



**Report on Agenda Item 12a at KFPD Regular Meeting
Report on Recent Emergency Preparedness Committee Meetings
Larry Nagel
September 20, 2023**

July 27, 2023 Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Larry Nagel, and there were The last meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee was held on May 25, 2023. There were five members present in addition to Administrative Assistant Candace Eros Diaz, and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela.

The first agenda item was a review of the task of finding a replacement on the EPC for Peter Guerrero, who had to resign because he would be out of town for the entire summer. Mary Morris-Mayorga will report back at the next meeting.

The second agenda item was a review of the LRAD Presentation at the July 19, 2023 KFPD Board Meeting. There was general agreement that the meeting went very well, with special kudos to David Spath for giving the presentation and Danielle Madugo for preparing the slides. Further discussion was centered on the following topics:

- Should the LRAD project include Kensington and El Cerrito?
- Do we have access to the El Cerrito grant writer, or do we need to find our own?
- Do we need to pursue revision of the El Cerrito/Kensington Hazard Mitigation Plan?

It was decided to invite Chief Eric Saylor to the next EPC meeting to get his take on these issues.

Johnny Valenzuela presented the Emergency Preparedness Coordinators report which will also be presented at this Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM by Co-chair Larry Nagel.

August 24, 2023 Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Larry Nagel, and there were six members present in addition to Interim General Manager Mary Morris-Mayorga, Administrative Assistant Candace Eros Diaz, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela. and El Cerrito/Kensington Fire Chief Eric Saylor.

The first agenda item was a review of the task of finding a replacement on the EPC for Peter Guerrero, who had to resign because he would be out of town for the entire summer. Mary Morris-Mayorga reported that the call for nominations is being distributed and we hopefully should have a list of candidates by the September 2023 meeting.

The second agenda item was an update on the possibility of using the Laguna Beach RFP *en lieu* of generating our own RFP. Both Mary Morris-Mayorga and Chief Eric Saylor have researched this item and they concurred that in all likelihood we would be able to use the Laguna Beach RFP.

The third item was a request to include the \$25,000 budget item for replanting grants. This item apparently was dropped because it has not been used, but the EPC felt very strongly that it will be used in the future and is an important part of Kensington's fuel reduction program. Mary Morris-Mayorga state that she will bring this up at the next Finance Committee meeting.

The next agenda item was a discussion with Chief Saylor on drafting an RFP for the LRAD system (see second item above).

- Chief Saylor stated that the El Cerrito budget presently is strained by the need to replace Engine 151, to purchase land next to the El Cerrito Public Safety Building for expansion, and to fund the renovation of the El Cerrito Public Safety Building. There is not much left, and El Cerrito will not be able to pursue an LRAD system at this point in time.
- Chief Saylor will provide us with the name of the El Cerrito grant writer wo that we can pursue having him assist in applying for a grant from FEMA for the LRAD system.

The next agenda item was a discussion of revising the El Cerrito/Kensington Hazard Mitigation Plan.

- Chief Saylor noted that, while the plan technically expires this year, he has not heard of any instance of grants being denied because of an expired plan. Chief Saylor noted that it is the responsibility of the Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services to update the plan, and they typically will ask the municipalities to provide representatives.

The last item on the agenda was a Cert Update by Chief Saylor.

- Chief Saylor noted that the present plan is to partner with Moraga-Orinda Fire Protect District to provide training for CERT volunteers. The El Cerrito/Kensington Fire Department will not be organizing CERT areas and planning drills as they have in the past due to a lack of budget. CERT organization will be the responsibility of the individual CERT areas. A lot of concern was expressed over the decline of CERT participation, especially in Kensington, where only two of the original six areas are active at present.

Johnny Valenzuela presented the Emergency Preparedness Coordinators report which will also be presented at this Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM by Co-chair Larry Nagel.

The next meeting of the EPC will be September 28, 2023.

Respectively submitted,



Laurence W. Nagel
Co-chair
Emergency Preparedness Committee
Kensington Fire Protection District