

Final Report of the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District

Public Safety Committee Oakland City Council June 2017

Voters approved WPAD by 74% in late 2003 for 2004 Initiation

- 10,590 total acres
- 16.5 square miles
- 33 miles around perimeter
- 21.5% of city
- 26,000 private properties
- 416 city properties—1400 acres
- 200 city-owned locations
- 300 miles of public access roadway



Wildfire Prevention Assessment District

2013 renewal election fell short by 66 votes.

WPAD Accomplishments

- Goats annually graze 809 acres of city property
- City annually clears 10 feet on either side of 75 miles roadway
- Purchased a new Remote Automated Weather-Station (RAWS) at north and south ends of district



- Developed protocols for working around protected species
- Provided \$40,000 of free chipping services to private property owners each year

Recommendations

- Ensure Vegetation Management Plan drives city's fire prevention.
- Move Wildfire Prevention Management to City Administrator's Office to avoid "siloism"
- Hire more Full-Time Vegetation Management Inspectors –at least 5-for continuity and thoroughness

- Ensure that inspections of city properties occur by August 1; in compliance by Labor Day.
- Send out RFP for pool of contractors in winter for VM work on city properties in spring/summer/fall to avoid delays

Recommendations

- Implement robust public education and outreach plan
 - Continue "How to Pass Inspection" Workshops
 - Use social media for wildfire prevention messaging
- Use GIS technology for data management and public accessibility

- Incorporate & support volunteer activities into the City's efforts
- Quarterly Reports to Public Safety
 Committee for accountability
- Post monthly Matrix Report on Homepage of City's Wildfire Prevention website for transparency

2016-17 Citizens Advisory Committee

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