

KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT POLICY HANDBOOK

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest level of service to Kensington in order to protect the lives, property, and environment of the community from the disastrous effects of fires, medical emergencies, natural disasters, and other hazardous conditions.

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Objectives

- Reducing loss of life and property and safeguarding Kensington by effectively responding to fire, rescue and medical emergencies, hazardous material incidents and major disasters;
- Helping residents of Kensington reduce the frequency and severity of fires, accidents and natural disasters by providing public education programs;
- Reducing threats to public safety by enforcing laws, codes and ordinances covering fire and life safety and by abating identified fire hazards on District, private and other agencies' property; and
- Maintaining personnel, apparatus, equipment and facilities in a constantly ready condition.

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Goals

Establish a wildland/urban interface fire prevention effort through an emphasis on public education while establishing vegetation management standards and legal enforcement procedures of implementation in subsequent years.

Maintain a Fire Hazard Reduction Program to work with the East Bay Regional Park District along the Kensington interface.

Maintain enhanced personnel skill levels in wildland firefighting and incident command by continued participation in area-wide wildland fire response training exercises.

Maintain Fire Station No. 65's functional adequacy and seismic structural integrity.

Manage and implement capital projects to provide adequate fire flow throughout Kensington.

Provide a comprehensive maintenance and certification test program to ensure readiness of complex fire apparatus and equipment.

Provide hazardous materials response training to meet annual mandated requirements and to ensure efficient operations with the Richmond Fire Department Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Maintain the earthquake and disaster preparedness program by supporting the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Continuously update disaster planning by utilizing support from the City of El Cerrito and their planning process.

Continued implementation of upgraded computer-based systems for records and reports. Continuously improve access to and utilization of fire service weather information network.

Fully implement the fire protection contract with the City of El Cerrito and respond to other cost-saving and service-enhancing opportunities for functional integration of fire services with surrounding jurisdictions.

Maintain a program to identify and obtain grant funding to support and enhance the District's fire protection services.

Prudently manage District funds.