

### 2022/23 CONTRACT PROPOSAL

### **KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR
DATE: 5/5/2022
APPLICANT: ALTIVU / J.VALENZUELA

Kensington is working to be the most prepared and resilient community in the Bay Area. Although this is not an official goal of the Kensington Fire Protection District, it is achievable through the accomplishments and initiatives brought to the community. The District has several initiatives that address concerns that benefit the community's safety and increase understanding of the need for home and community emergency preparedness. Over 96% of respondents to a recent poll have registered for Contra Costa County Community Warning System. The County's Office of Emergency Services has stated the Kensington Community has, per capita, the highest registration rate in the County for emergency alerts. Although the District established this high benchmark, we must work to maintain this performance and improve other areas of preparedness across the community. The role of the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator presents benefits to the effectiveness of the Kensington Fire Protection District's objectives to serve the community.

### **Customer Service**

The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator responds to public inquiries through the website, social media, or passed through the El Cerrito Fire Department Admin Staff. This dedicated customer service resource is now exclusive to Kensington residents. The Kensington Fire Protection District is now an approachable and accessible agency that responds to inquiries about programs, upcoming events, or other safety-related issues. The response time is a timely and near real-time manner.

### **Public Information**

Communication is the primary pillar of preparedness. Kensington residents heavily rely on the established channels of printed communication which are not effective for emergencies. Developing new forms of communication while maintaining a presence in the Kensington Outlook and The Fire Plug is necessary and critical to the community's resiliency. It is now clear that Kensington Residents prefer to stay informed through email, text, and Nextdoor for immediately actionable, timely information.

### **Skilled Resource for Fire Chief and Officers**

The Kensington Evacuation Drill was executed under the leadership of Chief Pigoni in coordination with Kensington Police through the capable coordination of the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. With years of fire service, project management, and marketing experience - a drill was planned and executed successfully with robust marketing and public awareness campaigns in less than 30 days.

### A Bridge Between Law Enforcement and Fire

Kensington has a unique culture with the public safety agencies housed in the same building. The Public Safety Building renovation has stirred a variety of concerns and sentiments related to the separation of the agencies. Public relations has been a tandem effort with the emergency preparedness initiatives. The conscientious effort of the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator ensures the Kensington Police and Kensington Firefighters are working together in a coordinated manner in the public eye.

It is an honor to serve the community while the District continues to deliver an invaluable service to Kensington residents. Please accept this expressed interest in continuing the work for the community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Johnny Valenzuela Emergency Preparedness Coordinator / Kensington Fire Protection District



### PROJECT APPROACH

The first year of the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator contract focused on creating a foundation to communicate and educate the community on emergency preparedness initiatives and build relationships with neighboring agencies and community groups. Upon this foundation, the Kensington Fire Protection District has effectively launched several robust public safety campaigns and events such as; National Night Out, September's National Preparedness Month, Kensington Evacuation Drill, Red Flag Warnings, and various other publications and public engagements. Local restrictions on public gatherings were an obstacle for most of the year. However, the District maintained a steady cadence of public interactions to keep the Fire District accessible and present in the residents' daily lives.

Proceeding into a second year, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator shall continue programming initiatives and campaigns built with the CORE concepts as presented to the Kensington Fire District Board in the December 2021 Monthly Board Meeting. These CORE elements incorporate the following into the District's program:

Culture: Align initiatives with Kensington's values to create a culture of preparedness.

Opportunities: Provide meaningful engagements and opportunities for community members to connect and build relationships leading to collaborative preparedness activity.

Registration: Promote registration for alerts, notifications, and direct communication between the Fire District and the community to maintain and improve preparedness objectives.

Education: Leverage public engagements, communication channels, and training opportunities to educate the public and provide skills that improve preparedness and resiliency during emergencies.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended to develop a culture of preparedness to ensure the District's achievements are not lost, and progress is made with other initiatives.

### Wildfire Preparedness Workbook

Continue revising the Wildfire Preparedness Workbook to include changes and new information. The second edition now contains findings discovered from the Kensington Evacuation Drill, specifically mentioning CWS calls being flagged as spam by service providers. A second publication will be developed focusing on community resources. This publication will detail the fire district's programs and tools to help community members connect and organize their blocks.

Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Block Parties
Inspired by the success of Kensington's National Night Out, these block parties are intended to bring neighbors together to discuss and plan how to make their community more resilient. It is an opportunity for the fire district to capture relevant data, distribute preparedness information, and have meaningful interaction with the community to understand better how to serve the community.



### **Volunteer Recruitment**

As the Kensington Fire Protection District's initiatives become more complex and demanding, volunteers are needed to support the objectives. There will be a time for these volunteers to continue the work done by current community members. It may be necessary to establish a volunteer organization or fire department auxiliary as the need for fire department dedicated volunteers increases. This model is very successful and beneficial in special districts in rural areas. Collaborating with other K-Groups is another effective method of sourcing volunteers for events and initiatives.

### **Firewise Recognition**

The concern of funding vegetation abatement projects has been a concern in Kensington. Specifically for Cerrito Canyon and the eastern ridge bordering East Bay Parks. Firewise recognition has been a proposed solution to pursue grants and lower individual homeowners' insurance expenses. All of the activities programmed by the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator supplement the application for Firewise recognition. The application can be filed in November of this year.

### **Evacuation Drills**

The first Kensington Evacuation Drill created a template that can be used and adapted for evacuation scenarios throughout the District. Nine agencies were involved in supporting the Kensington Evacuation Drill, which can be increased by coordinating a safety fair at the final check-in location. Neighboring agencies participating in the Tri-City Safety Fair can incorporate an evacuation drill leading to the safety fair. Participants can attend an exciting community event after an evacuation drill instead of showing up at a parking lot, giving their address, and going home.

### **New Resident Welcome Packets**

Assemble a packet that includes district materials. Invite other K-Groups to participate in providing their leaflets and brochures to be presented to new Kensington residents as a welcome gift. This packet is an opportunity to connect directly with new community members without waiting for them to discover us.

### FEE SCHEDULE

Compensation rates have increased per the most recent US Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI calculation of 5.2%. The total contract value of \$105,200.00 shall be paid monthly, with each billing not to exceed \$8,766.66. The contract begins on July 1st, 2022, immediately after the current contract's expiration. All other contract terms established in the current agreement may remain.





# SCOPE OF SERVICES

DELIVERABLE	
Firewise	Support the community's ambition for Firewise Recognition
	Provide Firewise application material for residents pursing recognition.
	Collaborate with Fire Dept to provide assessment data to complete the application.
	Assist communities to organize and connect them with Fire Safe Council resources.
Hazardous Plants	Support Fire Department Personnel with grant campaign
	Develop a campaign to launch the program and build an efficient and secure application tool.
	Provide a list of hardy fire-resistant plant species to the community.
Public Information	Continue posting relevant information to the community
	Continue staying aware of weather conditions and communicate alerts to the community. Pass on information fro surrounding agencies that are relevant to the community.
Neighborhood Block Party	Attend Block Parties
	Provide current district objectives and design methods to capture data and track preparedness performance/ progress.
Publications	Fire Plug
	At least two publications in the contract term mailed to district residents.
	The Kensington Outlook
	Provide content to The Kensington Outlook at least on a quarterly basis. Provide articles that announce campaigr and provide the follow up in the following month.
	Wildfire Preparedness Workbook
	Continue refining the content as changes are made in the community. Use content in stand alone campaigns and action items in other publications and articles.
	Community Preparedness Playbook
	Develop a new publication as a resource for community and block organization.
Supplemental Information	Share supplemental information as needed, develop ad hoc campaigns as needed.
Website Resources	Continue adding resources to the web library.
Community Warning Notification Registration	Continue working with CWS to register residents for alerts/notifications.
Public Events	Continue participating in community events such as: National Night Out, National Preparedness Month, Shred & Meds, Farmers' Market, Toys For Tots, Kensington Hilltop Carnival, Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, etc.



management / PR / marketing	AGENCY COORDINATION		
DELIVERABLE	CATEGORY	SUBTASKS	
KPD/KPFD Objectives	Emergency Preparedness Committee	Attend regularly scheduled EPC meetings, exchange input, act on initiatives with consensus.	
	Communication	Continue communication templates for imminent evacuations, voluntary evacuations, red flag warnings, and other advisories.	
Maintain Agency Relationships	Continue building relationships with n	•	
	County of Alameda		
	County of Contra Costa	-	
	El Cerrito- Kensington Fire		
	Berkeley Fire		
	Albany Fire		
	Richmond Fire		
	Berkeley Fire		
	Alameda County Fire		
	Orinda-Moraga Fire		
	San Pablo Fire		
	Hercules Rodeo Fire		
	Cal Fire		
	Sheriff Alamda		
	Sheriff Contra Costa	-	
	CHP		
	Contra Costa County Fire		
	Oakland Fire	Maintain the social media platforms for Kensin Fire Protection District which connect to all loc	
	San Francisco Fire	agencies and major organizations that impact the district residents.	
	CalOES	district residents.	
	US Geological Survey		
	National Parks Service		
	US Coast Guard Pacific Area		
	BART		
	CalTRANS		
	East Bay Regional Parks		
	PG&E		
	East Bay MUD		
	National Weather System		
	Bay Area Air Quality Management District	_	
	KTVU News		
	KRON4 News		
	ABC7 News		
	NBC Bay Area	_	
Public Information Continuity	Align approaches for consistent public messaging.	Through established connections by following the above agencies, and building relationships with counterparts in other agencies. Sharing information via social media directly from their accounts, or mirroring the content to echo from the district channels will maintain continuity in messaging.	
Relevant Regional Meetings	Attend relevant local meetings	Provide feedback to KFPD and associated committees of updates and key developments from other agencies. Take the opportunity to meet other counterparts at relevant meetings. Report any findings relevant to the community in publications.	



# SCOPE OF SERVICES

	Community Preparedness				
DELIVERABLE/INITIATIVE	PRODUCT	TASKS			
Community Collaboration Meetings	Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness	Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Block Parties			
	Continue promoting the NEP Block Party campaign to capture interested organizers.				
	Create a resource hub on KFPD website	Document the success and practices of block organization in Kensington, post what tools and methods are being used across the community to inspire others.			
	Register and Recruit	Register community members for communication platforms and CWS. Build a roster of possible volunteer recruits.			
CERT Logistics	Liaise with CERT area coordinators and earthquake recovery.	Liaise with CERT area coordinators and block leaders to assist organizing their neighborhoods to be prepared for we evacuation and earthquake recovery.			
	Continue promoting the CERT program and identify interested parties to grow and maintain CERT participation.	Ensure all CERT areas have a lead or can be incorporated to a neighboring active CERT area.			
	Storage of emergency supplies and inventory list. Have a rotation process and donation drives where stored inventory goes to out of district incidents on mutual aid response and donations refill the back stock.	Work with Committee to establish emergency supply needs.			
	Map with designated safety zones for evacuees	Work with Committee to establish safety zones and designate all roads out of Kensington as Evacuation Zones with proper signage.			
CERT /Volunteer Recruitment	Encourage enrollment in CERT training	and help organize emergency watch programs			
	Public Awareness Campaign	Establish a public awareness campaign that promotes a culture of caring for those in need. Recruit volunteers to look after neighbors that require extra time and attention for evacuation.			
Content Development	Develop and provide materials for neighborhood preparedness.				
	Recruitment Content	Incorporate volunteer recruitment with all public engagements and relevant publications.			
	Print & Publication Materials for fire preparedness and earthquake recovery.	Maintain and improve the Wildfire Preparedness Workbook and develop a Community Preparedness Playbook to focus on community resources and block organization.			
Emergency Drill Development	Assist with development of emergency i	Assist with development of emergency response drills.			
	Work with the Fire Chief to coordinate an evacuation drill.	Using the Kensington Evacuation Drill template from 2022- develop a new simulation involving additional zones.			
Community Information/Engagement		Work with K-groups. Schools, churches, child care programs, and other organizations to mobilize residents and spread information through established channels.			
	Block Party Format for Organizations	Continue developing relationships among K-Groups and other organizations. Treat organizations that gather in a central location as a block - develop block meeting resources for these organizations to increase preparedness.			
	Increased awareness and community interface	Continue attending community events and engagements such as the Kensington Farmers' Market, the Kensington Improvement Club Town Hall and the Kensington Hilltop Carnival.			
Mobility-Impaired Resident Initiatives	Work with Kensington Residents and KPD to assist mobility-impaired residents.				
	Create a campaign that brings awareness to neighbors in need.	Use the data from recent surveys that show 11 percent of individuals will need extra time and assistance in evacuations.Build a culture of being neighborly and caring for those in need.			
	Enlist community members that will assist community members that require extra time for evacuation.				
	Create a campaign to provide resources for those that require extra time in evacuations.	Provide resources in print and on the KFPD website that cater to mobility-impaired residents.			
	List of local organizations to coordinate efforts for emergency preparedness and evacuation.				



EXAMPLE OF DELIVERABLES

## **KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

5/5/2022

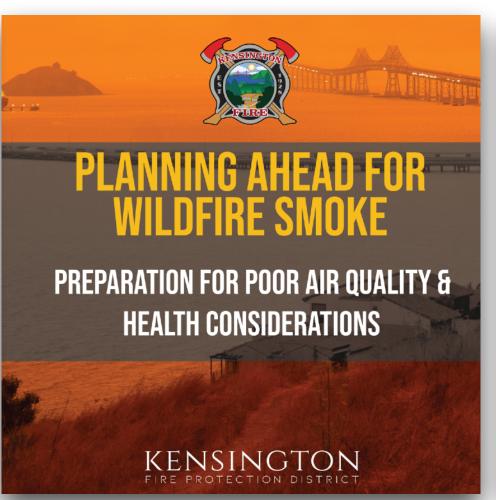
APPLICANT: ALTIVU / J.VALENZUELA

# PUBLIC INFORMATION / COMMUNICATION















# EVENT MARKETING / EVENT PLANNING













# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PUBLICATIONS







**Fabric Artist Mounts Show** at Library



By Lin Due The pandemic put a halt to many activities, including art installations on the south wall of the Kensington Library. As we reawaken, fabric artist Ann Mayse becomes the first to exhibit in the space in over two years.

Mayse says that she got into fabric after her son was born. "My mother-in-law

South African quilter."

**Evacuation Drill** Scheduled for Part of Kensington taught me how to sew clothes for him," she said. "I was living in Fresno at the time. I

took a class at a local quilt shop, quilted for awhile, but then went back to working full-On Saturday, April 9, the Kensington time." She took quilting back up after she Fire Protection District and the Kensington Police Department will conduct an evacu ing Berkeley High and graduating from Cal, says that she began as a traditional uiltmaker. "But when we came back to the

County Community Warning System with Bay Area a few years ago, I moved more into improvisational quiltmaking, and then originating in Tilden Park with a westward into mixed media textile art." The smaller ojection towards Kensington. framed pieces in the library are Mayse's This evacuation drill aims to educate the latest works, combining cloth, paper, and a public in raising awareness for wildfire

apanese paper technique. She describes herself as a lifelong learner. Warning System, evaluate traffic flow on "I pick up a book, go to a lecture, my critical streets, and provide an opportunity thinking is always evolving," she says. She or residents to assess their readiness and notes that the pandemic created unexpected opportunities: "A lot of artists put their The Kensington Fire Protection District classes online. Now there's an amazing

s identified high-priority areas within smorgasbord of classes online. I was lucky Kensington and will work with those areas enough last year to take two consecutive classes from Rosalie Dace, a well known high-priority areas face a higher threat due o several variables such as limited access Even before she moved back to the Bay and proximity to wildland areas. For this Area, settling in Kensington four years residing east of Arlington Avenue and

See Library Art, page 8

ago, she was in touch with the East Bay Heritage Quilting group. "One of the nice south of Hilltop School are in the test zone things about being a fiber artist is that the community is vibrant and interesting, and

Police Board Ponders Options for Temporary and Permanent Housing, page 4;

### **KPOA Annual Meeting Set** for May 21

The Kensington Property Owners Association (KPOA) will hold its annual membership meeting by Zoom on Saturday, May 21, 10am. Planned topics and expert speakers Texeira on government reorganization into a single, efficient district; wildfire evacuatio planning and alerts with Fire Chief Michael Pigoni and Police Chief Mike Gancasz (plus undates on their departments. Red Flag Day parking, and other security issues); wildfire ohn Gioia on public paths, tree ordinance, and more. A link to the Zoom meeting and

### Wildfire Preparedness Day



is more than ready to come back with a bang and make up for lost time-and funds! an celebrate together, and it's sure to be a

ingtonhilltop.org/carnival/. We can't wait to see you there on May 14 at the 74th Annual Spring

Obviously. I am not a professional event organizer. Simply put, the situation in Ukraine Obviously, I am not a professional event organizer. Simply put, the situation in Ukraine is so extreme that I just can't sit this one out. I'm hoping you feel the same way. Before closing, there are already people to thank. One person stands out. I would like to personally thank Mr. Vladimir Putin, for creating the single most unifying political event of my lifetime. Mr. Putin: Your actions have not only succeeded in uniting the West and NATO, but are also providing our fractious community an excellent opportunity to come together. We wouldn't be at this point without you!

Please note that events are evolving. I expect some details will change.

MANAGEMENT FINANCIAL PLANNING MARSHALL WHITE, CFP Recently Merged With
CAPITAL TRUST ADVISORS ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS.

Retirement - Estate College Planning - Risk College Planning - Risk Management - Inflation Protection SUSTAINABLE INVESTING PROGRAMS Following ESC (Environmental, Social and Governance) Guidelines Donor-Advised Fund Management Long-Time Kensington resident Fee-Only Independent Advice Call For Free Initial Consultation 510-528-9484 mwinvest@gmail.com www.capitaltrustadvisors.com

510-549-3954 or 888-335-TREE The Hillside Festival

Appeals to Nature Saturday morning: The Insect Hike! Another event returns to the fold when Join Eddie Dunbar of the Insect Scithe 8th annual Hillside Festival kicks off ences Museum of California on a family-Saturday and Sunday, May 14-15. As in friendly hike to learn secrets about the Saturday and Sunday, May 14-15. As in the past, numerous offerings for hikers, plant lovers, history buffs, poets, and kids will grace the hills in El Cerrito's 200-acre Hillside Natural Area. Expect walks, informative hikes, and more.

Hikes range from strenuous to easy. The El Cerrito Trail Trekkers and the city's Environmental Quality Committee spon-

YOU A

sor the free event. See www.ectrailtrek-kers org for the full schedule. Below are with the full schedule. Below are our environ-ment.

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

Get Prepared this September

### Highlights from July Police Log

Hit & Run Collision On July 1 Lt. Harms was dispatched to the 200 block of night before at about 10:35 PM, when a white SUV type vehicle collided with the parked vehicle and fled the scene towards El Cerrito without stop

enforcement stop in the 200 block of Arlington Avenue. During his stop, drug paraphernalia was located, and the driver was subsequently arrested. At the conclusion of the investigation, the driver was arrested for violation of Health & Safety Code 11377(a)—Possession of Narcotics and Health & Safety Code

solo vehicle, non-injury traffic collision. The driver backed out of his driveway and "jumped" the curb and got stuck on a steep incline. A tow truck was needed, and the driver was issued a DMV Request for Regular Re-Examina-

enforcement stop in the 3200 block of Arlington Avenue. During his stop, numerous Xanax pills and a substantial amount of marijuana was located inside of the vehicle. At the conclusion of the investigation, the driver was arrested for violation of Health & Safety Code 11379(a)—Transportation and Sale of a Controlled Substance, Health and Safety Code 11359—Possession for Sale of a Controlled Substance, Health & Safety Code 11360-Sale or Hit & Run Collision On July 23, the Fire Department was dispatched to a

lpm, kids can join the Nature Scav-enger Hunt, identifying

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

### Mike Log Sticking Close to Home During COVID

ined the fire hydrant had been sheared off after a vehicle collided with Commercial Burglary On July 26, Officer Fajardo was dispatched to the Colusa Market on a report of an alarm at the business. Officers responded, set up a perimeter, and checked the interior. At the conclusion of the inves

several items stolen from the business. The investigation is ongoing, and

person called to complain about an illegally parked car in the 100 block of Edgecroft Road. The vehicle was located and initially given a 72-hour notice

On July 8, Mike Log

nunity Services Distr

the board in 2018, said t

wanted to see what I

he said, explaining his

they cannot fit into the

entering my sixties," he work on films. There h

continue to do some fr

He noted that board

added, they wouldn't n

good to have and to take So far Logan, with a m been busy working throu

Records Act, Liability

But the cloud loom

board has said what the

police department now," very well, but from what

are and where we're go

Since Logan is taking a just a year, in 2022. Three

How many decide to ru turnover on the district

We in Kensington are fortunate to live near some of the most scenic and interesting sections of the Bay Trail, and I have long enjoyed riding my bike along the Emeryville

waterfront, Albany Bulb, and Richmond Marina Bay. As the COVID-19 crisis worsened in Spring 2020, one of the ways I coped with the estrictions and worries was to jump on my bike and ride along the bay. It was during those rides that I began paying attention to the Bay Trail signs one sees along its rout.

With travel to distant places out of the question, I resolved to explore all the sections of the Trail, which now has 350 miles completed but will eventually circumnavigate San

SEPTEMBER 2021

quickly by p on Zoom. And this led to my launching a monthly show on Zoom calle Bay Trail Con

Basin, and, most recently, the intriguing and sometimes bizarre art found throughout the

Trail, and I had good knowledge of what to expect. Most importantly, I understood that significant gaps in the Trail remain and had a good sense of best ways to navigate these areas and stay safe. I also decided that I would return to Kensington after each day's ride to keep my COVID risks low and enjoy time with my wife Sarah. Fortunately, our area is very well served by public transportation, and I resolved to take advantage of this each day to get to and from my route around the bay.

Tuesday, August 24 was the first day of the trip. I set off from my house near Colusa Circle and met up with a friend from Berkeley at Pt. Isabel Park along the Trail. In an effort to stay hydrated and add a little challenge, I decided to count and photograph all the drinking fountains I encountered on my route. On a recent visit to Pt. Isabel, I noticed that their fountain was turned off. But when I arrived to start my trek, I found that it was fixed, which I took to be a good omen.

My Day 1 trek took me 56 miles to the transit center in Napa. It included some beautiful sections of the Trail around Richmond, which believe it or not has 36 miles of Bay Trail, making it the city with the most. At Pt. Pinole, we found another working drinking fountain but got detained by a slow-moving freight train that crosses Atlas Rd. We crossed the bike-friendly Zampa Bridge and had a lunch with fabulous views at the charming marina in Vallejo. I made a

charming marina in Vallejo. I made a
detour to ride along the bay in American

Fairfiel tions of dirt trail and is rich in bird life particularly during the spring and fall migrations. In Napa, I caught the Napa Valley Transit Vine-29 bus back to the El Cerrito Del Norte BART station and rode

the short distance back home.

The next day, I did that transit or oute in reverse and picked up where I dl eft off in Napa. The most challenge ing gap in the Bay Trail is in the north. Although it is legal to ride a bicycle from Vallejo to Novato on Hwy 37, doing so in my opinion is both unsafe and, with a constant stream of high-speed traffic. ride from Napa through some beautiful, serene back roads in the Carneros

get on the much busier Hwy 116. Though a rumble strip. While certainly not my favorite stretch of the ride. I was able to travers

it in around an hour and arrive safely in Petaluma. From there, I followed a low-volum frontage road along Hwy 101 and arrived in Novato to end my day Only a few of the people I know are familiar with the spanking new SMART Train Only a few of the people I know are familiar with the spanking new SMART Train that connects Larkspur to the Sonoma County Airport. It is excellent for transporting bixes and a seemic and very pleasant ride. As an added bonus, it even has tables where you're welcome to relax and refuel. To get home, I took it to San Rafael and there connected to a Golden Gate Transit bus that returned me once again to the Del Norte station I began Day 3 by doing that transit in reverse and heading south from Novato. I added some extra miles by going around the peninsula that includes China Camp State Park Golden Gate Bridge to end my 49-mile day at the Embarcadero BART station. On day 4, a Friday, I returned to San Francisco and rode from the Ferry Building to Millbrae, where I took time to visit my father and recount some of my adventures so far.

DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022

**Have You Done Your Homework?** 

cation Toolkit. We look forward to engaging with you online!

Kensington

Support Your Local Businesses

The Peninsula turned out to be my least favorite section of the ride. Key sections of the Bay Trail there are currently closed as levee repairs are being made, and a sea wal is being constructed to protect residences from sea level rise. As an experienced cyclist, it's my opinion that this part of the Bay Area has the least impressive bicycle infrastruc it's my opinion that this part of the Bay Area has the least impressive bicycle infrastructure. I know many drivers complain about the things bicyclists do. But I hope they know that many of us would be very happy not to ride many miles in their midst. The less contact between ears and bikes, the better things are for everyone. Unfortunately, the Peninsula is an area where staying away from ears is often impossible. So I was happy to wrap up a 44-mile day in Redwood City and use Caltrain and BART to get home. Day 5 was a Saturday and started off great. Friends visiting from my hometown of Wilmington, DE were staying in Menlo Park, and I stopped at their AirBuB to enjoy a terrific breakfast of bagels and coffee. The South Bay is another area with wonderfully scenic sections of the Bay Irail, and you often find yourself riding on levees where cars are neither seen nor heard. There are terrific views of Moffett Field and the historic

planning to put in a very long day and was thinking I might make it to the Oakland Airort, for a total of 70+ miles, my longest day. But riding through a business park near remont with almost no one around, I felt something hit my lip and then a sharp sting. The temperature was 95 degrees, and my water supply was running low. I pulled over and felt my lip start to get very large. Since I was by myself, I thought it prudent to cal was to call 911 and get transported to their ER as quickly as possible. This resulted in tamine shot that resolved things quickly but also required a couple hours on a gu

histamine shot that resolved things quickly but also required a couple hours on a gurney for observation. My riding day was over, and I was compliant when my wife insisted I let her and our friend Barbarn pick me up and drive us home.

Later, I decided that the bee's purpose was to urge me to slow down and enjoy the ride. On my last day, I took BART to Milpitas and continued where my unexpected rendezvous had stopped me in my tracks. It was a gorgeous, cool morning and I found myself ecstatically taking in the South Bay sights. My ride took me over the toll plaza for the Dumbarton Bridge and into the Coyote Hills Regional Park, which was the first place we spotlighted on Bay Trail Confidential and a spot I consider one of my favorites on the Bay Trail. After taking a bike/pedestrian bridge over they 92, I rode levee trails along the water with abundant bird life but few people. I stopped for lunch at a friend's office in a hangar at the Oakland Airport and then continued on to the end, snappling a photo of the 72nd drinking fountain of the treat Berkeley's Tom Bates Sports Fields. of the 72nd drinking fountain of the trek at Berkeley's Tom Bates Sports Fields Unbeknownst to me, Sarah and Barbara were waiting for me at the Albany Bulb to telebrate my completion of the ride around the bay. They brought sparkling wine and macks, and we had a celebration. By chance, another friend was on the beach there, an

I carned that she swims there every afternoon. Though tired at the end of a 61-mile day, I enthusiastically mustered the energy to ride the final 2.5 miles back to Kensington. I am working to document the route I took, and my hope is to inspire others to orbit I am working to document the route I took, and my hope is to inspire others to orbit the bay. Because I used public transit, each day's ride can be done as a point-to-point ride that can be done with or without a car. My adventures along the Bay Trail since the start of COVID have convinced me that there is a great deal for us to enjoy locally. While traveling safely to distance places may again be possible, the threat possed by carbon emissions is another reason to make the most of what we have right here. My odyssey taught me some valuable lessons. I now make sure to ride with my epi pen so I'm ready for my next encounter with a stinging insect. I also have a greater appreciation of the network of public transit that's at our disposal. And as much as I've enjoyed living in the Bay Area these past 35 years, my experience reinforced how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful region with so many varied and interesting places we are to live in such a beautiful region with so many varied and interesting places

offered for free each month on Zoom. You can register, find recordings and other infor-mation from past shows and learn more at http://BayTrailConfidential.com

### Shred and Meds Slated for November 13



Classified

KENSINGTON OUTLOOK

ABC GUITAR LESSONS FOR ALL AGES. Vaccinated school music teacher. Berklee-Boston graduate. Mark Sorensen - 510-207-5118

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DESIGN-BUILD LOCAL CONTRACTOR

more at www.baywoodbuilding.com or Yelp. Lic 357706-B Call Robert at 510-595-4231

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CLASSIFIED ADS Monthly Rates are 45 spaces per line. Count each letter,

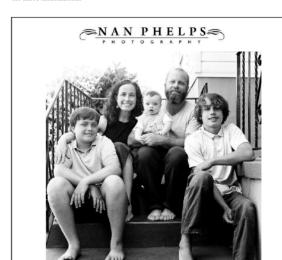
### Good News from the Library

Kensington Library is now offering Books for the Homebound! This is a free access

sibility and delivery program designed to help patrons who can no longer come into the library on their own. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from home delivery of the items available at the library, please contact library staff at 510-524-3043. And even more good news: Kensington Library is looking for community volun Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age and show proof of vaccination. We are look ing for an art coordinator and a technology tutor. The art coordinator recruits local artists and schedules regular art exhibits to be displayed in the quiet reading area. The pordinator helps hang and remove each exhibit on a bi-monthly rotation schedule.

Technology tutor: Are you comfortable using various devices to check email, download e-books and e-audiobooks? Can you reset passwords and stream movies? You can be out ext library tech tutor! Seeking someone for regular weekly tutoring sessions. Teens ar

encouraged to apply. If you would like to volunteer for either position, please fill out the volunteer interes orm at ccclib.org, and contact Anasa Tatum at 510-524-3043 during library open hours



MANAGEMENT / PR / MARKETING

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PUBLICATIONS

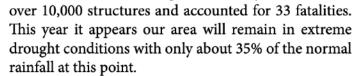






### **Annual Property Inspections Are Underway**

The Kensington Fire Protection District would like to remind all property owners about upcoming annual inspections for compliance to the KFPD's Vegetation Management Standards. In 2020, there were almost 10,000 vegetation fires in the State of California, many of them close to Kensington. These incidents burned over four million acres, damaged or destroyed



It is the property owners' responsibility to maintain their property year-round in compliance with the KF-PD's Vegetation Management Standards. The full standards can be found here, or visiting the KFPD website at www.kensingtonfire.org and going to the SERVICES menu tab.

The last page of the Standards includes a Fire Hazard Reduction Checklist to assist you in ensuring your property complies. Use the Checklist to walk around your own property and assess it for compliance.

There is no need to contact us to inform us that your property is or has been brought into accordance as we make an attempt to inspect every property in the District to verify compliance with the Vegetation Management Standards.

Remember, the threat of wildland fires and potential catastrophic damage exists year around. As we move into the peak fire danger season, we ask that you please take the time to remove any fire hazard conditions you find on your property and to maintain your property free of fire dangers throughout the year. You can avoid costly fees and abatement charges if the District is forced to bring your property into compliance.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation with the District's fuel reduction program and contributing to our efforts in making Kensington a more fire safe community.

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## **New Fire Danger Sign Installed in Front of**

Last Fall the Fire District erected a Fire Danger sign on the median strip near the PSB at 217 Arlington. Notifications of low, medium, high, and extreme fire danger are adjusted by our firefighters daily, and now viewed by many hundreds of people who travel up and down the Arlington each day, bringing additional awareness

### Fire Surveillance Cameras Now on Vollmer Peak and

During Diablo Wind Events (DWEs) a

wildfire in our heavily overgrown region could sweep into Kensington from Tilden Park in a matter of minutes. Two video cameras were installed last year to monitor wildfire on a 24/7 basis in Wildcat Canyon and surrounding areas. Because there is no proven automated method of detecting fire, a local group of about 40 trained Kensington volunteers take turns monitoring these cameras 24/7 during DWEs to provide an early warning to fire officials should a fire ignite. Find out more about this group and volunteer to help protect your neighbors at:

https://wildcatwatchgroup.blogspot.com.

The KFPD's Emergency Preparedness Committee and community volunteers are working to place additional cameras to give more complete coverage of the Canyon in time for this year's fire season.

# the Public Safety Building

all along our hilly corridor.

# What should Kensington residents expect to experience?

At 9:00 AM on Saturday, April 9, residents of Kensington Zone ECK-E008 will receive a message from Contra Costa County Community Warning System ordering an immediate (safe and orderly) evacuation to the El Cerrito Plaza BART Station to check-in with site volunteers. When residents arrive, they will provide volunteers with their street name, and the simulation will be complete.

At 9:15 AM on Saturday, April 9, residents of Kensington Zone ECK-E007 will receive a message from Contra Costa County Community Warning System to acknowledge receipt of the notification and shelter in place and provide feedback on a short survey. Residents in ECK-E007 will not participate in the evacuation portion to El Cerrito Plaza BART.

Because Kensington is an unincorporated part of Contra Costa County, all residents are strongly encouraged to register with the County's Community Warning System (CWS). Before the drill begins, residents wishing to participate in the exercise must register with the Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS). Additional information is available on the Kensington Fire Protection District website: www.kensingtonfire.org/drill.





Follow us on Facebook & Instagram. @kensingtonfpd

THE FIRE PLUG | 1



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **KENSINGTON EVACUATION DRILL SATURDAY APRIL 9th 2022**

### Kensington Evacuation Drill Planned for Saturday, April 9, 2022, 9:00 AM

On Saturday, April 9, Kensington Fire Protection District and Kensington Police Department will conduct an evacuation drill. Our agencies will coordinate a test with the Contra Costa County Community Warning System with a drilled response to a simulated wildfire originating in Tilden Park with a westward projection toward Kens-

This evacuation drill aims to educate the public in raising awareness for wildfire dangers, test the County Communication Warning System, evaluate traffic flow on critical streets, and provide an opportunity for residents to assess their readiness and resiliency.

The Kensington Fire Protection District has identified high-priority areas within Kensington and will work with those areas to coordinate evacuation exercises. These high-priority areas face a higher threat due to several variables such as limited access and proximity to wildland areas. For this evacuation drill, community members residing east of Arlington Avenue and South of Hilltop School are in the test zone. The fire department will be using Zonehaven to manage the evacuation drill. The zones targeted in this drill will be ECK-E007 and ECK-E008.

To find your zone, visit <u>community.zonehaven.com</u> and input your address.



# MAGNET MAILER



# KENSINGTON Emergency Numbers

### KENSINGTON EMERGENCY NUMBERS: A BRIEF GUIDE

Our instinct is to call 911 in case of emergency (Police or Fire). This is still the best option if you have a land line. However, it may be less efficient to call 911 from cell phones because, depending on the type of phone and your settings, your location may not be transmitted correctly, and our call may be routed to a distant agency (such as the California Highway Patrol in Vallejo). It can take a while to get you rerouted, and that increases response times.

Simply put, the best option for cell phones is to use these emergency numbers below. Please enter them RIGHT NOW into your phone contact lists and speed dials.

### **BEST OPTION FOR CELL PHONES**



SCAN TO SAVE THE CONTACT TO YOUR PHONE



925-933-1313



**KENSINGTON POLICE** 510-525-7573



SCAN TO SAVE THE CONTACT TO YOUR PHONE

### LAND LINES **DIAL 9-1-1**



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF COMMUNITY WARNING SYSTEM



Enter these numbers in your cell phones now! Remember to register with Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS) to be notified during an emergency.

To register, visit www.cwsalerts.com/registration. Once you have registered, text your zip code to "888777" using your cell phone.



# KENSINGTON **Emergency Numbers**

### **BEST OPTION FOR CELL PHONES**



FIRE/MEDICAL CALLS 925-933-1313



510-525-7573

### LAND LINES **DIAL 9-1-1**

Enter these numbers in your cell phones now! Remember to register with Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS) to be notified during an emergency.

To register, visit www.cwsalerts.com/registration. Once you have registered, text your zip code to "888777" using your cell phone.

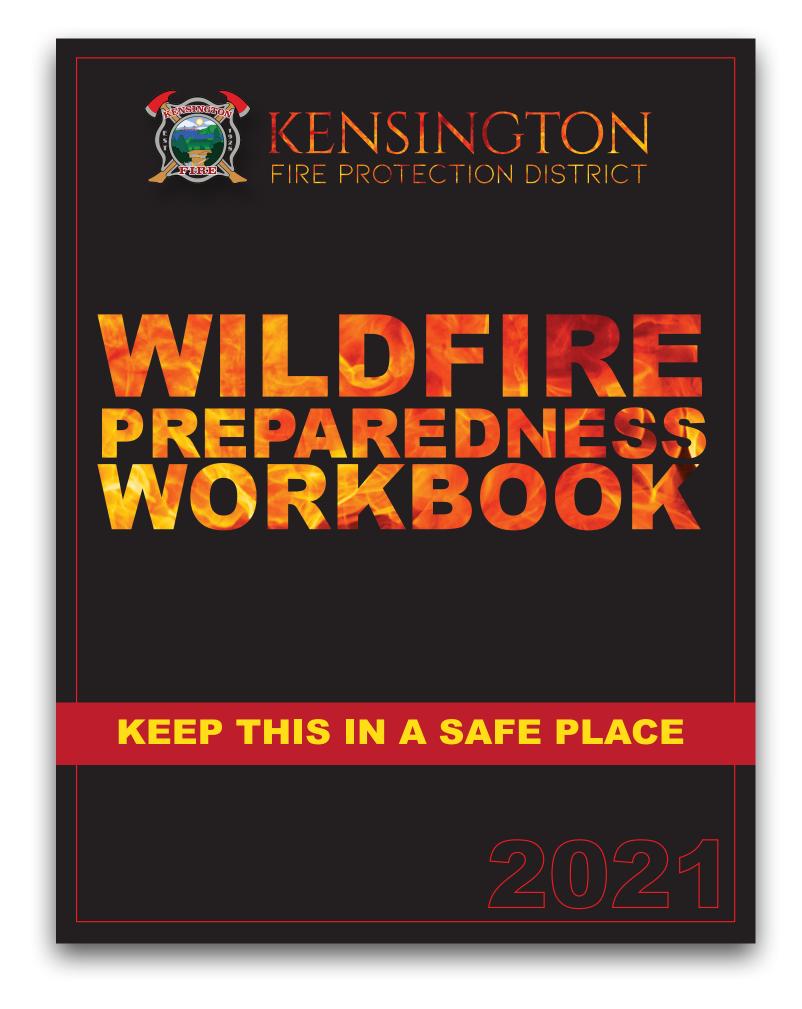
KENSINGTON F @ @kensingtonfpd

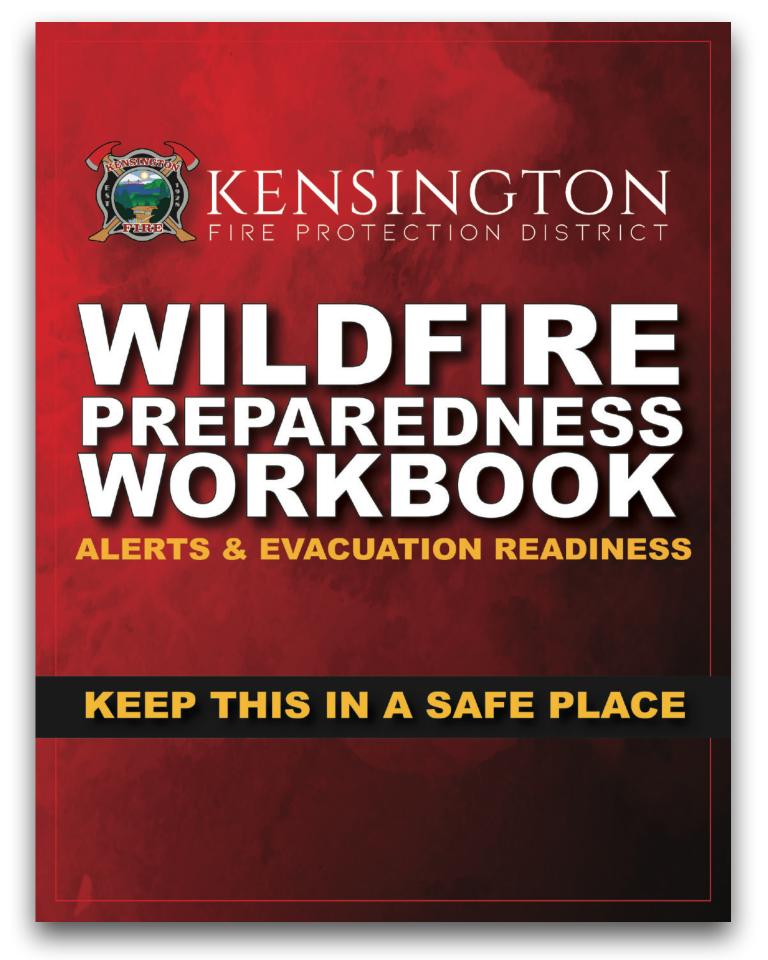
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT www.kensingtonfire.org



# PREPAREDNESS PUBLICATIONS









# PRINTED FLYERS

## COMING MAY 2022



NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Safety starts at home.

Join your neighbors for a party that makes your block safer and better prepared for emergencies. Meet new neighbors and get the latest safety information from the Kensington Fire Protection District.

**Need help connecting with neighbors? Contact: prepare@kensingtonfire.org** 

**REGISTER FOR CWS ALERTS** visit: www.cwsalerts.com

SUBSCRIBE TO KFPD EMAILS Scan the QR to send an email request for email notifications.





(c) @kensingtonfpd

# KENSINGTON

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### 4/09 EVACUATION DRILL

Register for CWS Alerts before the drill, then visit www.kensingtonfire.org/drill for additional information about how to participate or how this impacts you.

### 4/16 CPR / FIRST AID TRAINING

Training will be hosted by El Cerrito Fire Department. Please visit www.kensingtonfire.org for additional information or call: 510-215-4450.

### 4/30 SHRED & MEDS COLLECTION

Paper Shredding and Pharmaceutical collection held at the Kensington Library Parking Lot from 10:00am-1:00pm. Visit: www.kensingtonfire.org for more information.

### 5/16 KENSINGTON HILLTOP CARNIVAL

Visit us at the annual carnival at Kensington Hilltop.

## **YOUR STREET** IS INCLUDED IN A SIMULATED **EMERGENCY**

### KENSINGTON **EVACUATION DRILL**

SAT, APRIL 9th, 9:00AM

www.kensingtonfire.org/drill

Invest 15 minutes in completing the preparedness steps on the back of this door hanger. Preparing for this evacuation drill also prepares you for an actual emergency.

### PREPARING IN PARTNERSHIP



## READY, SET, GO! Ready,

- 1. Register to receive emergency alerts. Visit: www.cwsalerts.com.
- 2. Text your zip code to 888777 from your mobile phone to receive Nixel Text Alerts.
- 3. Visit kensingtonfire.org/drill to read the evacuation drill objectives and plan.

Encourage neighbors to register and particpate.

### Set,

- 1. Have your Go Bag accessible.
- 2. Learn multiple evacuation route options.

Improve evacuation efficiency by adopting your street's car parking etiquette. Collaborate with your neighbors to establish best practices.

### **GO!**

- 1. On April 9th at 9:00 am, You will receive a message from CWS. This message will include instructions specific to your street. Visit kensingtonfire.org/drill to see what you should expect.
- 2. After the evacuation drill, please complete the online survey provided with the CWS alert. This survey will give first responders valuable information to improve emergency planning.

This drill is voluntary; however, participation is critical to planning for an emergency. We encourage every resident to be aware of the Kensington Evacuation Drill and the intent to increase preparedness and resiliency in the community.

Please visit our library of preparedness resources: www.kensingtonfire.org/prepare.

To subscribe for email Red Flag alerts and other district-related messages, send a message to: subscribe@kensingtonfire.org.

