Measure GG Monthly Report –
 - a. Budget Overview – No Update
 - b. Emergency Services Coordinator Position
 - i. First round interviews were held the week of May 9th and have scheduled the second round interviews this week.
3. Department Activities
 - a. Badge Pinning Ceremony set for May 26th includes the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, Fire Marshal, Deputy Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Chief
 - b. Grants – No new update.
4. Safe Passage
 - Update: We have been working with Transportation and Traffic to repaint existing red curbs and replacing “no parking signs” that have faded as well as painting red in front of hydrants.
5. Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type

April 6, 2022 – May 23, 2022

Fires – including Encampment Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	49	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	15	
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	
Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	1,211	
Hazardous Condition - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	76	
Service Calls (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	187	
Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	165	
False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	247	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	0	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	4	
TOTAL	1,939	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	4,219
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6. Commission Actions Status

9/22/2021	Enforcement of Existing Parking Rules and Regulations	Heard at 3/7 Public safety Committee, continue discussion to future meeting	Link	Staff Review for Response; Police, Public Works - in Agenda Process for 3/8 City Council Meeting ; referred to Public Safety Policy Committee
9/22/2021	Long Range Development Plan for UC Berkeley	City Council 4/12/22 Agenda	Item 41a	Staff Review for Response; Fire Department - in Agenda Process for 4/12 City Council Meeting.
10/27/2021	Recommendation to identify High Risk Areas that are exempt from State Imposed Housing Increases Due to Public Safety Considerations	City Council 3/22/22 Agenda	Item 24	
12/1/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
2/23/2022	Request for Timely Fiscal Information on Measures FF and GG			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
4/13/2022	Budget Recommendation for Parking Enforcement			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
4/27/2022	Measure FF Budget Recommendation - Expanded Fire Prevention Inspection			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of April 13, 2022*

Motion to approve the minutes as revised: Dean

Second: Bedolla

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb; 0 Noes; 2

Absent: Rader, Stein; 0 Abstain:

3. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of April 27, 2022*

Motion to approve the minutes as submitted: Dean

Second: Bedolla

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb; 0 Noes; 2

Absent: Rader, Stein; 0 Abstain:

Action Items

4. Election of Commission Chair

Nominate Commissioner Bedolla as Commission Chair: Bradstreet

Nomination accepted.

Motion to Elect Jose Luis Bedolla as Chair: Bradstreet

Second: Dean

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb; 0 Noes; 2

Absent: Rader, Stein; 0 Abstain:

Jose Luis Bedolla elected as Chair.

5. Approval of Additional Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meeting*

Motion to request from City Council one additional meetings for 2022 (as Revised):

Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb; 0 Noes; 2

Absent: Rader, Stein; 0 Abstain:

Motion passes.

6. Recommendation to City Council on Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment*

T. Stein arrived at 750p

Motion to submit a memorandum to City Council opposing an increase to the Measure

GG assessment: Bedolla

Second: Degenkolb

Vote: 7 Ayes: Bedolla, Dean, Bradstreet, Cutler, Simmons, Degenkolb, Stein; 0 Noes; 1
Absent: Rader;; 0 Abstain:

Motion passes.

Discussion Items

7. 2050 Vision Revenue Measure (Public Works Department)

K. Cutler left the meeting at 8:32p

8. Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Update

9. Red Curbs Adjacent to Fire Hydrants

10. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Bradstreet

Second: Degenkolb

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

Adjourned at 8:50p