

CITY OF OAKLAND



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March 13, 2017

Vegetation Management Unit Staff Report

WPAD Board Members,

Fire Suppression District Inspector Staffing:

- Vegetation Management Supervisor - Vincent Crudele**
- Fire Suppression District 1 - Vincent Crudele**
- Fire Suppression District 2 - Adam Ball**
- Fire Suppression District 3 - Katherine McClain**
- Fire Suppression District 4 - New Full Time Hire**
- Fire Suppression District 5 - Temp Part Time**
- Program Analyst II - Anette Boulware**
- TPT Administrative Staff - Joaque Patten**

STAFFING UPDATE: The job offer letter for the full time Fire Suppression District Inspector position was sent to the candidate on March 3rd, with a proposed start date of March 27th. The Fire Prevention Bureau is awaiting a response from the candidate.

Vegetation Management Statistics (see attached Matrix)

Preparing for 2017 Residential Property Inspections-training: The inspection forms and annual mailer have been updated with current code regulations and the conclusion of the WPAD. Acting Assistant Fire Marshal Sworn, Maria Sabatini and Supervisor Vince Crudele are working with the I.T. department to get current county assessors and One-Step updates solidified in order to prepare the list of properties needed to print forms for this inspection season. The anticipated mailing date is early -mid April 2017.

Update on status of fuel reduction for Chabot Space & Science Center project (\$216,000): Our department is awaiting an updated project timeline for the removal/limbing of the remaining 35-40 trees from Davey tree, as the project was delayed due to weather conditions. The first invoice in the amount of \$163,962.50 is currently being processed by Fire Administration.

Status of Vegetation Management Plan Progress and Work Schedule (see attached press release and fact sheet):

The Oakland Fire Department (OFD) is leading the development of a Vegetation Management Plan ("Plan") to reduce fire hazard risks in the Oakland Hills. The City has contracted with Horizon Water and Environment, LLC to assist OFD in its planning efforts. Below are the tasks/actions that have taken place to date on the Plan:

- Held an internal kick off meeting with staff from the City Administrator's Office, Planning and Building and ITD to discuss team roles, information sharing protocols and project deliverables.
- Convened a public engagement strategizing session with City staff, members of the WPAD and representatives from City Council.
- Conducted field surveys and assessments of City owned parcels.
- Analyzed vegetation management planning documents from surrounding jurisdictions such as Alameda County and the East Bay Regional Park District.
- Reviewed City of Oakland policies and regulations that might affect the Plan's approach or implementation such as the City's Climate Action Plan.
- Developed of initial stakeholder contact list consisting of more than 100 governmental, civic, environmental, and homeowner organizations.
- Created a fact sheet, website and press release that was issued Thursday March 09, 2017.
- Have tentatively scheduled two informal meetings that are scheduled for initial community discussion regarding the plan's elements and approach.

The draft Plan is expected to be completed in late Spring/Early Summer 2017. Environmental analysis as required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will commence upon completion of the draft Plan.

Progress of implementing GIS systems for vegetation management:

• **GIS mapping tool- review of next steps**

The project will move forward with the tool that was presented to the WPAD committee by the I.T department. Fire prevention is awaiting the updated prioritized list of suggested action items from the WPAD committee to be finalized by Fire Prevention. The finalized list will be presented to the I.T. department for projected timelines.

City of Oakland Contract Compliance Requirements and Vegetation Management Contracts:

1. **Civicorps-** Deidre Martin from the Environmental Services Division advised Supervisor Vincent Crudele that Adam Cope is the designated contact at Civicorps. The Fire Prevention Bureau is working to schedule a meeting with Civicorps representatives and have been advised that meeting availability is limited for all parties.

Civicorps currently has crews of 5 - 8 people available to work a 4 day week for 2 -3 months, this fiscal year and again next fiscal year.

2. **Cal Fire Delta Crews-** Fire Marshal Miguel Trujillo, Assistant Fire Marshal Sworn, Maria Sabatini and Supervisor Vincent Crudele attended the March 8, 2017 that provided the following information:

- The first step in the process is to establish a letter of agreement from the City of Oakland to secure the cost of the Crews and supplemental equipment.
- The OFD's Chief of Staff and City Administrator are currently reviewing the parameters of a potential MOU between Cal Fire/CDCR and the City of Oakland.

- The Delta crews require advanced scheduling and available dates can be limited due to Cal Fire competing priorities. Project areas will be scheduled by Cal Fire pending the crews' availability. The Fire Prevention Bureau's opinion is the Delta Crews would be a tremendous source of hazard mitigation in select areas.

3. **Contractors Meeting-** Acting Assistant Fire Marshal Sworn, Maria Sabatini Contractors Meeting is working down the list of Contractor. To date of those contacted 6 want to be included in upcoming bid opportunities. Others are no longer in business or have not replied. All the responses have been positive about past experiences with the City of Oakland.

Update of the Website:

Acting Assistant Fire Marshal Sworn, Maria Sabatini and members of the Fire Prevention unit are working to review and prepare suggested edits for the web site. Chair Sue Piper submitted edit suggestions for the WPAD section that are scheduled to be reviewed and considered in addition to all other updates. A timeline has yet to be determined as we are working to coordinate schedules with the designated web designer for this project.

Thank you,

/s/

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