

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday February 23, 2022

Present: Jose Luis Bedolla, Shirley Dean, Weldon Bradstreet, Nancy Rader, Toni Stein, Paul Degenkolb

Absent: Kim-Mai Cutler

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May

Public: Attendees 12: Alina C. (Berkeley Paths), jmcbride, Henry DeNero, Marcus von Engel, Benay Dara-Abrams, Alec Dara-Abrams, kellyhammargren iPad, Nancy Gillette, Richard Thomason, Toby Simmons, ray yep, Kathleen Kelley

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

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

Approval of the Agenda

Approved by Acclamation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Kelly Hammargren: I had attended the City council agenda committee meeting on Tuesday afternoon. The Disaster and Fire Safety Commission item on parking is listed under action, Mayor Arreguin, Councilmember Hanh, Councilmember Wengraf is referred to the Public Safety committee. The item is no longer on the March 8th City Council agenda.

1. Fire Department Staff Report

T. Stein arrived at 7:10pm

DFSC Staff Report

February 23rd, 2022

1. Measure FF Monthly Report
 - a. Budget Overview –
 - i. Program Review
 1. **Standards of Coverage Analysis** – No new updates.
 2. **Project Management and Subject Matter Expert (SME)** – No new updates.
 3. **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – No new updates.
 4. **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** – See chart below.
 5. **Retired Annuitants** – The newest retired Annuitants have started and are actively doing inspections.
 6. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment** – No new updates.
 7. **Dispatch Re-Design** – No new updates.
 8. **Recruitments:**
 - a. Shift Fire Inspector Recruitment – Interviews for Shift Inspectors will begin the week of January 24th. 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.
 - b. Sworn Fire Inspector Recruitment – Recruitment is on-going. We will also begin interviewing the first batch of 14 applicants, the week of January 24th.
 9. **Division of Training Property** – No new updates.
 - ii. Implementation & Metrics
 1. **Outdoor Warning System** – We are working through the permitting process with the City of Berkeley and the vendor. Awaiting BUSD final approval.
 - iii. RFP Updates
 - b. Program Specific Reports
 - i. Defensible Space Inspection Updates

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants
--

As of:	Vegetation Management Inspections						
AI Inspections							
	Inspected	No Violation Found	Violations Found	Re-Inspection Required	Re-Inspection Completed	Re-Inspection No Violation Found	Re-Inspection w/Violations Found
Foley	52	23	29	29	3	3	
Frankel	527	478	49	49	2	2	
Greene	44	29	15	12			
Guzman	1		1	1			
Higgins	456	387	69	69	2	2	
Johnson	89	58	31	31			
Lee	118	83	35	35	183	165	18
Marbury	117	62	55				
McCracken	102	70	32	32	94	65	29
Pinto	15	7	8	8	91	77	14
Ward	327	216	111	111	182	86	96
Williams	953	868	85	85	4	4	
Totals	2749	2258	491	433	558	401	157
Administrative Reinspection Personnel							

- ii. Other
- 2. Measure GG Monthly Report
 - a. Emergency Services Coordinator Position
 - i. Recruitment is in process and will close on April 2, 2022.
 - b. Budget Overview
 - i. RFP Updates – No new updates.
- 3. Department Activities
 - a. Fire Prevention Division
 - i. Interviewed 3 internal candidates for Sworn Fire Inspector position with one getting promoted 2/20/2022, depending on staffing will promote the other candidates.
 - ii. 4 external candidates are in background checks, which is a minimum 6 week process.
 - iii. Have one retired annuitant assigned to the Fire Prevention Division. He is helping with annual inspections, citizen complaints, and indoor entertainment inspections

- iv. Interviewed firefighters for Shift Fire Inspectors at the end of January...all were good candidates. Staff is discussing when to start them on the three year program.
- b. FEMA grant administered by Cal OES.
 - i. We submitted 2 Notices of Intent:
 - 1. Project to develop 2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - 2. Project to create a program to provide vegetation management assistance to create defensible space on private properties in Fire Zones 2 and 3.
 - ii. Submitting a NOI is the first step in the process. Notices of Intent that Cal OES considers promising will be invited to complete second step - subapplication, which is very time consuming, requiring considerable detail and completion of a FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis to determine project eligibility.
 - iii. We have been invited to the subapplication process for the LHMP project. We haven't heard back yet on the vegetation management project.
- c. We reached out to EBMUD about their vegetation management process at all of their sites in and around the Berkeley area. EBMUD maintains approximately 300 sites according to their internal program along with support from their consultant Blankenship Associates. I have attached the IPM Guidelines in the packet. EBMUD also have decision making documents for each site that are reviewed and updated annually. Each site is inspected monthly. Generally speaking their weed abatement methods include mechanical means such as string trimmers and mowers, goat grazing where appropriate and lastly herbicide applications. they also use Civicorps crews who mainly use string trimmers.
- d. Commission Actions Status

Date of Commission Action	Topic	R e s u l t	Description of result	Notes
9/22/2021	Enforcement of Existing Parking Rules and Regulations			In Agenda Process for 3/8 City Council Meeting
9/22/2021	Long Range Development Plan for UC Berkeley			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
10/27/2021	Recommendation to identify High Risk Areas that are exempt from State Imposed Housing Increases Due to Public Safety Considerations			In Agenda Process for 3/22 City Council Meeting
12/1/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation- revised			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department

4. Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type		
January 19, 2022 – February 12, 2022		
Fires – including Encampment Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	22	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	10	
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	
Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	667	
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)	63	
Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	69	
False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	157	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	0	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	1	
TOTAL	1,065	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	2,299
-------------------------	------------------------	--------------

Staff will provide the Measure GG and Measure FF presentation at the March Commission meeting.

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of January 26, 2022*

Motion to approve the minutes as revised: Dean

Second: Rader

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Degenkolb, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein, Rader; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Cutler; 0 Abstain:

Action Items

3. Annual Election of Officers

Open nomination for Chair.

Motion to nomination Jose Luis Bedolla as Chair: Bradstreet

Second: Dean

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Degenkolb, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein, Rader; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Cutler; 0 Abstain:

Jose Luis Bedolla elected as Chair.

Open nomination for Chair.

Motion to nominate Weldon Bradstreet as Vice Chair: Bedolla

Second: Stein

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Degenkolb, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein, Rader; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Cutler; 0 Abstain:

Weldon Bradstreet elected as Vice Chair.

4. Recommendation to City Council on Frequency of Financial Reporting for Measure GG and Measure FF (Bedolla, Rader)*

Motion to recommend City Council direct the Fire Department and the City Council provide with the following fiscal information regarding Measure GG and FF:

1. Base budget documentation for the 22/23 FY (current year) that was approved by council;
2. Quarterly, preferably monthly, expenditure reports, including a brief narrative describing each line item, with initial reports starting by March 30, 2022, with a published calendar for reporting and
3. The proposed budgets submitted to Council's Budget and Finance Policy Committee in April, each subsequent revision presented to Council, and the budget that is adopted at the end of the budget process.: Rader

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Degenkolb, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein, Rader; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Cutler; 0 Abstain:

5. Recommendation to City Council on the Cal-OES/FEMA Grant Application (Rader)

Meeting restarted at 8:17pm

Bedolla, Degenkolb, Rader, Stein, Dean returned to the meeting at 8:18p

W. Bradstreet returned to the meeting at 8:22pm

Discussion Items

6. Recommendation to City Council on the Definition of Defensible Space for Wildfire (Dean)
7. Commission Workplan (Bedolla)
8. Commission Plan for Input for the City's Budget Cycle (Bedolla)
9. Community Wildfire Protection Plan Public Engagement and Scope (Bedolla, Rader)*
10. Hillside Fire Safety Group (Community Presentation)
11. Safer from Wildfires Public Education (Rader)*
12. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Dean

Second: Bradstreet

Vote: 6 Ayes: Bedolla, Degenkolb, Dean, Bradstreet, Stein, Rader; 0 Noes; 1 Absent:
Cutler; 0 Abstain:

Adjourned at 9:34p

DRAFT