

DISASTER AND FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

January 24, 2024

7:00 PM

Fire Department Division of Training Classroom – 997 Cedar Street

Mayor's Appointee- Andy Katz

District 1 – Michael Wilson
District 2 – Weldon Bradstreet
District 3 – Vacant
District 4 – Robert Kinosian

District 5 – Shirley Dean
District 6 – Greg Murphy
District 7 – Harrison Raine
District 8 – Theo Gordon

AGENDA

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

Approval of the Agenda

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

1. Chairperson's Report
2. Fire Department Staff Report*

REGULAR AGENDA MATTERS *All Regular agenda Matters are for discussion and possible action.*

3. **Action:** Minutes of December 6, 2023
Recommendation: Approve the draft minutes of the December 6, 2023 regular meeting.
Written Material: December 6, 2023 Draft Minutes
Presentation:

- 4. Action:** **New Commissioner Work Plan**
Recommendation: Invite new Commissioners to volunteer for Work Groups
Written Material: Copy of Current Work Plan
Presentation:

THESE ITEMS SHOULD APPEAR AS THE LAST TWO AGENDA ITEMS - Weldon

- 5. Work Group Reports**
Receive reporting on recent activities by the following work groups:

- Plan & Budget Oversight
- Home Hardening
- Wildland Urban Interface
- Safe Passages
- Community Outreach

Written Materials:
Presentation:

- 6. Future Agenda Items and Next Steps**

-

Adjournment

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Keith May, kmay@berkeleyca.gov 510-981-5508.

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at Berkeley Fire Department located at 2100 Martin Luther

King Jr. Way Berkeley, CA.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

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~~~~~  
I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City's Disaster and Fire Safety Commission was posted at the front of the Division of Training, 997 Cedar Street, as well as on the City's website, three days prior to the scheduled Commission meeting.

SECRETARY SIGNATURE

*Keith May*

## DFSC Staff Report

January 24, 2024

### 1. Measure FF Monthly Report

#### a. Budget Overview –

#### b. Quarter 1 (July, August, September) report due in November

Quarter 2 (October, November, December) **report due in February**

Quarter 3 (January, February, March) report due in May

Quarter 4 (April, May, June) End of Year Report due in October

#### i. Program Review

- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)** – The CWPP is a comprehensive risk analysis that addresses local target hazards and includes a community-based action plan to mitigate threats, promote preparedness activities, and ensure resiliency. It will serve as the foundation and roadmap for the Departments work to prevent wildfire and limit the spread when they ignite.

- Update: No New Updates

<https://cwpp-berkeley.hub.arcgis.com/>

- **Wildfire Prevention / Mitigation – Vegetation Management Inspections –**

- **Updates:** No New Updates.

- **WUI Interns** – The Interns provide Berkeley Fire Department with a trained, mobile and mission-specific workforce that is principally assigned to monitor vegetative hazardous fuel on or near structures, collect data, and identify reduction activities

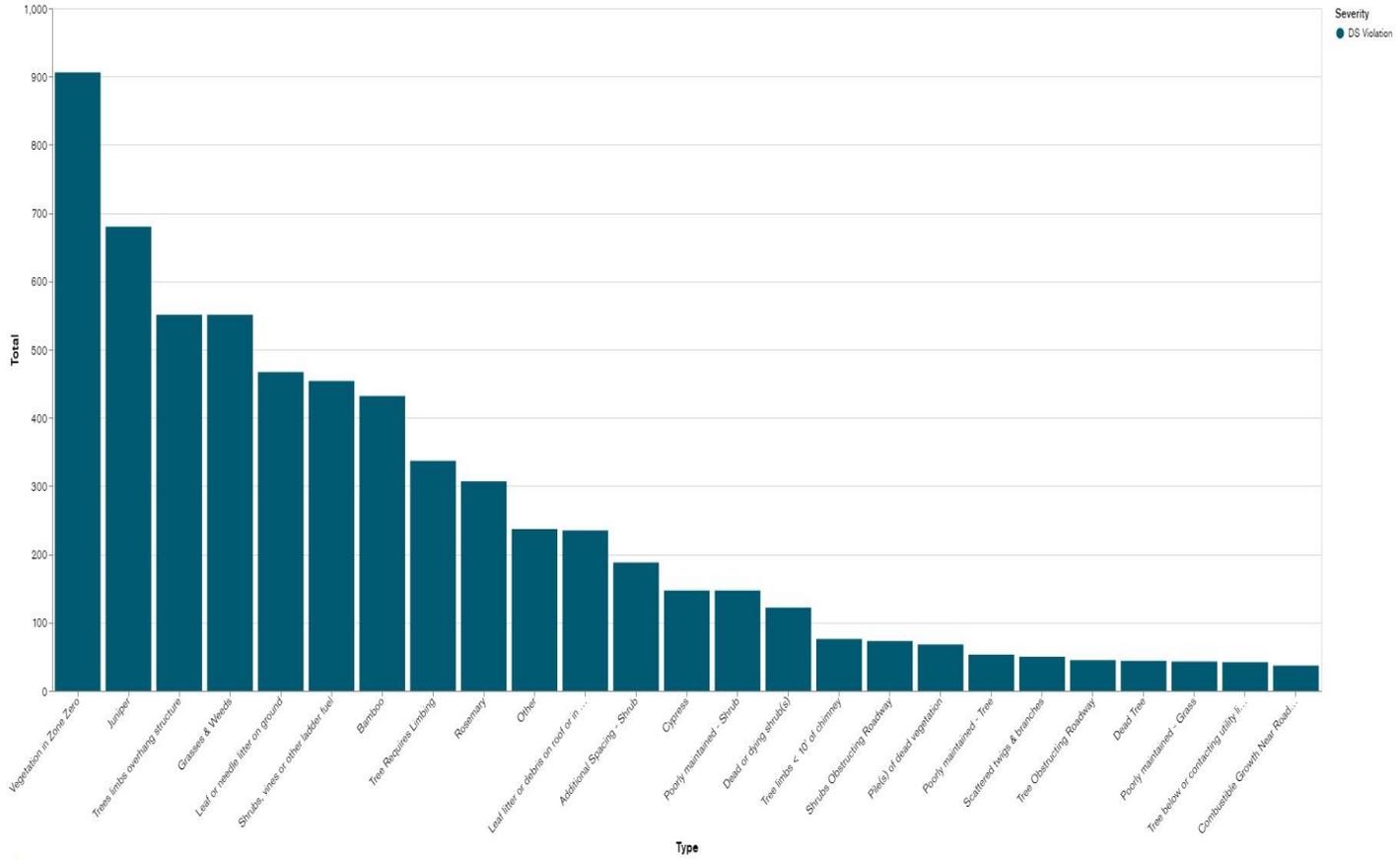
- **Updates:** The Interns were recently recognized at a Badge Pinning Ceremony for their continued work in the Berkeley Hills. These interns are doing critical work to help protect the community from wildfire and paving the way for the next generation.

- Defensible Space Inspections

| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defensible Space Inspections</li> </ul> |                    |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|                                                                                | December 1-31 2023 | 2023 YTD |
| Defensible space inspections<br>(Properties inspected 1 <sup>st</sup> time)    | 54                 | 8,025    |
| Properties Re-Inspected (1 <sup>st</sup><br>time)                              | 776                | 3,052    |
| <b>Total Inspections</b>                                                       | 837                | 11,434   |
| <b>Violations Identified</b>                                                   | 29                 | 6,426    |
| <b>Violations Corrected</b>                                                    | 93                 | 3,983    |

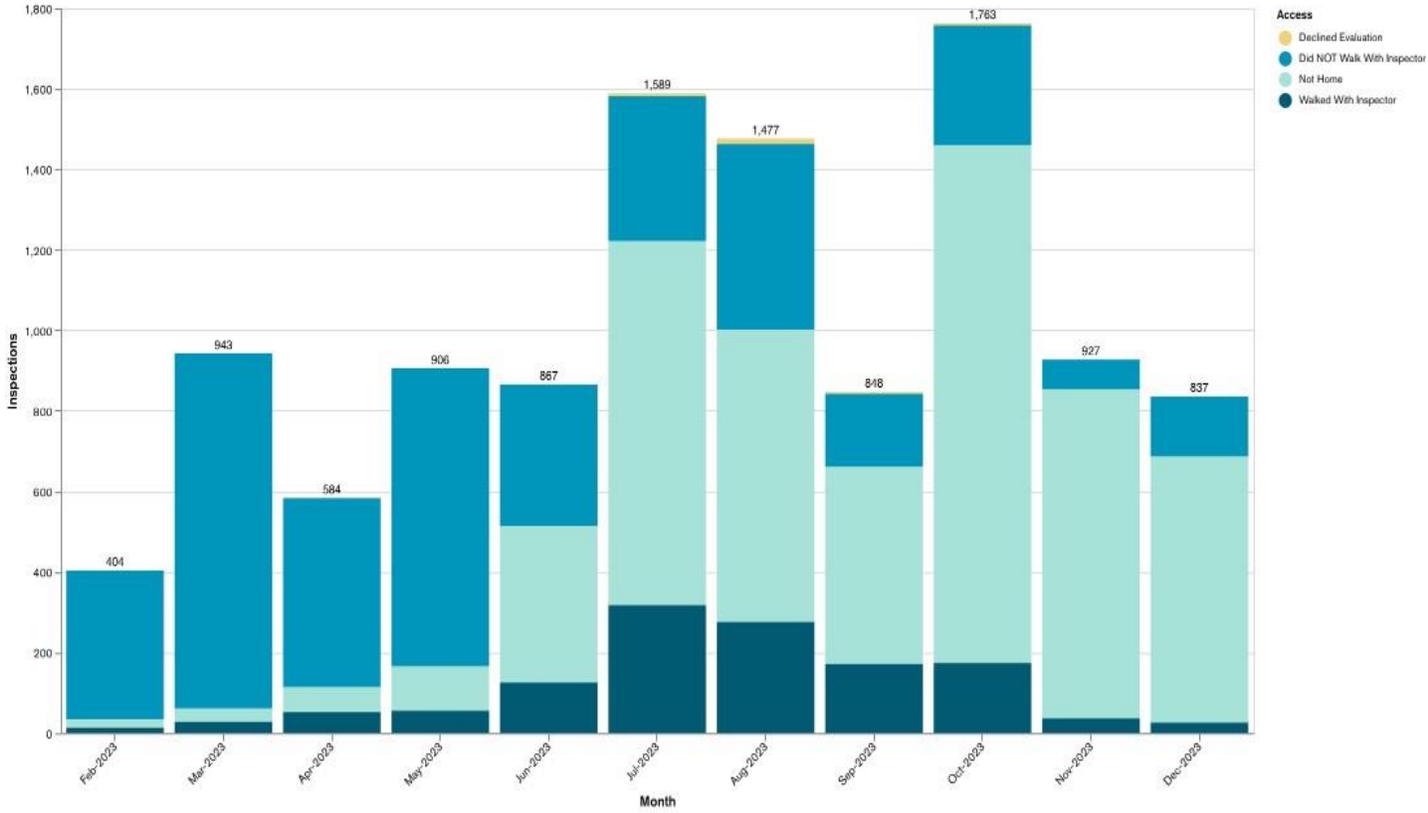
Public

Top 25 Unresolved DS Items

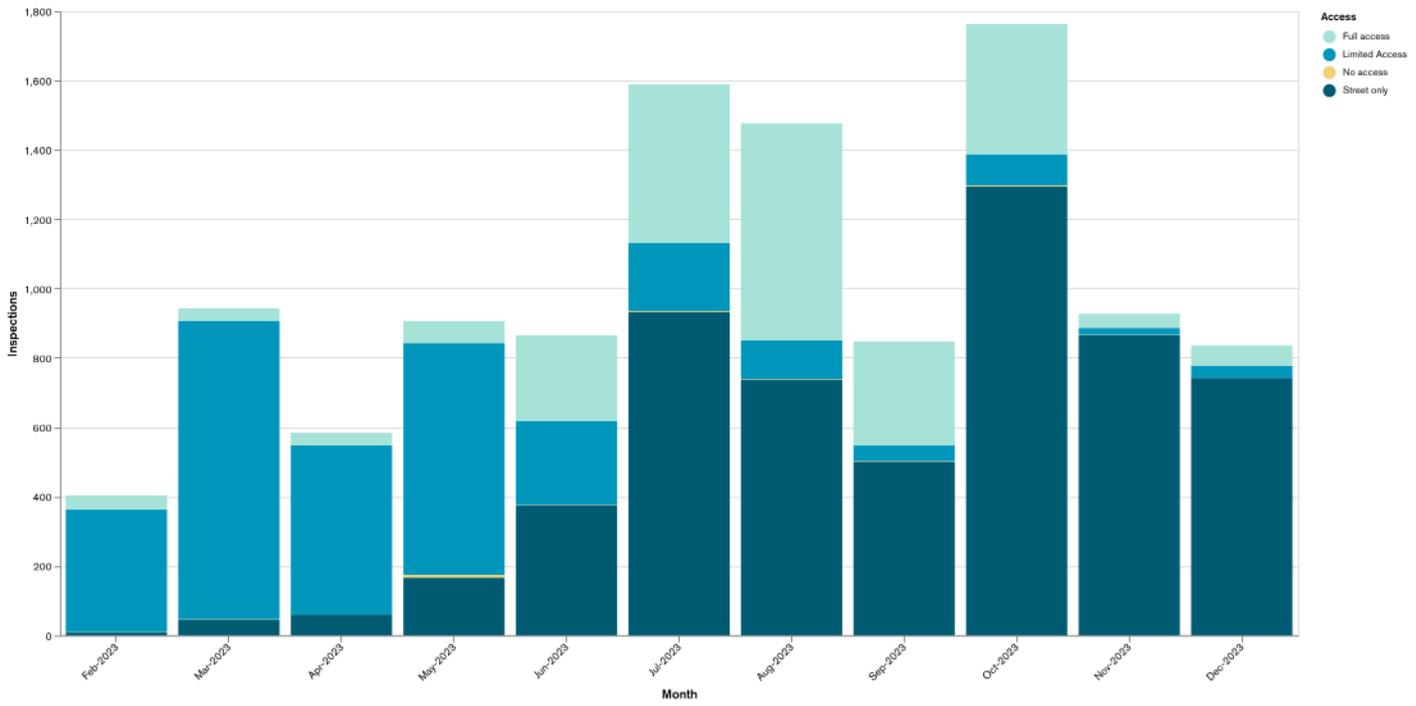


Public

Resident Engagement Over Time



Inspection Access Over Time



- **Safe Passage** - The Fire Department has contracted with a vendor to help the City of Berkeley meet requirements outlined in SB 99, AB 747, and AB 1409, provide City with professional services in the areas of traffic and evacuation modeling and planning, given various evacuation and/or emergency response scenarios as determined by the City.
    - **Update:** No new updates.
  - ii. Implementation & Metrics
    - **Outdoor Warning System** – No new updates
2. Measure GG Monthly Report
- a. Budget Overview – No new update
  - b. Quarter 1 (July, August, September) report due in November  
Quarter 2 (October, November, December) **report due in February**  
Quarter 3 (January, February, March) report due in May  
Quarter 4 (April, May, June) End of Year Report due in October
3. Fire Facilities Master Plan (FMP): Berkeley Fire Department stations are undersized, in poor condition and in need of remodels or replacement. The Department initiated a long-term replacement planning process to better understand infrastructure needs. This process will provide the City leaders of today and tomorrow with actionable information ahead of future infrastructure bond measures. (*Measure FF has funded the study only*)
- a. Update: **No new update**
4. Department Activities
- a. **EMS2** – Our second EMS Academy of nine paramedics have graduated and they are about half-way through their evaluation period. We have also completed interviews for the next EMS Academy and sent out 10 conditional offers. The next phase is moving them to Live Scan, background investigation, psych exam, and medical exam.
  - b. **Office of Emergency Services:** Emergency Services Coordinator, Leah Greenbaum, resigned with the Fire Department. She accepted a position with the Office of Emergency Management in San Francisco as the lead Public Information Officer. We are very sad to see her leave. We did hire a new Emergency Services Coordinator that replaced Khin Chin's position. David Fang started on January 8<sup>th</sup> and comes with years of experience from the San Francisco Office of Emergency Management.

5. Grants

- a. **SAFER Grant Planning:** We were not successful in this grant cycle but have retained the services of a grant writer and will be resubmitting in the next cycle.
- b. **CalFIRE Risk Reduction Grant:** has prepared submitted a 1 million dollar grant request to CalFIRE that would fund an expansion of the pilot Resident Assistance Program (RAP). This program will help low income or otherwise disadvantaged residents create defensible space. This is our second year applying.

6. Call Volume Report

| <b>Fire Department Report by California Incident Type</b>                                                                                                                                                |     |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--|
| <b>December 2023</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |  |
| <b>Fires – including Encampment Fires</b> (structures, mobile properties, vegetation, rubbish, equipment, cooking, chimney,                                                                              | 45  |  |
| <b>Encampment Fires</b> (structures, warming/cooking, debris)                                                                                                                                            | 32  |  |
| <b>Explosion</b> - no fire (overpressure ruptures, explosions)                                                                                                                                           | 0   |  |
| <b>Rescue &amp; EMS</b> (medical assist, vehicle accident                                                                                                                                                | 898 |  |
| <b>Hazardous Condition</b> - no fire (combustible spills/leaks, chemical release, radioactive condition, electrical wiring problem, biological hazard, potential accident w/ building/aircraft/vehicles) | 48  |  |
| <b>Service Calls</b> (person in distress, water issue, smoke/odor problem, animal issue, public                                                                                                          | 129 |  |

Public

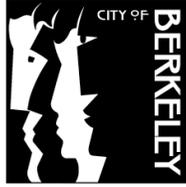
|                                                                                                       |              |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| assist, cover<br>assignment/standby)                                                                  |              |  |
| <b>Good Intent</b> (canceled en-route,<br>wrong location, nothing found,<br>steam mistaken for smoke) | 137          |  |
| <b>False Alarm Calls</b> (malicious,<br>malfunction, unintentional,<br>biohazard scare)               | 227          |  |
| <b>Severe WX</b> (lightening, wind<br>storms)                                                         | 0            |  |
| <b>Special Incidents</b> (citizen<br>complaints)                                                      | 9            |  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                                          | <b>1,493</b> |  |

**Apparatus Count**

|                         |              |  |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Unit Utilization</b> | <b>3,359</b> |  |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|

**DFSC Action Tracker**

| Date of DFSC Action | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Status                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/6/2023           | That the Berkeley City Council pass a resolution to support the Fire Department in using Measure FF funds to conduct one-time eucalyptus understory clean-ups on select, participating private properties within the City | Entered into the Agenda program. Projected 2/27/24 Council Agenda                                                                                     |
| 10/25/2023          | Provide a recommendation to City Council on the development of a plan that includes a feasibility study and identification of funding sources for constructing an emergency secondary access road on Panoramic Hill       | Fire Department is doing outreach to potentially impacted departments to draft language for the City Manager's section of the DFSC Report to Council. |



## DISASTER AND FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

**December 6, 2023  
7:00 PM**

Fire Department Division of Training Classroom – 997 Cedar Street

Present: Mike Wilson, Weldon Bradstreet, Shirley Dean, Robert Kinosian, Greg Murphy  
Harrison Raine, Theo Gordon

Absent: Todd Darling, Andy Katz

Staff: David Sprague, Keith May, Leah Greenbaum, Jenny Wong (Auditor's Office), Pauline  
Miller (Auditor's Office), Caitlin Palmer (Auditor's Office)

Public: 4 attendees

### AGENDA

#### **Preliminary Matters** **Call to Order**

*Meeting called to order at 7:04pm*

#### **Approval of the Agenda**

*Discussion Item 8 moved to follow Item 2.*

*Agenda approved as amended by Acclamation*

#### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters**

*3 public speakers.*

1. Chairperson's Report
2. Fire Department Staff Report\*

#### **Consent Items**

3. Minutes of October 25, 2023\*  
From: Commission Secretary  
Recommendation: Approve the draft minutes of the October 25, 2023 regular meeting.

*Motion to approve: S. Dean*

*Second: W. Bradstreet*

*Vote: 6 Ayes: M. Wilson, R. Kinosian, S. Dean, G. Murphy, W. Bradstreet. H. Raine 0 Noes; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 1 Abstain: T. Gordon*

## **Action Items**

4. Approve 2024 Disaster and Fire Safety Commission Meeting Schedule (Staff)\*  
*Dean requests amendment to change proposed April meeting to April 10, 2024.*

*Motion to approve: S. Dean*

*Second: W. Bradstreet*

*Vote: 6 Ayes: M. Wilson, R. Kinosian, S. Dean, G. Murphy, W. Bradstreet. H. Raine, T. Gordon 0 Noes; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 0 Abstain.*

5. Provide recommendation to Council regarding separation of mixed-use pedestrian and e-bike pathways (Dean)\*

*Motion to approve with an amendment: S. Dean*

*Amendment adds this sentence to the first paragraph of Dean's recommendation: "That the discussion will define the role of the Fire Department to improve traffic safety for bicyclists and pedestrians throughout the entire City and include a review of Vision Zero" in place of this sentence "That the discussion will define the impacts that these new bike lanes will have on the day to day safety for both bike riders and pedestrians and on the evacuation of residents during a major catastrophic event."*

*Second: M. Wilson*

*Vote: 4 Ayes: R. Kinosian, G. Murphy, S. Dean, M. Wilson. 3 Noes: H. Raine, T. Gordon, W. Bradstreet; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 0 Abstain.*

*1 public comment*

6. Request to merge action and discussion calendars under the title "Items for Discussion and Possible Action" (Dean)\*

*Motion to approve with an amendment: Dean*

*Amendment adds this sentence to Dean's recommendation: "Items will be written in compliance with the Commissioner's Handbook" and eliminates these sentences: "We were told that this is done by other commissions. I checked recent agendas of the Planning Commission and confirmed this. The Planning Commission agenda states the following: AGENDA ITEMS: All agenda items are for discussion and possible action. Public Hearing items require hearing prior to Commission action."*

*Second: Murphy*

*Vote: 6 Ayes: M. Wilson, R. Kinosian, S. Dean, G. Murphy, W. Bradstreet. H. Raine, T. Gordon 0 Noes; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 0 Abstain.*

*2 public comments*

*Commission votes to extend meeting time at 9:10pm*

7. Send a Report to City Council Recommending Using Measure FF Funds To Support A Once-Time Clearing Of Eucalyptus Understory For Participating Properties (Raine)\*

*Raine proposes an amendment to the "Current Situation and its Effects": The amendment revises this language: The understory clean up would consist of fuels management ~~that may vary within a 100 foot perimeter around a structure as determined by the inspecting fire department personnel, with more intense fuel reduction being used between within five feet of a structure; and remove portions of trees which extend within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe; and~~ **beyond 100 feet of structures, to include** maintaining the trunks of trees so that they are free of hanging bark and debris to a height of at least eight (8) feet; limbing trees and shrubs by removing branches that are within eight feet (8 ft.) of the ground, or four times the height of the understory vegetation, whichever is greater; **removing subordinate trees, removing eucalyptus saplings and sprouts with diameters of less than 8 inches, and removing all flammable ground fuel.***

*Motion to approve as amended: Bradstreet*

*Second: Murphy*

*Vote: 6 Ayes: M. Wilson, R. Kinosian, S. Dean, G. Murphy, W. Bradstreet. H. Raine, T. Gordon 0 Noes; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 0 Abstain.*

*1 public comment*

## Discussion Items

8. Measure FF Audit Update (Staff)\*

*This item was moved on the agenda to follow item 2.  
1 public comment*

9. New Commissioner Work Plan (Bradstreet)\*

- ~~10. Clarification of Recently Approved Ordinance on ADUs and JADUs (Dean)\*~~

~~*Dean removed from future agenda*~~

11. Discussion on biolabs and other large facilities, hazardous materials contained therein, and potential emergency response impacts and challenges (Dean)

*Item was not discussed.*

- ~~12. Impact of Increased Density Due to New Developments on Shattuck/Adeline (Darling)~~

~~*Item was not discussed.*~~

## Work Group Reports

- Plan & Budget Oversight
- Home Hardening
- Wildland Urban Interface
- Safe Passages
- Community Outreach

## Future Agenda Items and Next Steps

- Item requesting the Commission Secretary document amendments to minutes in the minutes (Dean)
- New Commissioner Work Plan Participation (Bradstreet)\*
- Send a Commendation Letter to Chief Sprague for the Master Facilities Plan (Dean)
- Discussion on biolabs and other large facilities, hazardous materials contained therein, and potential emergency response impacts and challenges (Dean)

## Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: W. Bradstreet

Second: G. Murphy

Vote: 6 Ayes: M. Wilson, R. Kinosian, S. Dean, G. Murphy, W. Bradstreet. H. Raine, T. Gordon 0 Noes; 2 Absent: T. Darling, A. Katz. 0 Abstain.

## Meeting adjourned at 9:28pm

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SECRETARY SIGNATURE

# Berkeley Disaster and Fire Safety Commission

## WORK PLAN – FY 2023-2024

### Mission Statement

The Disaster and Fire Safety Commission serves as the public oversight body for Berkeley’s Measure GG and Measure FF funds, charged with reviewing the budget on a regular basis to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the intent of the voter approved measures, recommending the appropriate annual increase to the tax rate, and recommending new programs and policy positions requiring Measure GG and Measure FF funding. The ultimate goal of the Commission is to increase community safety, resilience, and education for community disaster preparedness. The Commission also reviews and makes recommendations on items referred by the City Council or other Commissions.

### Summary of FY 2023-2024 Work Plan Activities

| <u>Name</u>                                                                                         | <u>Activities</u>                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>Expected Outcomes</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <u>Commissioners</u>                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Plan &amp; Budget Oversight</b><br><br><i>BFD Staff</i><br><b>Contact: D. Sprague/ K. May</b> | a) Review BFD materials on a quarterly basis<br>b) Meet monthly as Finance ad hoc working group with FD to review monthly materials<br>c) Track financial issues related to FF & GG with the City Council | a) Budget development plan<br>b) Provide input of quarterly budget<br>c) Provide annual budget recommendation City Council on FF & GG<br>d) Provide recommendation to City Council on annual GG increases<br>e) Provide City Council recommendation for midyear program corrections (ad hoc) | Rotating group of commissioners (based on availability) on a quarterly basis hosted by Chair / Chief                                                      |
| <b>2. Home hardening</b><br><br><i>BFD Staff</i><br><b>Contact: D. Green</b>                        | a) Lead review of monthly inspection report<br>b) Review sessions with Fire Marshal<br>c) Listening sessions with Building Department                                                                     | a) Provide recommendation to City Council on annual inspection program targets<br>b) Provide recommendation to City Council on building code modifications for fire safety (ad hoc)                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">G. Murphy</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">W. Bradstreet</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">S. Dean</a></li> </ul> |
| <b>3. Wildland-urban interface</b><br><i>BFD Staff</i><br><b>Contact: D. Green</b>                  | a) Review vegetation management program<br>b) Discuss grant applications and planned project allocations                                                                                                  | a) Provide recommendation to City Council on vegetation management program<br>b) Knowledge of grant funding distribution                                                                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">T. Gordon</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">H. Raine</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">T. Darling</a></li> </ul>   |

| <u>GOAL</u>                                                                                | <u>Activities</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <u>Expected Outcomes</u>                                                                                                                                                  | <u>Commissioners</u>                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>4. Safe passages</b><br><br><b>BFD Staff</b><br><b>Contact: D. Green / S. Lana</b>      | a) Review previous safe passages program and its component parts (parking restrictions, red curb, notification alerts, evacuation planning)<br>b) Meet with community members for intake<br>c) Absorb CWPP report                                                                                                                     | a) Restart of Safe Passages Program<br>b) Formation of team/committee to develop plan<br>c) Provide recommendation to City Council on draft revised Safe Passages program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>T. Gordon</u></li> <li>• —</li> <li>• <u>T. Darling</u></li> </ul> |
| <b>5. Community Outreach</b><br><br><b>BFD Staff</b><br><b>Contact: S. Lana/ D. Dailey</b> | a) Work with FD on educating the public on disaster and fire safety programs<br>b) Coordinate / alert commission of potential outlets for information<br>c) Follow / facilitate / support meetings with community groups<br>d) Follow to conclusion external emergency speaker system<br>e) Track Commission recommendations / status | a) Provide recommendation to City Council on mid-program changes to current communications plan<br>b) Provide City Council recommendation into annual communications plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• —</li> <li>• G. Murphy</li> <li>• W. Bradstreet</li> </ul>            |