

Policy Committee: Public Safety

November 21, 2022

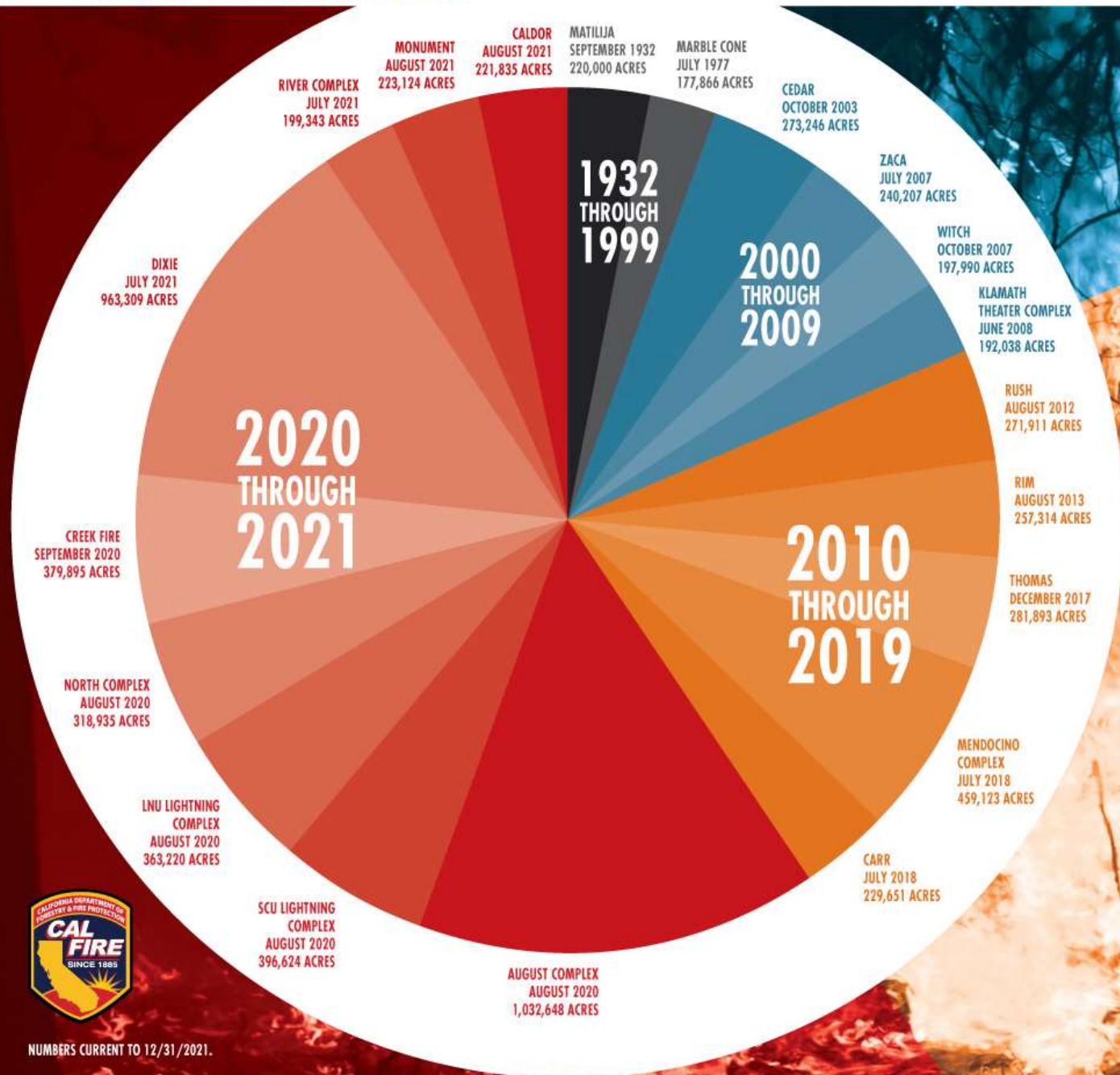


Goals for Today

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

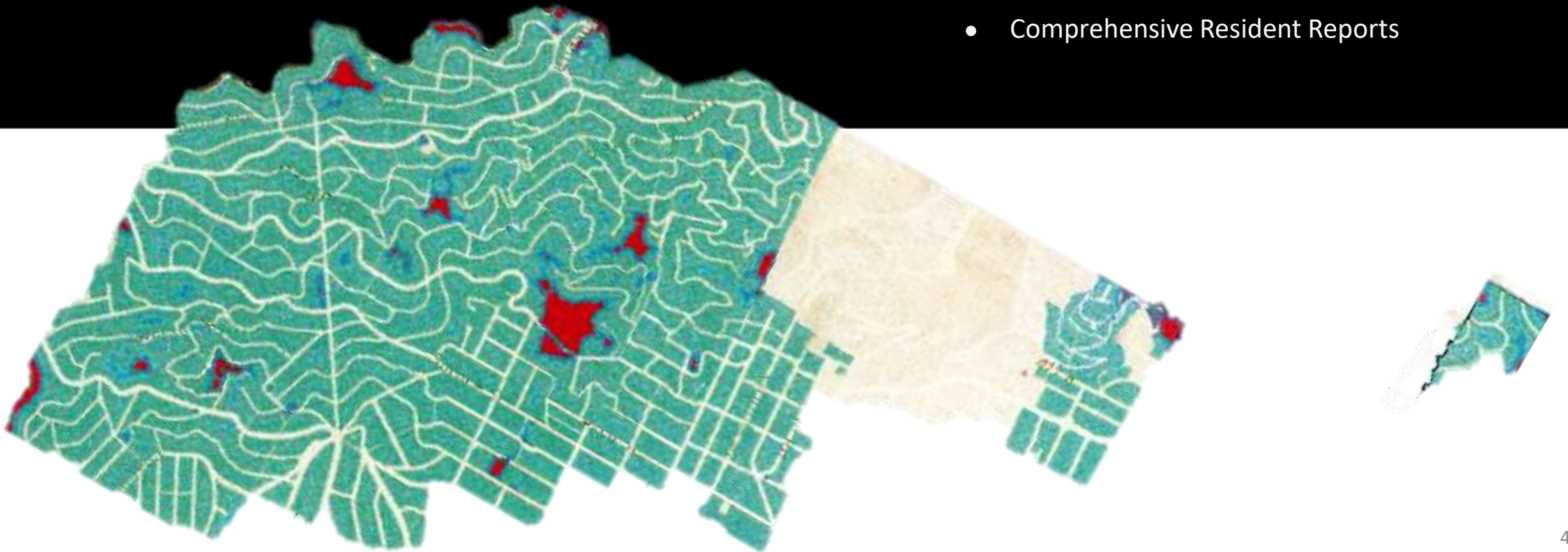
DRAFT

Land Use and Home Hardening	Fuel Modification and Land Management	Community Wide Readiness Activities (Resident and Agency Responsibility)	Wildfire Response (Agency Responsibilities)
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

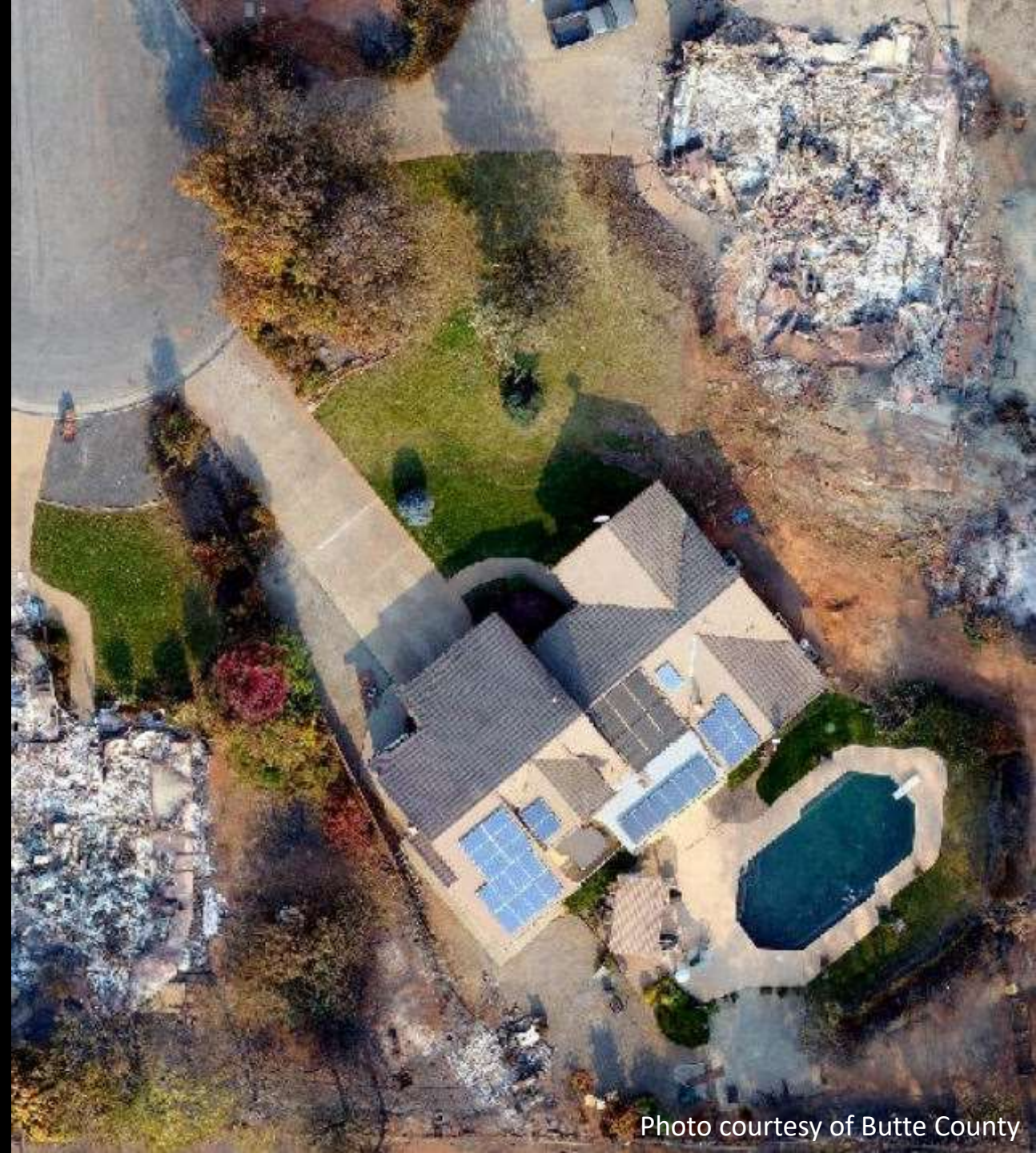
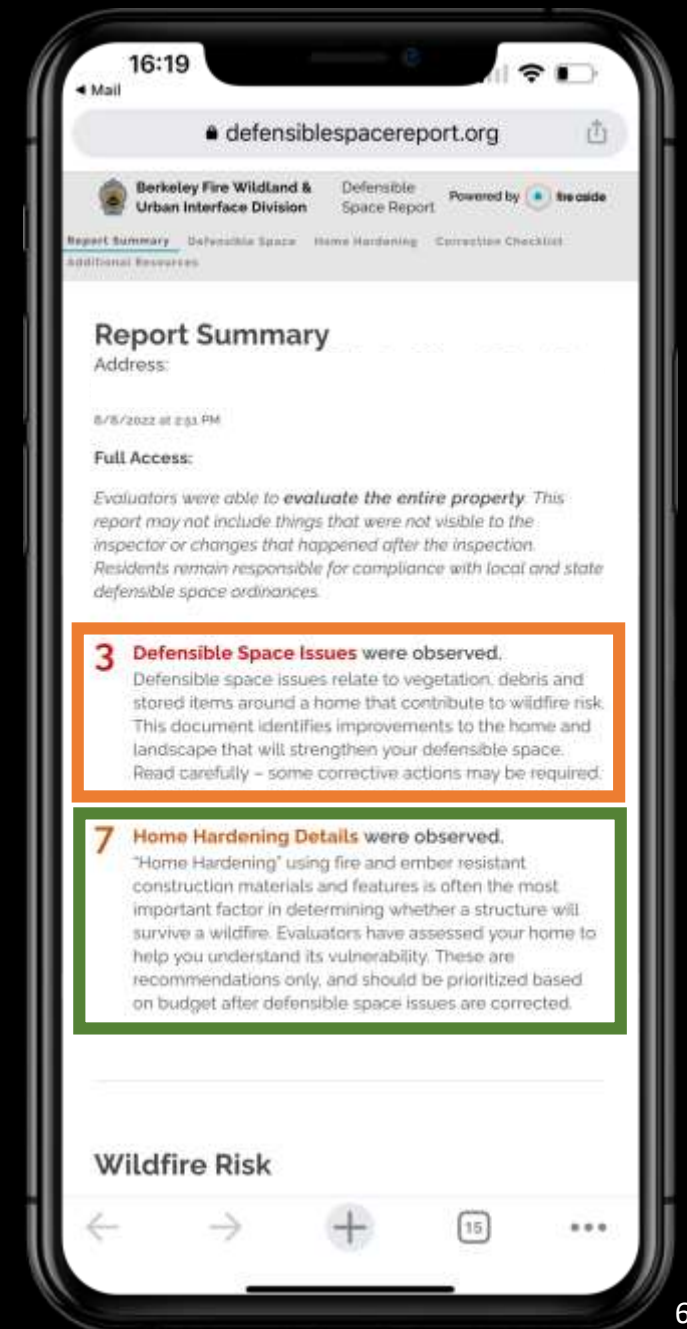


Photo courtesy of Butte County

DSI Report: Overview

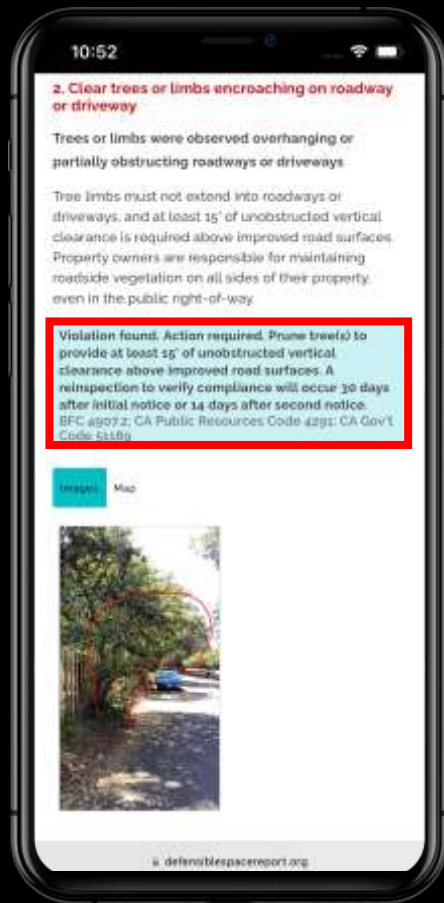
Each discovery has content customized by Berkeley Fire which is classified as a violation or recommendation

- **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.

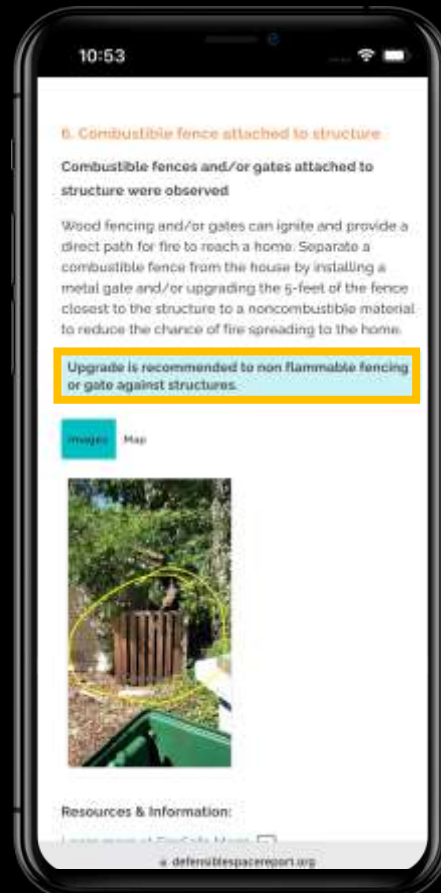


Helping residents understand requirements and recommendations around their home for adapting to wildfire

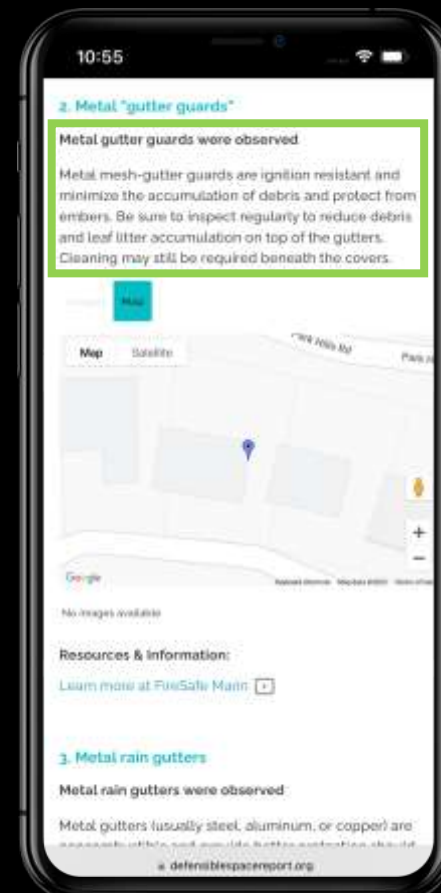
Violation



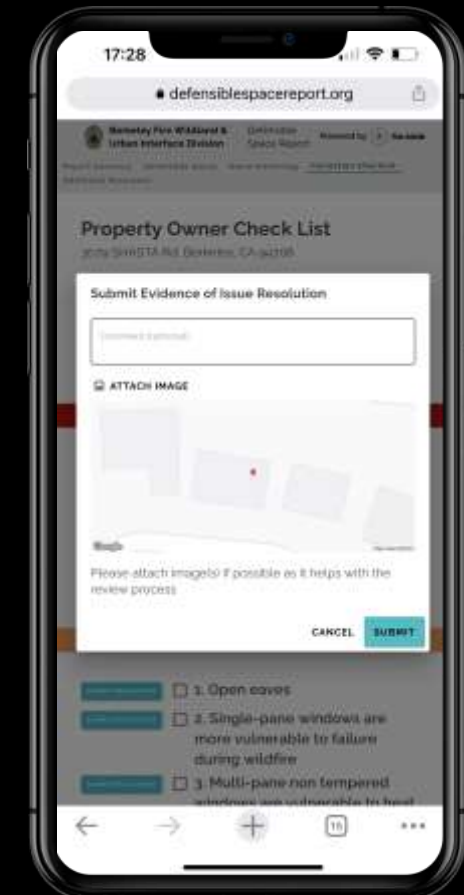
Recommendation



+ 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
Sub-Total	\$1,335,593	Sub-Total	\$1,930,381



Thank you

