



KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MEETING OF THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:00pm-5:00pm
Station 65 Apparatus Bay, PSB, 217 Arlington
Kensington, California

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Directors: Larry Nagel and Kevin Padian
Public Members: Lisa Caronna, Paul Moss, David Spath
Staff: General Manager Bill Hansell, Chief Eric Saylor
Consultant: Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela
Members of the Public: Hal Graboske, Edna Weineke, Linnea Due

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

This place on the agenda is reserved for comments and inquiries concerning matters that do not otherwise appear on the agenda.

None

3. ADOPTION OF CONSENT ITEMS

a. Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 28, 2022

The minutes could not be approved due to a lack of quorum when Lisa Caronna recused herself because she did not attend the July 28, 2022 meeting.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion with our new Fire Chief, Eric Saylor

Kevin Padian began the discussion with a background of where this committee has journeyed over the past four years.

The first step was to hire three UC Berkeley graduate students to perform a Traffic Study for Kensington. This study was exhaustive and spanned the entire summer of 2018. The results of the study are available on the KFPD website.

Kevin explained that the next step was to implement as many of the recommendations of the traffic study as possible without spending enormous amount of money. Working with Lt. Brad Harms in the KPD, we arranged with the Sunset Cemetery to have the gates opened in an evacuation and we placed additional signage in the cemetery to establish an escape route. We also replaced the bollards on Highland Boulevard at the school with chains that could be removed easily to facilitate evacuation. Danielle Madugo worked with

the Hilltop Elementary School staff to establish evacuation procedures and plans. Working with the County Road Department, we had curbs painted red at key intersections that would be pinch points during an evacuation. We also started working with Chief Pigoni and Chief Gancasz to set up our first evacuation drill, which was held on April 9, 2022.

Kevin noted that we also investigate obtaining emergency radios for Kensington residents but concluded that the radios would not be very helpful.

EPC Member Katie Gluck led an effort to investigate obtaining a long range audio device (LRAD) system to alert Kensington residents in an emergency (wildfire or earthquake). We met with vendors of these devices on numerous occasions and will have General Manager Bill Hansell prepare an RFP for a system. Then the plan is to survey Kensington residents to assess how much support there is for such a system.

We also proposed to the Board that we hire a full time Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and the district subsequently hire Johnny Valenzuela in 2021. Johnny has accomplished a tremendous amount in one year in his efforts to raise public awareness through attending block parties and other events as well as distributing material and becoming the editor of the Fire Plug. National Night Out was an outstanding success this year. Kevin noted that our contract with El Cerrito only includes CERT training and there is no staff or concerted effort by El Cerrito Fire Department for emergency preparedness, so Kensington is on our own.

Kevin then opened the meeting to a discussion by EPC members.

Dave Spath pointed out that there are some inconsistencies with the Zonehaven zones that need work. In particular, in his zone houses on one side of the street are in one zone and houses on the other side of the street are in another zone. This will cause confusion in the event of a partial evacuation.

Lisa Caronna noted that she has been very active in the Kensington Pathkeeper group and their goal is to find a permanent owner of the paths in Kensington. Their feeling is that the paths could have an important role in an evacuation.

Dave Spath noted that we may be missing out on grants for wildfire preparation and vegetation management. Dave noted that the City of Paradise obtained grants for the design and purchase of an emergency warning system.

Chief Saylor noted that he is very accustomed to obtaining and managing grants for fire protection and he intends to vigorously pursue grants in the future.

Linnea Due noted her three concerns in emergency preparedness which are (1) 28% of the population of Kensington is over 55 and will need special attention in an evacuation (2) the gutters in many streets in Kensington are so steep that cars are damaged if they drive into them (this could cause problems in an evacuation) and (3) The Cerritos Canyon is in desperate need of fuel reduction. This project is being addressed jointly by the Berkeley and El Cerrito Fire Departments.

Chief Saylor concluded the discussion with a summary of his plans as Chief. He holds public education as a very high priority and plans to address this issue. This dovetails nicely with our Emergency Preparedness Committee. Chief Saylor noted he is a big fan of a "sand table" which is a modeling tool that allows the simulation of various wildfire sce-

narios.

b. Update on District finances for the immediate future

General Manager Bill Hansell provided an informal update on where the District is financially, following the completion of the contracts funding the PSB, with consideration of potential funds to implement Emergency Preparedness projects. The budget for Emergency Preparedness in 2020-21 was \$60,000, and in 2021-22 the budget grew to \$44,000 plus \$100,000 for the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. What happens in 2022-23 will depend on the renovation of Station 65, but at present those costs are coming in under budget.

c. Status of RFP Preparation for Emergency Warning Devices

Kevin noted that we need to develop an RFP for Emergency Warning Systems so that we can establish cost estimates and survey the Kensington residents to assess support for such a system. General Manager Bill Hansell noted that we could either have one vendor design the system and another contractor install the system (like Paradise did) or we could bid the project as a Design-Build project where there is only one vendor.

d. Planned priorities for EPC during the coming year

Because of the lack of remaining time and the absence of several EPC members, Kevin suggested that we postpone this item until the September meeting and the EPC members concurred.

6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Johnny Valenzuela reported that National Night Out this year was very successful after a two year hiatus. He visited about six block parties, spoke with residents, and distributed literature.

Johnny noted that the Fire Plug has gone to press and should be arriving in the mailboxes of residents soon. The issue is devoted to Emergency Preparedness in honor of September being National Emergency Awareness Month.

In October there are four events planned. On October 8, there will be a Pancake Breakfast at The Unitarian Church for residents. On October 23, there will be a Community Picnic in the Kensington Park. The next Shred and Meds day will be conducted by the KFD and the KPD on October 29. On a date to be determined, there will be a block party on Ardmore Road.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paul Moss asked about status of the fuel reduction efforts of the EBRPD. Larry Nagel noted that he had not yet spoken with Chief Aileen Theile about this but will be the next meeting.

8. CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next regular meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Kensington Fire Protection District will be held on September 22, 2022 at 3:00pm via Zoom Conference, unless noticed otherwise per the Brown Act.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 PM by Kevin Padian.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Larry Nagel

These minutes were approved at the Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting of the Kensington Fire Protection District on September 22, 2022.

Attest:

Emergency Preparedness Committee Member

DRAFT



KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR

AUGUST 2022



KENSINGTON
NATIONAL



NIGHT OUT

AUGUST 2ND 2022





KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BLOCK PARTY PREPAREDNESS METRICS

	EVACUATION DRILL SURVEY RESULTS	LAKE DRIVE BLOCK PARTY MAY 22 2022	LAKE DRIVE BLOCK PARTY AUG 2 2022
The CWS phone number added to mobile phone contacts.	45.7%	75%	86%
Registered with CWS for emergency alerts.	96.1%	87.5%	86%
Go Bag packed and accessible for the upcoming fire season.	67.7%	75%	77%
Emergency supplies for shelter in place at home.	67.4%	93.8%	86%
Reunification plan or a meeting place established with friends/family for emergencies.	55.1%	56.3%	66%
		19 RESP.	35 RESP.



THE FIRE PLUG

Fall Edition | 2022
www.kensingtonfire.org



September is **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

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Kensington Preparedness Month

The Kensington Fire Protection District is promoting National Preparedness Month with its own theme this year. Our ongoing commitment to improving basic emergency preparedness for all Kensington residents will take priority over FEMA's annual campaign. Kensington will focus on improving basic preparedness in 5 core areas that were identified in a poll during the April Kensington Evacuation Drill.

After the April 2022 Kensington Evacuation Drill, residents participated in a survey that provided feedback regarding their emergency preparedness efforts. This data revealed five areas that Kensington residents should focus on to improve their emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency for Kensington overall.

These five areas of basic preparedness are:

1. Register with Contra Costa County Community Warning System. Register by visiting www.cwsalerts.com or calling 925-655-0111.
2. Add the CWS Alert phone number to your mobile phone contacts. Save 925-655-0195 as "Emergency Alert (CWS)" or scan the QR code.
3. Pack and update an evacuation Go Bag and have it readily accessible. Use the KFPD Wildfire Preparedness Workbook as a packing guide. Visit www.kensingtonfire.org/workbook to access the digital version.
4. Start storing emergency supplies and water for disasters and sheltering in place. Take advantage of CERT Emergency Water Tanks Sales. Sign up to be notified sales by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/interestlist.
5. Establish a communication plan with friends and family to account for being separated during an emergency. Use the downloadable guide by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/prepare and clicking the item for



CWS CONTACT CARD
SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



Solano Avenue Stroll
The Kensington Fire Protection District and Fire Department will participate in the opening ceremony for the Solano Avenue Stroll on September 11th, starting at 10:00 am. This year, the Solano Avenue Association has changed the annual parade to a "stroll parade" for a limited number of participants. Kensington Fire will be one of only 25 organizations featured in the ceremony. Since 1974 Solano Avenue and the two cities of Albany and Berkeley CA, have hosted the Solano Avenue Stroll, the East Bay's largest street festival. The Solano Avenue Association invites you to see what makes Solano Avenue a wonderful place. We feature over four hundred vendors including 90 restaurants, 22 food booths, 100 government and non-profit agencies, 100 artists, vendors, makers, and much more! 100,000 participants and event guests visit from all over northern California, and beyond. This family event promotes the unique traits of Solano Avenue, helping independently-owned businesses, artists, and community organizations to thrive by exposure and fundraising.

For more information, visit www.solanostroll.org.

Kensington Paper Shredding & Pharmaceutical Collection Event
Kensington Fire Protection District will be hosting a paper shredding and pharmaceutical collection event on Saturday, October 29th, 2022, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. This free event is for Kensington residents to learn more about making their homes and communities safer.
The KFPD, in coordination with the DEA, will be facilitating the National Prescription Drug Take Back campaign to safely dispose of all unused or expired medications, including narcotics, pills, syrups, inhalers, etc.
We do not accept any household hazardous waste. It is important not to flush your unused medications down the toilet as they will pollute our drinking water and ground soil.
For more information about this event, please visit the KFPD website: www.kensingtonfire.org.

KFPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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seyfers@kensingtonfire.org
Johnny Valenzuela - Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
jvalenzuela@kensingtonfire.org

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tion in his firefighting career. Chief Seyfers is an author, pilot, and an advocate. "I am humbled by the opportunity to join the team at El Cerrito. I look forward to continuing the department's legacy and building the nation's most innovative and effective fire department," said Chief Seyfers.
Chief Seyfers holds a Bachelor in Business Management from California State University, Sacramento, a Master in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, and is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Leadership and Organizational Change from the University of Southern California (USC).
Chief Seyfers is a nationally recognized expert in active shooter training, fire service matters, leadership, and succession planning. The National Fire Academy utilizes many of his published articles to instruct future Fire Chiefs.



Kensington and Berkeley Collaborate on Cerrito Canyon Concerns
Berkeley Fire Department personnel Kevin Brilla and Dan Green came to Kensington to meet with Kensington Fire Protection District Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela for a walk through Cerrito Canyon.
Berkeley Fire Department has expressed interest in establishing an interagency Firewise community that joins Kensington and Berkeley to address the concerns of wild fire risk and vegetation abatement for Cerrito Canyon. Both fire departments are looking for community members in Kensington and Berkeley to help pave the way to establishing Firewise communities in our part of the East Bay Hills.
Our team of Firewise volunteers will be valuable partners that coordinate with the fire departments and their neighbors to be friendly, approachable ambassadors.
To learn more about Firewise communities and how you can play a part in making Kensington Firewise, visit: www.kensingtonfire.org/cerritocanyonconcerns.

El Cerrito-Kensington CERT Water Storage and Fire Extinguisher Sale
El Cerrito-Kensington CERT, in partnership with Lonestar CERT, conducted a sale for emergency water storage and fire extinguishers in August. This sale promotes emergency preparedness, specifically for earthquakes impacting water supply infrastructure.
Residents are stocking up on potable water for emergencies, and the kits sold contain supplies for water treatment and long-term storage. Through these sales, it's possible to buy containers ranging from 2.5 gallons to 55 gallon drums. To get interested in these sales, you can register by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/prepare. Look for the link to register for medications.

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KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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2. Add the CWS Alert phone number to your mobile phone contacts. Save 925-655-0195 as "Emergency Alert (CWS)" or scan the QR code.



3. Pack and update an evacuation Go Bag and have it readily accessible. Use the KFPD Wildfire Preparedness Workbook as a packing guide. Visit www.kensingtonfire.org/workbook to access the digital version.



4. Start storing emergency supplies and water for disasters and sheltering in place. Take advantage of CERT Emergency Water Tanks Sales. Sign up to be notified sales by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/interestlist.



5. Establish a communication plan with friends and family to account for being separated during an emergency. Use the downloadable guide by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/prepare and clicking the item for "Family Emergency Communication Plan."



CWS CONTACT CARD
SCAN TO DOWNLOAD

COMMUNITY EVENTS



It's back!
Solano Avenue Stroll
Free Admission!
Sunday, Sept. 11th, 2022
10am-5pm
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
WELCOME PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY OCT 9TH 8:30 AM
1 LAWSON RD KENSINGTON
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
Church of Berkeley



KENSINGTON
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY PICNIC
SUNDAY OCT 23RD 12-3PM
KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT
SHRED & MEDS
PAPER AND PHARMACEUTICAL DROP-OFF
KENSINGTON LIBRARY PARKING LOT
SATURDAY OCTOBER 29TH
10:00am-1:00pm
INFO: WWW.KENSINGTONFIRE.ORG
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