

AGENDA
Disaster Fire and Safety Commission
April 28, 2021
7:00 PM

District 1 –	District 5 – Shirley Dean
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet	District 6 – Nancy Rader
District 3 – Gradiva Couzin	District 7 – Robert Simmons
District 4 – Antoinette Stein	District 8 – Paul Degenkolb

Mayor’s Appointee- Jose Luis Bedolla

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

Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, the April 28, 2021 meeting of the Disaster, Fire and Safety Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order and the Shelter-in-Place Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, there will not be a physical meeting location available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL <https://zoom.us/j/92418441799> 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 924 1844 1799. 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 March 24, 2021*

Action Items

Discussion Items

3. Measure GG Budget Update (Fire Department)
4. Cost of Fully Funding Fire Department to Minimal Staffing Levels (Bedolla)
5. Measure FF Budget (Bedolla)
6. Berkeley Mutual Aid Presentation*
7. Report from Planning Commission Meeting on Accessory Dwelling Units (Dean)
8. Density Ordinance for QuadPlexes and Berkeley's Fire Code (Bedolla)
9. Update on Memorandum of Understanding on Grizzly Peak Boulevard (Dean)
10. Possible formation of a Berkeley Fire Safe Council (Bedolla)
11. Transfer Tax for Home Hardening
12. Commission Home Page Resource List (Fire Department)
13. Future Agenda Items
 - a. SB 9
 - b. CEQA
 - c. Vision 2050 Volunteer (Degenkolb)

Adjournment

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday March 24, 2021

Present: Ruth Grimes, Gradiva Couzin, Jose Luis Bedolla, Paul Degenkolb, Robert Flasher, Toby Simmons, Shirley Dean, Weldon Bradstreet, Toni Stein

Absent:

Staff: Keith May, Khin Chin,

Public: 4 Attendees: Alina Constantinescu, Chris Cullander, David Peattie, Kelly Hammergren

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

J. Bedolla called meeting to order at 7:00pm

Approval of the Agenda

Move Item

Approved by Acclamation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

David Peattie, from Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network (BDPNN) and Berkeley Mutual Aid said BPDNN will host a conversation about vaccinations on zoom on 3/31. On the 7th, a community meeting will be hosted regarding an emergency radio communications exercise. Berkeley Mutual is doing a lot of work around vaccinations and is hosting a webpage on accomplishments in this area.

Ruth Grimes said this is her last meeting and thank you to the professional staff, and to the commissioners for their time and effort working on behalf of the community.

Shirley Dean said she wanted to thank Ruth Grimes for her service and knowledge as both a former employee and a commissioner.

1. Fire Department Staff Report

Emergency Operations Center – Update March 18, 2021

- Total number of vaccination within the Berkeley PH jurisdiction is **30,768** which includes doses we have received for our City partners (One Medical, Safeway, Curative, Mass Vacc site, and UC Berkeley)
- Average doses of vaccines/day 800-1500 depending on the supply

Fire Academy

- Projected start date is May 3rd

California’s Tsunami Preparedness Week is this week (March 22-26)

- On March 23, 2021, the California Geological Survey and its partners will release new Tsunami Hazard Area Maps in Alameda County for the public.

www.tsunami.ca.gov

Alameda County Tsunami Maps release – March 23rd

- a. We encourage you to visit www.tsunami.ca.gov to see if a tsunami can occur where you live, work, or visit. Once you are on the website, go to the maps page and find your location by typing in your address or use your current location to pinpoint your location on the [Tsunami Hazard Area Map](#).
- b. For the City of Berkeley, CGS’ new analysis indicates Tsunami Hazard Area is modestly higher than what was originally mapped in 2009. Tsunami flooding could be larger than an elevation of 18 feet in and around the low-lying bayfront areas of the City. Damage to Berkeley Marina during the 2011 Japan tsunami (estimate \$50-\$100k) indicates that even relatively minor tsunamis (less than 3-foot high) could be dangerous and damaging to areas along the waterfront. (\$17 million damage in Santa Cruz)
- c. We have added the inundation areas to the new ZH evacuation platform zones and will be posting a press release.

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of February 24, 2021*

Motion to approve as revised: Bradstreet

Second: Couzin

Vote: 8 Ayes: Couzin, Dean, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader;
0 Noes; 1 Absent: Stein, 0 Abstain:.

Action Items

3. Revision of Automatic Gas Shut Off Valves Recommendation

T. Stein arrived at 7:38pm.

Motion to recommend that changes of the Berkeley Municipal Code be referred to the City Manager and Planning Department to be modified in accordance with the Referral as part of the 2022 Code adoption cycle: Couzin

Second: Stein

Vote: 9 Ayes: Couzin, Dean, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent:, 0 Abstain:.

4. Short Term Referral to City Manager, Disaster and Fire Safety Commission and Planning Commission to Amend Local Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Zoning Ordinance and Berkeley's Fire Code (Dean)

Motion to Dean's version: Stein

Second: Simmons

Vote: 9 Ayes: Couzin, Dean, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent:, 0 Abstain:.

Motion to to submit Commissioner Rader's memo with addition of the Commission's July 2020 memorandum to the Planning Commission as an attachment: Couzin

Second: Rader

Vote: 9 Ayes: Couzin, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes: Dean, Stein; 0 Absent:, 1 Abstain: Simmons.

5. Designate the Commission Chair to Represent the Commission in Measure FF Budget Process (Bedolla)

Motion to Designate the Commission Chair to Represent the Commission in Measure FF Budget Process: Couzin

Second: Grimes

Motion Withdrawn.

Motion to Designate the Commission Chair to Represent the Commission in the Measure FF Budget Process at upcoming City Council Budget and Finance Committee meetings and City Council Meetings Through July 1, 2021: Couzin

Second: Grimes

Vote: 9 Ayes: Couzin, Dean, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent, 0 Abstain.

Discussion Items

6. Density Ordinance (QuadPlexes) and Berkeley's Fire Code (Bedolla)
7. Presentation from the Berkeley Path Wanderers
8. Budget Timelines and Process (Fire Department)
9. Update on Memorandum of Understanding on Grizzly Peak Blvd (Fire Department)
10. Cal Fire Grant (Fire Department)
11. Vision 2050 Volunteer (Bedolla)
12. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Budget report on GG and FF April quarterly
 - b. Possible formation of a Berkeley Fire Safe Council
 - c. Berkeley mutual presentation
 - d. Transfer Tax for Home Hardening
 - e. SB 9
 - f. CEQA
 - g. Home Hardening
 - h. Cerritos Canyon

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Bradstreet

Second: Degenkolb

Vote: 9 Ayes: Couzin, Dean, Bradstreet, Degenkolb, Grimes, Bedolla, Simmons, Rader, Stein; 0 Noes; 0 Absent, 0Abstain.

Adjourned at 944p

Berkeley Mutual Aid (BMA)

January 2021 update



Together, We Have Brightened a Devastating Year

Through all the miseries and outrages that 2020 has brought us, Berkeley Mutual Aid (BMA) has been able to shine some light into the darkness. Sprouting up as a volunteer, community-based effort to help people through the first COVID shelter-in-place mandates in March, BMA began as a platform for neighbors to help neighbors. With a focus on “Solidarity, not Charity,” BMA paired the many Berkeley residents who feel a deep desire to help their neighbors with a “buddy” who may be more at risk, or more in need. These matches provide ongoing connections and potentially lifesaving support through essential help with grocery shopping, prescription pick-ups, and more.

As the pandemic has continued, BMA has built an array of responsive, on-the-ground community-building projects that strengthen our social safety net beyond the COVID crisis. Mutual aid is mutual benefit! We want to again express love for and gratitude to everyone who has donated or otherwise been a part of BMA. All of you have brought so much light to our community, and we thank you!

As we move into this new year, we have reason to hope for better times. At BMA we look forward to building on what we have begun, fostering connectedness and tangible caring that will keep our community strong, resilient, and kind to each other. BMA depends on community support to pay for supplies, grants to individuals in need, administrative support, and other basic expenses. Please contribute [here](#). Thank you!

The Year in Review

As the pandemic enters its tenth month, Berkeley Mutual Aid volunteers have offered 20,000 hours of their time to support the following key activities:

1. **Building a stronger safety net: 500+ “buddy” matches of volunteers for ongoing support of people impacted by the COVID crisis.** At the heart of BMA’s work is matching volunteers one-on-one with “buddies,” who provide ongoing support to neighbors who are elderly, have significant



health risks, or are caring for people with these risks. This usually includes weekly grocery shopping or errands but can be anything from socially distanced gardening or tech support to dropping off homemade cornbread. Members of our network report that they feel safer knowing they have someone to call upon who cares about them and knows them personally; volunteers report gratitude for the chance to connect with a neighbor in the community they otherwise would not have met.

2. **Creating connectedness and collective resilience: 120 “chat buddy” connections; 50+ participants in virtual self-care gatherings.** At a time when comfort and connection are especially critical to our wellbeing, a buddy will check in weekly to help people who indicate they are feeling isolated while sheltering in place. BMA Virtual Gatherings have offered self-care coaching including improv and meditation.
3. **Navigating social assistance programs: 85+ people helped.** Volunteer case managers provide referrals, introductions, and personal follow-up to those navigating social assistance programs, many for the first time. The expertise in social work, counseling, and public health is especially helpful to the 15% of BMA requestors with limited digital access. Our case managers do not act in a professional capacity but as caring neighbors who can contribute a high level of expertise for people who need it.
4. **Personal Protective Equipment: 2,500 KN95, 750+ fabric masks and almost 30 gallons of hand sanitizer.** BMA initiatives have helped make sure that everyone in Berkeley has access to essential PPE, beginning with its most vulnerable populations. BMA’s [Need a Mask | Make a Mask](#) program connects those in need to those with the skills to make masks. We are working with UC Berkeley students making gallons of hand sanitizer in their labs. Recipients have included the Women’s Daytime Drop-in Center, Berkeley Free Clinic, Berkeley Unified School District (for volunteers distributing supplies), Lifelong Medical Care, Easy Does It, East Oakland Collective, childcare providers, and higher-risk BMA requestors.
5. **[Fruit Gleaning Project](#): 750 pounds of free, local fruit.** BMA volunteers pick fruit at homes with excess harvest and redistribute it through the Berkeley Food Network. The process takes place in accordance with strict anti-infection safety protocols and has established relationships with 12 sites for future harvests.
6. **Wildfire buddies:** People who are socially isolated are more at risk of missing a critical evacuation alert, especially if they do not have a mobile phone or easy Internet access. BMA served as a trusted



resource sharing alerts and Red Flag information, and fielding wildfire-related questions with anxious neighbors who needed more answers than government websites were providing. Volunteers have also been matched as “wildfire buddies” to assist with evacuation, if needed.



- 7. Voting Support: two Zoom ballot mark-up parties on state & local ballot questions; support on how to vote absentee:** BMA compiled a [helpful tip sheet for mutual aid to support voting](#) and shared it with mutual aid organizations all over the country. BMA also met multiple times with nationwide groups to brainstorm actions toward voter support.

About BMA

Berkeley Mutual Aid is a project of the Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network, a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to supporting our community in preparation for and response to various disasters.

By phone and email, BMA volunteers field a range of public questions ranging from “Where can I get a mask?” to “Is there help for me to avoid eviction?” BMA is constantly researching to find resources and information that speak to the needs expressed by the community.

BMA builds our network through flyers, [online sign-ups](#), and telephone contacts. We actively partner with the City of Berkeley, exchanging information at biweekly meetings between BMA’s Steering Team and representatives from Berkeley’s Office of Emergency Services and the Berkeley Health Department. Our [Safety Protocols](#) are regularly reviewed and updated by a medical professional.

BMA also promotes the outreach efforts of [Berkeley Disaster Prep Neighborhood Network](#) to get individuals and communities better prepared for other disasters during this pandemic. So far, efforts have included Zoom sessions on [improvising leadership in disaster response](#) and surviving COVID-19.

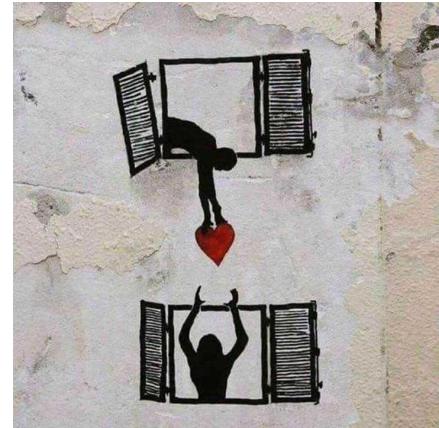
Other local partners include Meals on Wheels, Women’s Daytime Drop-in Center, Senior Centers, Berkeley Aging Services Division, J-Sei, Berkeley Mental Health, 2-1-1 Alameda County, Alameda County Social Services, and others.

Our team is bilingual in Spanish and English, and we are working to include Mandarin and Cantonese.

Although BMA's focus is on Berkeley, we understand that disasters pay no attention to municipal boundaries, so our support extends beyond to include Albany, El Cerrito, Kensington, Emeryville, and Oakland.

We work with other mutual aid organizations, including East Bay Resilience Hub, NorCal Resiliency Network, South Berkeley Mutual Aid, Oakland at Risk, Hayward Helping Hands, El Cerrito Mutual Aid, and others. Halcyon Help, serving Berkeley's Halcyon neighborhood, is officially merging with BMA in January.

Finally, we share ideas and resources with an international collective of mutual aid groups. We recently led a session on [mutual aid for seniors](#), and our notes on the subject were widely shared.



Communications

The BMA community, more than 800 strong, connects via a weekly [newsletter](#) that includes calls to action, resources, and suggestions for ways that people can volunteer beyond our own mutual aid network. Resources are also kept up to date on the BMA [Community Resources](#) page. We are on Twitter (@BerkeleyAid) and Facebook.

Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare fundamental gaps in the social safety net in the United States, forcing impossible choices for many and creating new stressors for people already struggling on the edge. Berkeley Mutual Aid strives to shine a light in this dark moment, showing ourselves and each other that there is enough for everyone and that by working together, we can get through this. We are building a stronger, safer, and more connected community. We protect *us*. Join us!

www.berkeleymutualaid.org
berkeleymutualaid@gmail.com
(510) 519-6770
www.bdpnnetwork.org

FY2021 Measure GG
Quarterly Expense Tracking

Program	Budget	Actuals				Actuals Total	% Budget Available	Available Budget
		Q1 July-Sept. 2020	Q2 Oct.-Dec. 2020	Q3 Jan.-Mar. 2021	Q4 Apr.-June 2021			
Disaster Prep	\$ 1,098,490	\$ 226,795	\$ 255,230			\$ 482,032	56%	\$ 616,464
FRALS	\$ 781,252	\$ 141,089	\$ 194,515			\$ 335,611	57%	\$ 445,647
Minimum Staffing	\$ 2,234,254	\$ 1,004,583	\$ 1,143,499			\$ 2,148,087	4%	\$ 86,173
Radio Interoperability	\$ 356,941	\$ 5,357	\$ 6,310			\$ 11,673	97%	\$ 345,274
Training	\$ 293,907	\$ 65,188	\$ 92,630			\$ 157,823	46%	\$ 136,090
Community Outreach - HHCS	\$ 239,315	\$ 30,427	\$ 45,323			\$ 75,756	68%	\$ 163,565
Totals	\$ 5,004,159	\$ 1,473,439	\$ 1,737,507			\$ 3,210,982	36%	\$ 1,793,213

Note: Minimum Staffing actuals are high due to COVID-19 coverage