



Issue 22 | August 6, 2019

WILDFIRE EVACUATION DRILL

The City conducted its first of three [wildfire evacuation drills](#) on Sunday August 4, 2019. Berkeley Police, Fire, the Office of Emergency Services, and Public Works practiced managing the first hour of a fast-moving wildfire in southeast Berkeley. After weeks of extensive outreach and messaging, AC Alert and Berkeley Police's new Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRADs) were used to notify people in the evacuation zone to evacuate to the Frances Albrier Recreation Center at San Pablo Park and also to the Ed Roberts Campus. At these evacuation sites, community members participating in the drill were greeted by Berkeley Ready volunteers and city staff. Approximately 70 community members evacuated, plus several pets. After the drill, staff and community members held debriefings to discuss what went well and what could be improved. From this discussion, the City was able to learn how to improve communications and coordination.



Community volunteers signing in neighbors at the Frances Albrier Recreation Center, used as an evacuation center for the drill.



Community members participating in a debriefing at Frances Albrier Community Center, after evacuation drill.

There are two more drills planned:

- Sunday August 11, 9-10 am, the area of northeast Berkeley bounded by Wildcat Canyon Road, The Alameda, the Berkeley-Contra Costa County border and Codornices Park
- Sunday August 25, 9-10 am, the area north of UC Berkeley campus bounded by the Berkeley-Contra Costa County border, Spruce Street, Codornices Park, and the UC Berkeley campus itself.

If you're in one of the areas and would like to participate, send your contact information and address to OES@cityofberkeley.info.

NEW PICKLEBALL COURTS

This past weekend the Berkeley Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department officially opened its new (and first!) pickleball courts at Cedar Rose Park. These courts are part of a larger major maintenance project that includes basketball, tennis and pickleball courts, the Ohlone Greenway between Hopkins and the North Berkeley BART Station, and a variety of improvements in the park.

The park improvements include tree trimming and removal, new garbage cans, new play structure surfacing, new light fixtures, and painting. Once completed, the project will represent approximately \$150,000 worth of Parks Tax funded improvements.

The new pickleball courts at Cedar Rose Park were converted from a tennis court that had been closed for over two years because it was unplayable. The conversion costs to convert the court for pickleball rather than reconstruct it for tennis court was approximately \$12,500 difference in cost, which was partially funded by \$2,500 in donations from pickleball players .



Image courtesy of Bill Powning.

New pickleball courts at Cedar Rose Park.

RECREATION EVENTS



- Aug. 6 [National Night Out Block Party](#), 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm, McGee Ave between Stuart St & Oregon St
- Aug. 9 [Movies in the Park](#): Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse, 8:15 pm, Codornices Park
- Aug. 10 Music in the Park: [Saturday Blues Fest](#), 12:00 - 5:00 pm, Ohlone Baseball Field