

AGENDA
Disaster Fire and Safety Commission
December 1, 2021
7:00 PM

District 1 – Kim-Mai Cutler	District 5 – Shirley Dean
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet	District 6 – Nancy Rader
District 3 –	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 Government Code Section 54953(e) and the state declared emergency, this meeting of the Disaster and Fire Safety Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and presents imminent risks to the health of attendees. Therefore, no physical meeting location will be available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85215150264> 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 .852 1515 0264 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
 - a. Measure FF Report
 - i. Measure FF Budget overview
 1. Program Review
 2. Implementation and metrics
 3. Requests for Proposals
 - ii. Program Specific Reports
 - b. Measure GG Report
 - i. Measure GG Budget overview

1. Program Review
 2. Implementation and metrics
 3. Requests for Proposals
- c. Department Activities
- i. Overall Call Metrics
 - ii. Special Reports
 - iii. Commission Actions Status

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of October 27, 2021*

Action Items

3. Revisiting the Commission's Recommendation to Use Measure FF Funds as Intended by Voters for Firefighting, Emergency Medical Response, 9-1-1 Communications Services, Hazard Mitigation, and Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness; to Not Reduce General Fund Allocations Towards Fire Services; and to Support Effective Commission Oversight* (Bedolla)
4. Criteria for Use of a Portion of Measure FF funds for Vegetation Clearance on Private Land (Rader)*
5. 2022 Commission Meeting Schedule

Discussion Items

6. Providing More Budget Details for Measure GG vs General Fund Allocation for Overtime (Bedolla)
7. Timeline for Input for the City's Budget Cycle (Dean)
8. Policy on Eucalyptus trees removal and suppression (Dean)
9. Definition of Defensible Space (Dean)
10. Home Hardening in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Rader)
11. Possibility of Recording Commission Meeting (Staff)
12. CERT and Related Preparedness Programs (Bedolla)
13. Grant Programs for Disaster Preparedness and Response (Bedolla)
14. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

Adjournment

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday October 27, 2021

Present: Jose Luis Bedolla, Shirley Dean, Weldon Bradstreet, Nancy Rader, Toby Simmons, Toni Stein,

Absent: Kim-Mai Cutler (Excused), Paul Degenkolb

Staff: Keith May, Khin Chin, Abraham Roman, David Sprague, Steve Riggs, Christina Erickson

Public: Attendees 9: Henry DeNero, Alec Dara-Abrams, Benay Dara-Abrams, C Chen, Chris Cullander, Kathleen E. Kelly, Marty Lorber, Richard Thomason, Kelly Hammergren

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

J. Bedolla called meeting to order at 7:03pm
T. Simmons arrived at 7:04

Approval of the Agenda
Reverse Items 5 and 6
Approved by Acclimation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

David Peattie said that BPDNN said that the free emergency go-kit program for seniors and people with disabilities has assembled 1250 with 1000 distributed. This is combined with an educational program provided to the 750 people that have participated.

1. Fire Department Staff Report

W. Bradstreet arrived at 7:20p

Measure FF Monthly Report

- a. Budget Overview – Chief Roman
 - i. Program Review

- 1. **Standards of Coverage Analysis** – This contract was approved by the Council on July 27, 2021, and work has begun to provide the consultant

with a large amount of supporting data. This includes basic department demographics, emergency call response times, staffing levels, known and planned construction within the City and much more. The resulting work will include an evaluation of the City's risk profile (from a fire, EMS and rescue perspective), optimum fire station locations, crew/apparatus staffing and deployment, new employee work schedules, and appropriate response time standards. We expect this work to take between 6 – 12 months.

2. **Project Management and Subject Matter Expert (SME)** – The number and complexity of projects that the Department has engaged in over the next 3-5 years is monumental. We are bringing onboard a consultant who will (1) help us manage all projects to ensure that timelines are updated frequently, goals and objectives are met, project dependencies are tracked and updated and key communication occurs throughout the planning cycle and (2) provide the Department with external experts that have relevant experience in some of the more complex areas of work including emergency medical services deployment and developing a regional training collaborative agreement.
3. **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – We are working with an expert that will engage with us to create a community-based plan that is focused on identifying and addressing local hazards and risks from wildfire in the City's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas. The plan will determine what is at risk and will provide a road map of actions for the community to address the wildfire threat. We want to ensure the public funds and time we dedicate actually result in measurable improvements to the community's preparation and resiliency.
4. **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation** – The department is in the process of expanding its traditional "Hazardous Fire Area" program of wildfire safety inspections to ultimately include all properties in Fire Zones 2 and 3. This represents a massive increase of inspections from about 1436 inspections to 8620 inspections. There is so much important work that we need to focus on as a community with regard to preparation and prevention of a catastrophic wildland fire. The Department literally does not have the people available to do this work. To help move these important projects ahead, the Department has hired back nine retired members of the organization who have relevant experience in these program areas. They began work in September (the hiring process took about two months) and are focused on four main projects; restarting the Safe Passages program, establishing more FireWise groups in Berkeley, completing the CWPP process and implementing the Vegetation Management programs, and performing vegetation management inspections in Fire Zone 2. We are so grateful they all agreed to come back and help. In addition, Fire Prevention staff are preparing an amendment to our local fire code adoption which will

expand fire sprinkler installation and retrofit requirements that currently exist in the Panoramic neighborhood into all of Fire Zone 2.

5. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment** – A key component of transitioning our ambulance model to a more cost effective “single function” model is developing two new job classifications. One for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and one for Paramedic. Both of these new classifications will no longer also serve as firefighters. These classifications have been jointly developed by a labor management group within the Department and are working their way through the City review and approval process. We hope to begin recruitment sometime in late 2021 or early 2022. This will allow several important changes to occur:

- a. It will create entry level EMT jobs within our Department. This will allow us to directly tie to the Berkeley High School Berkeley Fire and EMS pathway program that has been very successful. Graduates from that program will be qualified to apply for these entry level jobs.
- b. The EMT classification will also allow us to recruit from a much larger applicant pool, which we know is more diverse than the paramedic applicant pool.

6. **Division of Training Property** – Our team has been actively looking at property throughout the region. We are working with the City’s real estate broker to determine the best path forward. We have engaged departments within Alameda and Contra Costa counties in preliminary conversations regarding a partnership to support a regional center. There is a lot of interest in this model and it would do much to break down the invisible barriers between agencies. Training together as a region is the beginning of a more collaborative, regional fire service that will be more resilient and better prepared to work together in larger incidents. We have a subject matter expert working with us who was involved in creating a regional training collaborative in an adjacent county and we are excited to have his leadership and experience to pull from. We hope to have a property identified within the next several months, if not sooner.

ii. Implementation & Metrics

1. **Outdoor Warning System** – Contract has been created and waiting for Genasys to sign. MOU with Zaytuna has been signed. BUSD MOU will be heard on November 17th by the BUSD Board.

iii. RFP Updates

b. Program Specific Reports

i. Defensible Space Inspection Updates

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants
--

September 20, 2021 – October 18, 2021

Inspections	Violations	Re-Inspect Req.	No Violations
521	138	138	383

ii. Other

Measure GG Monthly Report – Chief Roman

c. Budget Overview

i. Program Review

ii. Implementation & Metric

1. Hybrid CERT Model

- a. The Office of Emergency Services continues to update and revamp the CERT curriculum. The goal of the CERT revamp is to provide a flexible program that can adapt to the changing COVID-19 pandemic and provide increased flexibility for interested community members. It will contain three parts: online self-study through the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI), virtual instructor-led sessions to review the online modules, and a ½ day practicum session to gain hands on experience with the course material.

The online self-study learning modules are now on the City of Berkeley website here. These online modules can be accessed via the Cal OES training website, the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI). The City’s website includes a “how to” guide to help community members log in and access the training. OES continues to design the accompanying virtual and in-person practicum sessions and will update community members once they are ready.

- b. Evacuation Workshops held in September and October to assist the community in preparing their household for evacuations. 58 households participated.
- c. Evacuation Virtual Drill held on October 9th.
 - i. 250 households registered for drill.
 - ii. 150 joined online debriefing.
- d. Objectives:
 - i. Describe which AC Alerts they may receive
 - ii. Identify their evacuation zone on Zonehaven and see what the follow up actions are, depending on the incident
 - iii. Practice fire weather plans with other community members

iii. RFP Updates

Department Activities

- d. Graduation of BFD 110th Fire Academy on October 1, 2021. We started with 13 recruits in this entry level firefighter-paramedic class, there have been two resignations. They participated in a 20-week State Fire Training Accredited course that results in State Certification. They have begun their field evaluation time to be cleared to work as a paramedic in Alameda County. Depending on experience and skill, this will take anywhere from two to six weeks, then they will begin working without a Field Training Officer (FTO).
- e. Entry Level Interviews are underway for next year's 111th Academy.

Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type		
September 14, - October 20, 2021		
Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	31	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	16	
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	0	
Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	932	
Hazardous Condition - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	63	
Service Calls (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	121	

Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	118	
False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	183	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	0	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	3	
TOTAL	1,467	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	3,275
-------------------------	------------------------	--------------

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of Meeting of October 27, 2021*

Motion to approve the minutes as revised: Bedolla

Second: Bradstreet

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

Action Items

3. Recommendation to identify High Risk Areas that are exempt from State Imposed Housing Increases Due to Public Safety Considerations (Dean)*

Motion to that the City Council define the location of those areas within the city of Berkeley in which residents are at high risk due to public safety considerations and use this information to guide the Housing Element process so that greater density and development in those areas is avoided to the extent reasonably possible.: Dean

Second: Stein

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

4. Revisiting the Commission's Recommendation to Use Measure FF Funds as Intended by Voters for Firefighting, Emergency Medical Response, 9-1-1 Communications Services, Hazard Mitigation, and Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness; to Not Reduce General Fund Allocations Towards Fire Services; and to Support Effective Commission Oversight*

Item carried forward to next meeting.

Discussion Items

5. November 2022 Infrastructure Bond Ballot Measure (Public Works/Parks Recreation Waterfront Staff)
6. Criteria for use of a portion of Measure FF funds for vegetation clearance on private land (Rader)*
7. Commission Home Page Resource List (Bedolla)
8. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps
 - a. Volunteer Involvement

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Rader

Second: Stein

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

Cutler, Degenkolb; 0 Abstain:

Adjourned at 9:53p

DFSC Staff Report

December 1, 2021

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)** – We are anticipating a response from the City Manager in the by early December. If she approves, the contract will move ahead to be signed and the work will begin. We anticipate the project will be complete within nine (9) months.
 4. **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections** – Inspections continue and the amount of vegetation that exists in Zone 2 & 3 is a huge problem. For the most part, the stories we are hearing from the RAs represent a community that is aware of the problem and wants to act – they just need clear direction. The RAs are often spending 20-60 minutes with a homeowner, a luxury that in-service companies just don't have. We believe this is driving an increase in compliance during re-inspection and is the gold standard for how to perform this work.
 5. **Retired Annuitants** – Having the team of RAs back on the payroll has been really beneficial to the City and to the Department. They are working hard both in the field and in the office on all things WUI. It's been working so well in fact that we are working to recruit an additional five (5) RAs. This group will be primarily focused on increasing the inspection capacity and helping FP with the work associated with the built environment.
 6. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Recruitment** – These new classifications are going to the Personnel Board on December 6th, 2021. If they are approved, they will then go to the City Council for approval in January. If the City Council approves, then we will begin recruitment. Recruiting for these positions is a critical component that will stabilize our staffing levels and allow us to launch

forward with permanently staffing both Fire Prevention and the Wildland Urban Interface Division.

7. **Dispatch Re-Design** – The contract for Federal Engineering, the consultant who will conduct this work, has been reviewed and approved internally. It is making its way through the City’s signing process now. We expect work to begin in December and really pick up in early 2022. We’ve got an estimate of 6 months to reach project completion – then the real work begins - implementation.

8. **Recruitments:**

- a. Shift Fire Inspector Recruitment – Recruitment is open for these positions, which are filled by exiting members and are used to assist with fire investigations and other inspection related activities in the built environment.
- b. Sworn Fire Inspector Recruitment – Recruitment is open. We are hiring additional sworn inspectors to fill existing vacancies in Fire Prevention and potentially for the new Wildland Urban Interface Division.

9. **Division of Training Property** – We are in discussions with three property owners in North Richmond with regard to purchase or lease.

ii. Implementation & Metrics

1. **Outdoor Warning System** – Contract is the final stage with COB. Waiting on BUSD to send MOU with signatures.

iii. RFP Updates

b. Program Specific Reports

i. Defensible Space Inspection Updates

Vegetation Management Inspections – Annuitants
--

October 18, 2021 – November 15, 2021

Inspections	Violations	Re-Inspect Req.	No Violations
629	106	106	523

ii. Other

2. Measure GG Monthly Report

a. Budget Overview

i. RFP Updates – In the early stages of developing an RFP for an Evacuation Time Estimate Study for the City of Berkeley.

3. Department Activities

- a. Interviews were held the second and third week of November. Conditional offers were mailed to 12 candidates. Prospective candidates' names have been sent for background checks.
- b. Grants – the Fire Department is working on two separate items within this category. We are pulling a team together that will identify available grants and apply for those that we are able. The second part is to provide the community with the information about Cost Sharing Assistance through the Diablo Firesafe Council. These are dollar-for-dollar matching funds where 5 or more residents apply for vegetation management assistance.

4. Call Volume Report

Fire Department Report by California Incident Type		
October 19, 2021 – November 28, 2021		
Fires – including Encampment Fires (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,	31	
Encampment Fires (structures, warming/cooking, debris)	13	
Explosion - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)	2	
Rescue & EMS (medical assist, vehicle accident)	1,078	
Hazardous Condition - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles)	127	
Service Calls (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public assist, cover assignment/standby)	135	
Good Intent (canceled en-route, wrong location, nothing found, steam mistaken for smoke)	113	

False Alarm Calls (malicious, malfunction, unintentional, biohazard scare)	241	
Severe WX (lightening, wind storms)	10	
Special Incidents (citizen complaints)	1	
TOTAL	1,751	

Unit Utilization	Apparatus Count	3,802
-------------------------	-----------------	--------------

Date of Commission Action	Topic	Result	Description of result	Notes
2/24/2021	2021 Commission Workplan	City Council 4/20/21 Agenda	Item 40	
2/24/2021	Measure FF Oversight Recommendation*			Staff Review for Response; Fire Department
3/24/2021	Memorandum for Short Term Referral on ADUs	City Council 5/11/21 Commun	Communication 1	Submitted to Clerk 4/15
3/24/2021	Recommendation to Expand Automatic Gas Shut-Off Valve Requirements	City Council 6/1/21 Agenda	Item 6	Commission originally took action on 12/2/2020 but revisions were made upon consultation and discussion with staff.
5/26/2021	Recommendation to City Council on Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment	City Council 6/15/21 Commun	Communication 1	
5/26/2021	Measure GG Reimbursement from Covid-19 Response	City Council 6/15/21 Commun	Communication 59	
8/4/2021	Recommendation on Financial Reporting and Process	City Council 9/28/21 Agenda	https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2021/09_Sep/Documents/09-28_Regular_Annotated_Agenda_pdf.aspx	
9/22/2021	Enforcement of Existing Parking Rules and Regulations			Staff Review for Response; Police, Public Works
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	Consider		Staff Review for Response; Fire Department, Planning Department, Information Technology Department

November 23, 2021

To: Disaster & Fire Safety Commission, Chief Roman

From: Commissioner Rader

Re: Addressing Vegetation Overgrowth on Private and Public Land Beyond 100 feet of Structures

At the October Commission meeting, the Department provided a great deal of information on its implementation of the vegetation management inspection program, which was very helpful in understanding what is currently being done to address vegetation around structures to reduce the chances that such structures will ignite in a wildfire. To foster further discussion at our November-December meeting (and beyond as necessary), I pose some additional questions here regarding how the department is addressing (or might address) vegetation overgrowth not proximate to structures on private property as well as on City and other publicly owned property.

Background

Berkeley has many areas of vegetative fuel build-up that are beyond 100 feet of any structure, which is the current focus area for the home inspection program. Examples of large such areas include canyons with creeks, such as Cerritos Creek and Codornices Creek canyons. In addition, numerous concentrations of eucalyptus and other large trees exist throughout the fire zones (some in canyon/creek areas). The Hillside Fire Safety Group has identified 70-75 private properties and two City parks (Remillard and Glendale-LaLoma) that account for about half of all the eucalyptus trees on the north side of campus, which exist in just seven groves.¹ Many of these eucalyptus areas – which are particularly prone to fire -- are beyond 100 feet of structures and require clean up.²

Some of these fuel-build-up areas may be on City land outside of parks or on EBMUD parcels within the City, but much of it is on private property.

It is my understanding that (a) the home inspection program is aimed primarily at creating 30 feet of “defensible space” around structures and that additional clearance may, in some circumstances, such as on steep slopes, be required within 100 feet of structures,³ and (b) neither the state’s nor Berkeley’s fire codes require clearance of brush beyond 100 feet of any structure. This means that many private property areas within Berkeley that contain dense vegetation and substantial fuel build-up on the ground will go untreated under current law and practice.

¹ Hillside Fire Safety Group memo to Berkeley Fire Chief Roman and Deputy Chief May (October 27, 2021).

² See Hillside Fire Safety Group survey map, available at www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1zUZowfjNBLGGD2M92bLsDSOc-0MoFfIR&usp=sharing.

³ Berkeley Fire Department, “Fire Prevention Inspection Report, Wildland-Urban Interface Area” (Rev. 05/2020) (included in June 1, 2021, Berkeley Fire Department mailing to Berkeley property owners).

It is well understood that ladder fuels can carry fire from ground fuels to tree crowns where it can become a devastating fire that quickly spreads.⁴ Within its “State Responsibility Area,” CalFIRE has embarked on many programs to reduce fuel loads and create horizontal and vertical fuel breaks to protect California’s most wildfire-vulnerable communities.⁵ CalFIRE is not responsible for densely populated areas, however, which falls to local governments such as Berkeley. (See map of State and Local Responsibility Areas below.) While CalFIRE addresses fuel loads in areas near or adjacent to vulnerable urban areas, it is obviously at least equally important to address fuel loads *within* dense urban areas to reduce the chances and impacts of catastrophic wildfire.

Treatment of these areas should include removal of: fuel build-up on the ground, tree limbs to at least 10 feet above ground, and saplings and loose bark throughout each property. Removal of dead trees would also be desirable, but potentially less feasible.

The California Constitution generally prohibits “gifts of public funds” to any public or private person; however, such gifts are allowed for a public purpose, and that public purpose is to be liberally construed.⁶ The city and state have a number of programs that spend public funds on private property for the purposes of disaster preparedness. It seems reasonable to assume that using public funds to reduce fuels that significantly contribute to the risk of wildfire would be considered a public purpose, particularly given the limited incidental benefits that would be received by landowners.

Topics and Questions for Discussion

1. Does any of the background information presented above require correction?
2. Assuming the Department agrees that treating these areas is desirable to reduce wildfire risk, would it be reasonable to designate treatment programs as a high priority compared to addressing other wildfire-related risks (such as facilitating evacuations through the Safe Passages program and removing vegetation encroachment in roadways, establishing more FireWise groups, etc.)? Or does the Department believe that completion of its Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is necessary before sound determinations can be made regarding risk-reduction priorities? What is the schedule for the CWPP?
3. Are there relatively easy ways to address areas beyond 30 to 100 feet of structures that could be implemented in the very near term? For example:

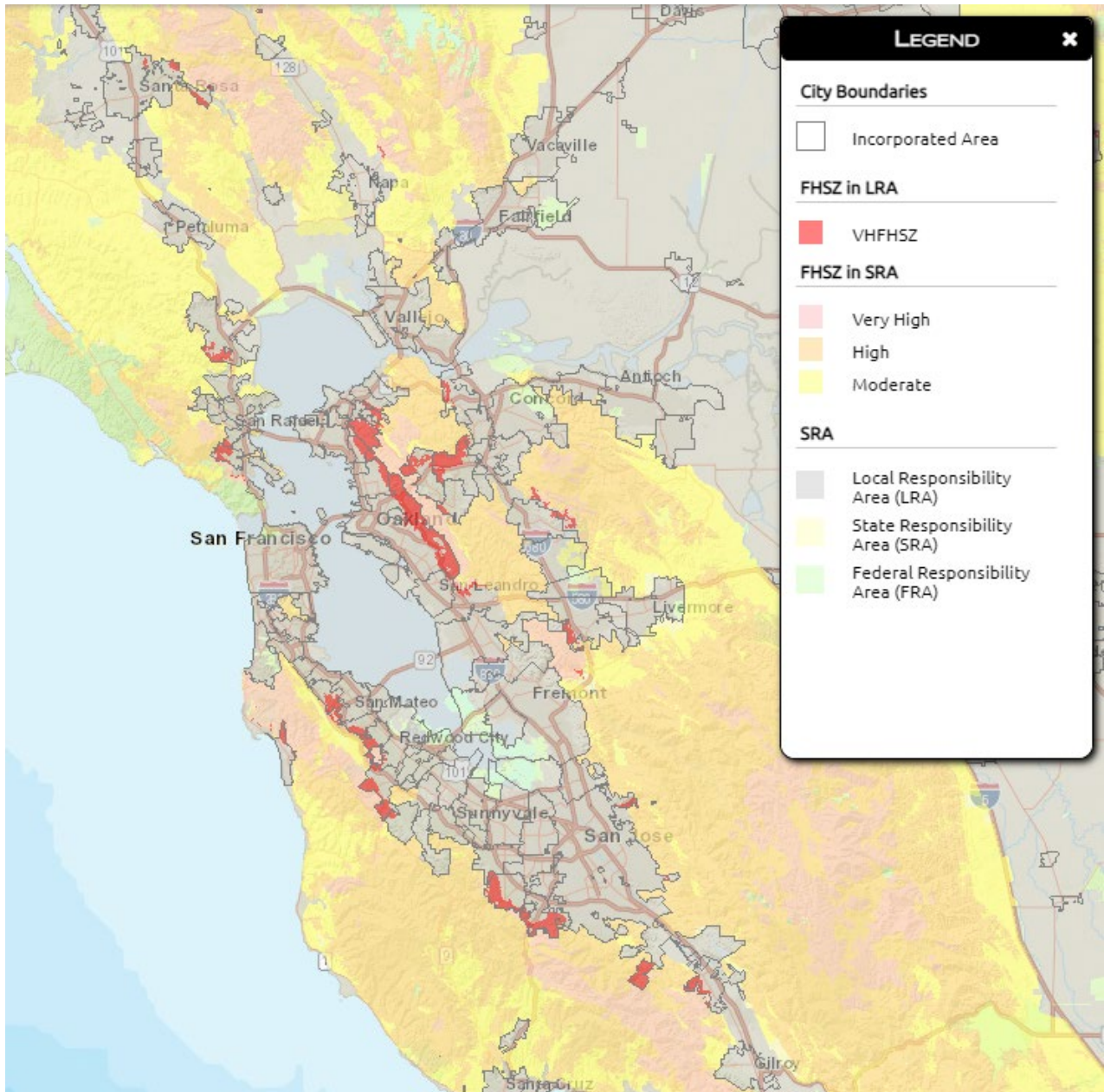
⁴ See CalFIRE, Fire and Fuels Treatment 0 <https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/resource-management/resource-protection-improvement/wildfire-resilience/forest-stewardship/fire-and-fuels-treatment/>.

⁵ See, e.g., CalFIRE’s Fuel Reduction Guide (2021) (<https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/4jqerfjh/fuels-reduction-guide-final-2021-interactive.pdf>).

⁶ See League of California Cities, “Gift of Public Funds (Spoiler Alert: It’s Illegal)” at p. 1. Available at: https://www.cacities.org/Resources-Documents/Member-Engagement/Professional-Departments/City-Attorneys/Library/2016/Annual-2016/10-2016-Annual_Forbath_Gift-of-Public-Funds_Spoile.aspx.

- a. Could the current inspection program be expanded to encourage (not require) property owners, including owners of vacant lots, to treat their properties? Does the Department believe that such encouragement and voluntary efforts would be effective and timely?
 - b. Could the Fire Marshall identify and prioritize large properties requiring treatment and accompany inspectors to those properties to educate property owners? As noted in the background section, North Berkeley eucalyptus are concentrated in just five groves and two City parks, and the number of creek sheds is limited.
4. Are regulations necessary to require private property owners to properly manage all of their land to reduce fire risk, or could this be accomplished under the current Fire Code? Is the Department aware of any state efforts underway to develop such regulations (or guidelines) or any other local jurisdictions that have adopted them? Is the Department supportive of such regulations?
5. Given the risk-reduction benefit to the public and the fact that many property owners “inherited” areas where fuels have been allowed by the City to build up over many decades, Measure FF funds could be used to address high-fuel-load areas on private property rather than wait for new regulations to become effective and/or the development of subsidy programs and successful applications for grants, which could take years.
 - a. Do Commissioners believe that it would it be reasonable to allocate a fraction of Measure FF funds for a year or two (on the order of 3-5%, or several hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of treating as many of these areas as possible before the next fire season and until regulations are in place, grant funds are raised, and/or Measure FF subsidy programs are developed? Such a treatment program could be limited to willing property owners.
 - b. Are Commissioners concerned that some property owners could be institutions?
 - c. What does the Department believe the staffing requirements of such a program would be? (E.g., to identify property owners, assess boundaries, obtain waivers, potentially talk with neighbors.) Might it be possible to meet these requirements in the near-term or sometime later next year?
6. Is the Department in the process of identifying and treating vegetative overgrowth in City parks and on city parcels outside of parks in Fire Zones 2 and 3? Is it engaged with EBMUD to identify such parcels that it owns within the city?

Local Responsibility Areas for Fire Hazard Severity Zones



Source: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/wildfire-planning-engineering/wildland-hazards-building-codes/fire-hazard-severity-zones-maps>.

Note that the City of Berkeley has expanded its very high fire severity zones which are not depicted on CalFIRE's map but are recognized by CalFIRE.



2022 CITY CALENDAR

JANUARY						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JULY						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



SEPTEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2022 CITY OF BERKELEY RECOGNIZED HOLIDAYS

Jan. 1	New Year's Day - Obs. 12/31	May. 19	Malcolm X's Birthday	Sept. 5	Labor Day	Dec. 25	Christmas Day - OBS. Dec. 26
Jan. 17	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	May. 30	Memorial Day	Oct. 10	Indigenous Peoples' Day		Pay Day
Feb. 12	Lincoln's Birthday- OBS. Feb. 11	June. 19	Juneteenth - Obs. 6/20	Nov. 11	Veteran's Day		Observed Holiday
Feb. 21	Washington's Birthday	July. 4	Independence Day	Nov. 24/25	Thanksgiving Day/Day After		Observed VTO Day



City Clerk Department

November 19, 2021

To: Commission Secretaries

From: Mark Numainville, City Clerk

Subject: City Policy Regarding Scheduling of Meetings on Significant Religious Holidays

On October 12, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 70,066-N.S., creating a policy to avoid scheduling meetings of City Legislative Bodies on religious holidays with work restrictions. The Legislative Bodies impacted by this policy include the City Council, Commissions and Boards, Task Forces, and Council Policy Committees.

The City Clerk Department has compiled a list of religious holidays and dates for 2022. Commissions, Boards and task Forces should avoid scheduling meetings on any of the dates in the attached list.

Attachments:

1. List of Religious/Cultural Observances
2. Resolution No. 70,066-N.S.

City Policy Regarding the Scheduling of City Meetings on All Significant Religious Holidays

Pursuant to Resolution No. 70,066-N.S., it is the policy of the City to avoid scheduling meetings of City Legislative Bodies (City Council, Commissions and Boards, Council Policy Committees, Task Forces) on religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions.

City legislative bodies must avoid scheduling meetings on the religious holidays listed below.

Religion	Holiday	Date	2022 Date
Christian	Good Friday	Varies (March or April)	4/15/22
Christian	Easter Sunday	Varies (March or April)	4/17/22
Christian	Christmas	December 25	12/25/22
Jewish	Rosh Hashanah	Varies (Sept. or Oct.)	9/25/22-9/27/22
Jewish	Yom Kippur	Varies (Sept. or Oct.)	10/4/22-10/5/22
Jewish	Sukkot - first and last day	Varies (Sept. or Oct.)	10/9/22, 10/16/22
Jewish	Shmini Atzeret	Varies (Sept. or Oct.)	10/16/22-10/18/22
Jewish	Simchat Torah	Varies (Sept. or Oct.)	10/17/22-10/18/22
Jewish	Chanukah (1 st night)	Varies (Nov. or Dec.)	12/18/22
Jewish	Passover (Nights 1, 2, 7, 8)	Varies (March or April)	4/15,4/16,4/22,4/23
Jewish	Shavuot	Varies (May or June)	6/4/22-6/6/22
Jewish	Shabbat	Weekly	Friday sunset to Saturday sunset
Jewish*	Purim	Varies (February or March)	3/16/22-3/17/22
Jewish*	Tish'a B'Av	Varies (July or August)	8/5/22-8/6/22
Jewish*	Yom HaShoah	Varies (April or May)	4/27/22-4/28/22
Buddhist	Vesak	Varies (April or May)	5/6/22
Hindu	Diwali	Varies (Oct. or Nov.)	10/24/22
Hindu	Dussera	Varies (Oct.)	10/5/2022
Hindu	Holi	Varies (March)	3/17-3/18
Hindu	Makar Sankranti	Varies (January or February)	1/14/2022
Islam	Eid al-Fitr	Varies	5/2/22-5/3/22
Islam	Eid al-Adha	Varies	7/9/22-7/10/22
Shinto	New Year	January 1-3	1/1/22-1/3/22
Shinto	Obon Ceremony	August 13-15	8/13/22-8/15/22
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Baja'u'llah	Varies	10/26/22-10/27/22
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Bab	Varies	10/25/22-10/26/22
Cultural	Chinese New Year (Day 1-7)	Varies (Jan. 21 – Feb. 20)	2/1/22-2/15/22
Cultural	Kwanzaa	Dec. 26 – Dec. 31	12/26/22-1/1/23

* No work restriction, but avoid scheduling meetings if possible

RESOLUTION NO. 70,066-N.S.

ESTABLISHING A PRACTICE TO AVOID SCHEDULING CITY MEETINGS ON ALL
SIGNIFICANT RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

WHEREAS, The City of Berkeley traditionally does not schedule any City related meetings on Christian religious holidays such as Christmas, Easter, and Good Friday where such meetings would conflict with religious services and celebration; and

WHEREAS, there is no formal policy that addresses the scheduling of meetings on other religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions such as Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Passover (1st night), Diwali, Chinese New Year, Birth of Baja'u'llah, Kwanzaa, Gantan-sai, Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha; and

WHEREAS, while consideration has been taken to avoid scheduling meetings on such dates, it is not a consistent practice and, as such, conflicts have occurred; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that a policy is in place to avoid scheduling on religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions will ensure that all beliefs and people are treated equally.


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it will be the policy of the City to avoid scheduling meetings of City Legislative Bodies (City Council, Commissions and Boards, Council Policy Committees, Task Forces) on religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions and such days shall be identified through consultation with community religious leaders.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on October 12, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Droste, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Taplin, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest: 

Mark Numainville, City Clerk