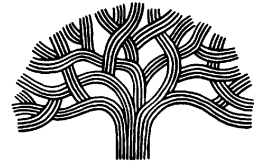




# Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Citizens' Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2008 7:00 PM



*Robert Sieben, Chair; Barbara Goldenberg, Vice Chair;  
Lilah Greene, Treasurer; Barry Pilger; Gordon Piper; Allene Warren; James Williams;  
Chris Candell, Doug Wong*

**Present:** B. Sieben, B. Goldenberg, L. Greene, G. Piper, A. Warren, K. Benson, C. Candell,  
B. Pilger, D. Wong      **Absent:** J. Williams

1. **Call to order** - 7:08 PM
2. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum** – Quorum Achieved
3. **Open Forum** – Resident, Ron Barcklow (sp? couldn't read his writing on the speaker's card) reported concern over the use of flares on Hwy #13/south bound. He saw them at 2 PM and believes that more defensible space is needed where fires were.
4. **Approval of minutes for September 18, 2008 meeting**
5. **Financial Report Related to the Monthly Financial Update** –Mikyung Pustelnik (Report will be posted at [www.OaklandWPD.org](http://www.OaklandWPD.org))
  - October 10-13<sup>th</sup> we had roving patrols, 2 companies, (4 people), for 42 hours they patrolled the hills.
  - \$145,000 invoices received since financial report prepared, \$147,000 proposed
  - Sep08 discussed moving line items, was sun-shined but no amount assigned
  - Temporary personnel – watch budget so it doesn't go over (data entry staff does mail abatement notices, inspectors' back up while in the field)
  - Audit expenses – update in November
  - Last meeting /Oct07 – current comparison to same time last year – too early to note comparison, this will be checked again in Jan09.
  - Request annual figures instead of YTD, (ending Jun 30<sup>th</sup> '08 back to June '07) The balance will be tentative with a foot note that it is not audited.
  - Discussion regarding which city agency clears below Hwy 580.
  - Compliance as it pertains to a blight complaint. There was a special budget hearing asking if chipping for other areas could be done. Committee members stated that it would deplete the Vegetation Management budget if WPAD did it. The cost to do work in non assessment areas can't be taken from WFAD budget.
  - Discussion related to inspector's work load – each is carrying two districts
  - Concern that 50% of tree personnel will be eliminated from the city's budget and the impact that will have on fire safety/vegetation management
6. **Presentation on Roles & Responsibilities of Committees, Boards, & Commissions** by Dan Purnell, Public Ethics Commission will be held at a future WPAD meeting.

- 7. Fire Prevention Staff Report** – Inspector Camille Rodgers distributed graphs compiled by Asst. Fire Marshal L. Griffin depicting:
- A. 2008 Fire Season Inspection Program – Status and update
    - Dollar amounts were not outlined and to be reviewed at the next meeting.
    - The figures can be used to determine how to best move money
    - The charts show improvements and amount of work that is looking good
    - Suggestions were made to enhance the graphs to show the public a percent rather than private parcels. Add a note or addendum on graphs to explain definitions
    - The charts/graphs will be posted on the website when completed.
  
  - B. Update of 2009 Western States Wildland urban Interface Grant Application is deferred until the next meeting
  
  - C. Update on the impact of the 2007 Oakland Fire Code Requirements for the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
    - New Ad Hoc Committee was formed to plan implementation on informing residents. This will be a major campaign. Same committee members as the Marketing Committee plus B. Goldenberg
    - Discussion about the fire fighters' training for inspection and enforcement. OFD determines this. They have week-long training before the season. Concern about the possible budget cut of the three Park Rangers
    - A meeting will be scheduled with AFM L. Griffin to collect bullet points and the actual requirements of the new code. Lengthy discussion about various changed requirements.
    - Landscape professionals, nurseries, landscape architects need to get on board with "Less is Best" for Oakland.
    - Suggestion about tool lending libraries for district home owners
    - Ad Hoc Committee – advise OFD re outreach not to be delivered by committee members but by those conducting inspections
    - Committee requesting thick book of codes that deals with Vegetation Management
    - Comment – what is being proposed is already implemented throughout the state.
    - Suggestion to work with council members to get the word out to their constituents and to reach out to State & Feds for their assistance for funding the unique situation in Oakland

**8. Education & Marketing Report – Fire Safety Education Coordinator**

- a. Banner/Cloth ordered
- b. Articles and related information has been posted in the Tribune, Montclairion, Business Review, on websites: Rockrdige Residents, OaklandNorth, Montclair Safety & Improvement Assoc., Council Member’s newsletters
- c. Request to an inspector has been made for a tally of each council member’s number of parcels in their district. This would be to request appropriate percentage of Pay Go money for special projects and/or the purchase of additional DVD “Bay Area On Fire” or the creation of Oakland’s own DVD.
- d. Press Release was handed out for Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> - regarding the new Urban-Wildland Interface Engines that will be displayed at Firehouse 24 on the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Oakland Hills Firestorm.
- e. Chamber Ambassador meeting & networking events have been attended to publicize WPD and seek sponsorships for additional copies of the DVD, “Bay Area On Fire.”
- f. Fire safety educational materials for the Fall/Winter are being distributed at community meetings.
- g. Fire Safety Day, (Garden Center) was well attended and tied into newspaper posting for fire prevention, (Business Review).
- h. Requested update info re committee member’s terms – waiting for response from City Clerk’s Office.
  - Discussion and suggestion for extensions

**9. Advisory Committee Open Forum**

- Discussion about Urban Forest Vegetation Master Plan, conduct tree inventory with military fly over. When does LIDAR project go to council?
- Request for Fire Safety/Education Coordinator to get on OES’ distribution list to
- inform WPD committee members about Red Flag Day postings.

**10. Pending List of Possible Agenda Items:**

- LIDAR Project – LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) is an optical remote Sensing technology. The tool will be implemented by airplane to map the locations of trees, vegetation, building structures and roads in the hills. It will be used for vegetation management and wildfire prevention.
- Will compliance rate drop from the present rate of 90% to 70% with the new standards?
- Benefit of Compliance, “Standards going up”

**Adjournment:** 9:00 PM