

Section 9.0 CWPP Recommendations

The following identifies recommendations for further consideration by SBC Fire, residents, and SBC County government:

- Based on results of the wildfire analyses and potential life safety issues, consider increasing the defensible space requirements for property owners within high hazard communities in the EGVCP Planning Area in an effort to enhance protection of life safety for firefighters and the public.
- Develop an ongoing educational program for area residents on structure hardening and maintenance of defensible space. Elements may include:
 - Update websites to include comprehensive current information on home vulnerability analysis, structure hardening options, defensible space requirements, evacuation planning and preparedness, local emergency plans, and contact information for further inquiries.
 - Outreach program for new area residents. Should include distribution of written information and face-to-face contact by experienced residents or firefighters regarding fire danger, evacuation planning, defensible space maintenance and structure hardening options. All new residents should sign up for emergency alerts.
 - Maintain supplies of up-to-date information sheets and pamphlets for distribution at community events or by request.
 - Conduct annual preparedness meetings for threatened communities. Subjects may include long-term fire weather forecasts, updates on fuel management plans, evacuation planning, local firefighting plans, and available assistance for structure hardening, chipping programs, and reminders concerning basic defensible space requirements.
 - Establish a speaker list of local representatives from fire agencies, scientific community and citizen's organizations to speak at events regarding wildfire safety issues, structure hardening and fuel management planning
- Consider applying for a FEMA Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant for structure hardening measures.
- Revise the existing CWPP Development Process to address the interaction of a contractor with the Development Team. Consider using the contractor for technical support, if the Development Team is to be tasked as the principal author.
- Develop a Vulnerable/Special Needs Population Disaster Preparedness Guide for emergency wildfire evacuation.
- Support state or local legislation to provide tax structures with incentives for structure hardening and hazardous fuel treatment mitigation.
- Create a short informational video about fuel management and the process. Footage could be taken by firefighters in the field and a link placed on the CWPP webpage as well as the SBC Fire, WRA and Fire Safe Council websites. Informational brochures could be available at the County Administrative building similar to "Water Wise" or "Creating Defensible Space".
- Consider the implementation of parking restrictions during time of elevated fire danger on narrow roadways that serve as primary access and egress routes into the communities. These restrictions

would require a new County Ordinance and should be included in an update to the existing Red Flag Warning program managed by SBC Fire.

- Consider establishing a SBC Fire, Forest Service, and private landowner fuel treatment monitoring program for the Planning Area.
- Encourage private landowners, recreational-based businesses, and organizations within the Planning Area to develop individual evacuation preparedness plans.
- Consider assessing the fire suppression water system and water supply for the Santa Barbara Front communities to determine (1) if existing water sources and distribution lines are adequate to support exterior fire sprinkler systems; (2) if existing water supplies and distribution systems are adequate to support major firefighting efforts (e.g., resupplying engines, supplying helicopters); (3) what improvements, if any, are necessary to provide adequate supplies to firefighters in the event of an emergency.
- Augment budget of SBC Planning & Development to provide for staff time to support development of CWPPs and other fire safety plans.
- Maintain the SMPEGV CWPP Development Team as an advisory committee to meet on an annual basis to ensure CWPP currency. The SMPEGV CWPP Advisory Committee would also engage with SBC Fire and LPF for project planning and implementation ensuring community involvement and participation in the process.

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