

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 25, 2019
997 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Present: Ruth Grimes, Gradiva Couzin, Jose Luis Bedolla, Annie Bailey, Toby Simmons, Shirley Dean, Paul Degenkolb, Jennifer Lombardi, Toni Stein

Absent:

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May

Public: Sarah Jones, Chris Cullander, Mike Hoey, Greg Crutsinger

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

G. Couzin called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Approval of the Agenda

Move Item 4 and 5 forward of Item 3.

Approved by Acclimation

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Mike Hoey from Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network announced the East Bay Community Emergency Prep Fair on October 12, 10am-3pm at James Kenney Park.

1. Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services Staff Report

9/14 Small grass fire on Grizzly Peak Blvd. Area of burn was contained to 100'x50' area. Cause of the discharging of fireworks. Incident received a response from Berkeley, Moraga-Orinda, and Alameda County Fire Departments.

9/12 Two pedestrians were struck by an Amtrak train. Both victims were deceased – investigation turned over to Union Pacific Railroad.

A total of 5 fatalities within the City of Berkeley response area during a four day period.

Kino, Captain Wong's Search & Rescue canine, passed away on September 11th. Kino was able to deploy and work at multiple incidents and exercises. Katherine Hawn has been hired as an Emergency Services Coordinator. Her start date will be October 21.

The Berkeley Fire Department Accredited Local Academy (ALA) received unanimous Re-Accreditation approval at the September 12, 2019 State Board of Fire Services meeting. The ALA Re-Accreditation will be recognized for another five-year period.

Recruit Academy #109 is scheduled to begin October 21 and run for 20 weeks.

After Action reports for the evacuation exercises are currently being written.

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes for Meeting of August 7, 2019*

Hold over to the next meeting due to discussion.

Action Items

3. Recommendation for City Council Action on Ensuring Fire Equipment Access*

Motion to Recommend to Immediately Fund and Implement the Safe Passages Program and Additional Actions to Ensure Emergency Equipment Access to All Parts of the City: Dean

Second: Stein

Vote: 9 Ayes: Grimes, Stein, Lombardi, Bailey, Couzin, Degenkolb, Simmons, Dean, Bedolla; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; 0Abstain:

Discussion Items

4. Safe Passages Project Update
5. Vegetation Management Update
6. Wildfire Priority Issues: Parking and Prevention*
7. Public Outreach on Emergency Preparedness

8. Update on Sirens Recommendation*
9. Public Safety Power Shut-offs Possible Actions*
10. Special Tax Assessment for Wildfire Prevention Possible Future Action*
11. Drone Technology for Disaster Management
12. Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

Adjourn

Motion adjourn: Couzin

Second: Simmons

Vote: 9 Ayes: Grimes, Stein, Lombardi, Bailey, Couzin, Degenkolb, Simmons, Dean, Bedolla; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; 0 Abstain:

Adjourned at 9:16pm