

# **West Contra Costa Fire Safe Council (WCCFSC)**



**Richmond City Council**

November 15, 2022

# WCCFSC

**Mission**: To provide education, exchange information and foster wildfire prevention and fire safety within the City of Richmond and County of Contra Costa.

**Status**: California Registered non-profit **501(c)(3)**

**Established**: May 2022



# Officers

President	Soheila Bana
Vice President	Marilyn Saarni
Secretary	Ra Criscitiello
Treasurer	Rebecca Orona

Agency Liaison: Richmond Fire Chief Angel Montoya



# Advisory Board

- Richmond Fire Department
- Pinole Fire Department
- Contra Costa County Fire Prevention District
- Cal Fire
- California Fire Safe Council
- Diablo Fire Safe Council
- Oakland Fire Safe Council
- Contra Costa County Sheriff
- Richmond Police Department



# **Advisory Board** (Continued)

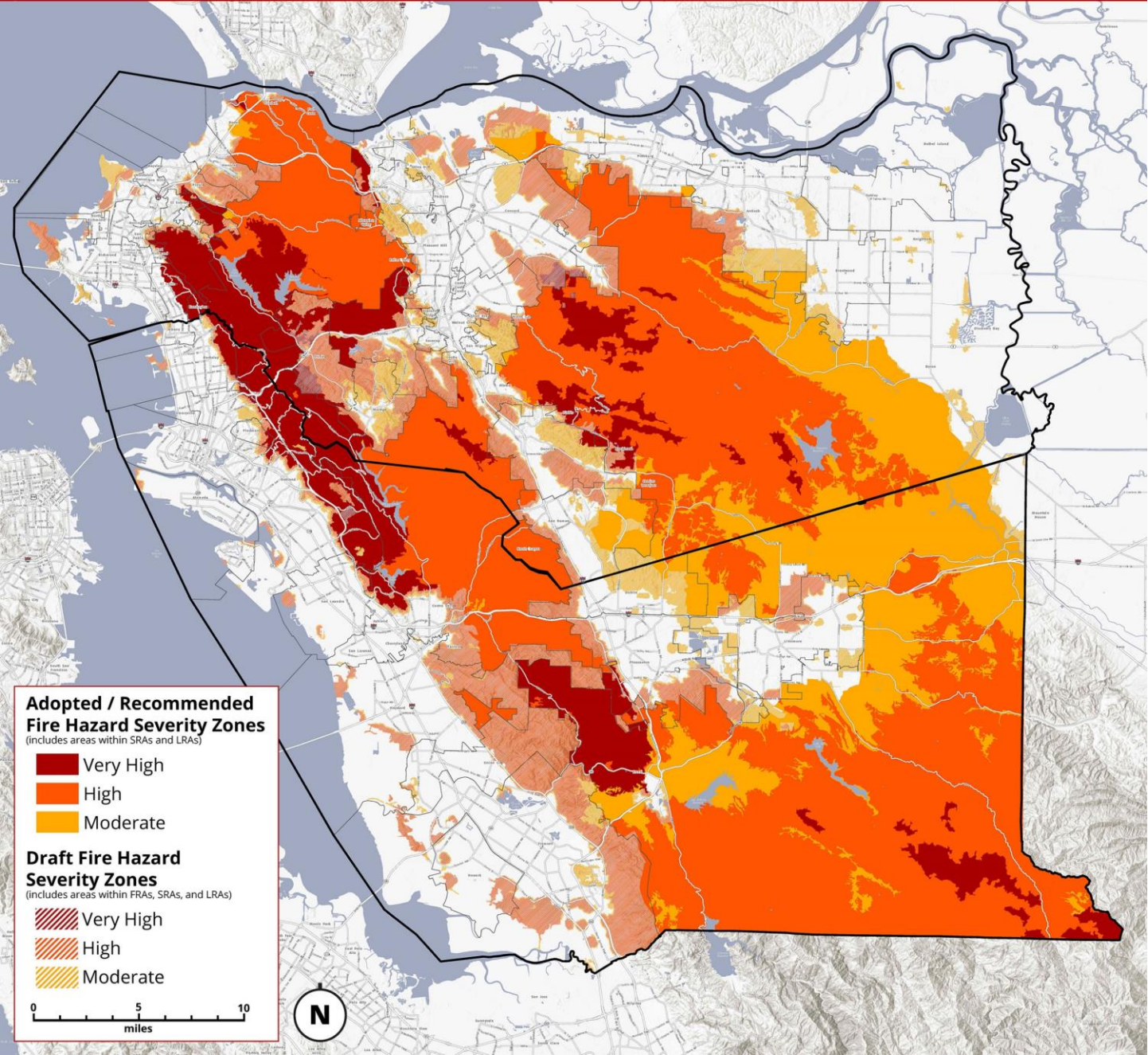
- East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD)
- East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD)
- Coastal Conservancy
- California Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans)
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
- Team Rubicon
- Wildcat Canyon Community School
- California Department of Conservation



WHY?

**CONTRA COSTA AND ALAMEDA COUNTIES**  
Composite Fire Hazard Severity Zones\*

\*The fire hazard severity zones shown here are a COMPOSITE of three CAL FIRE datasets:  
1) **ADOPTED** (Nov 2007) State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) with Very High, High, and Moderate fire hazard severity designations.  
2) **RECOMMENDED** (Sep 2008, Jan 2009) Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs) with Very High fire hazard severity designation.  
3) **DRAFT** (Sep 2007) fire hazard severity zones in Federal (FRA), State (SRA), or Local (LRA) Responsibility Areas.

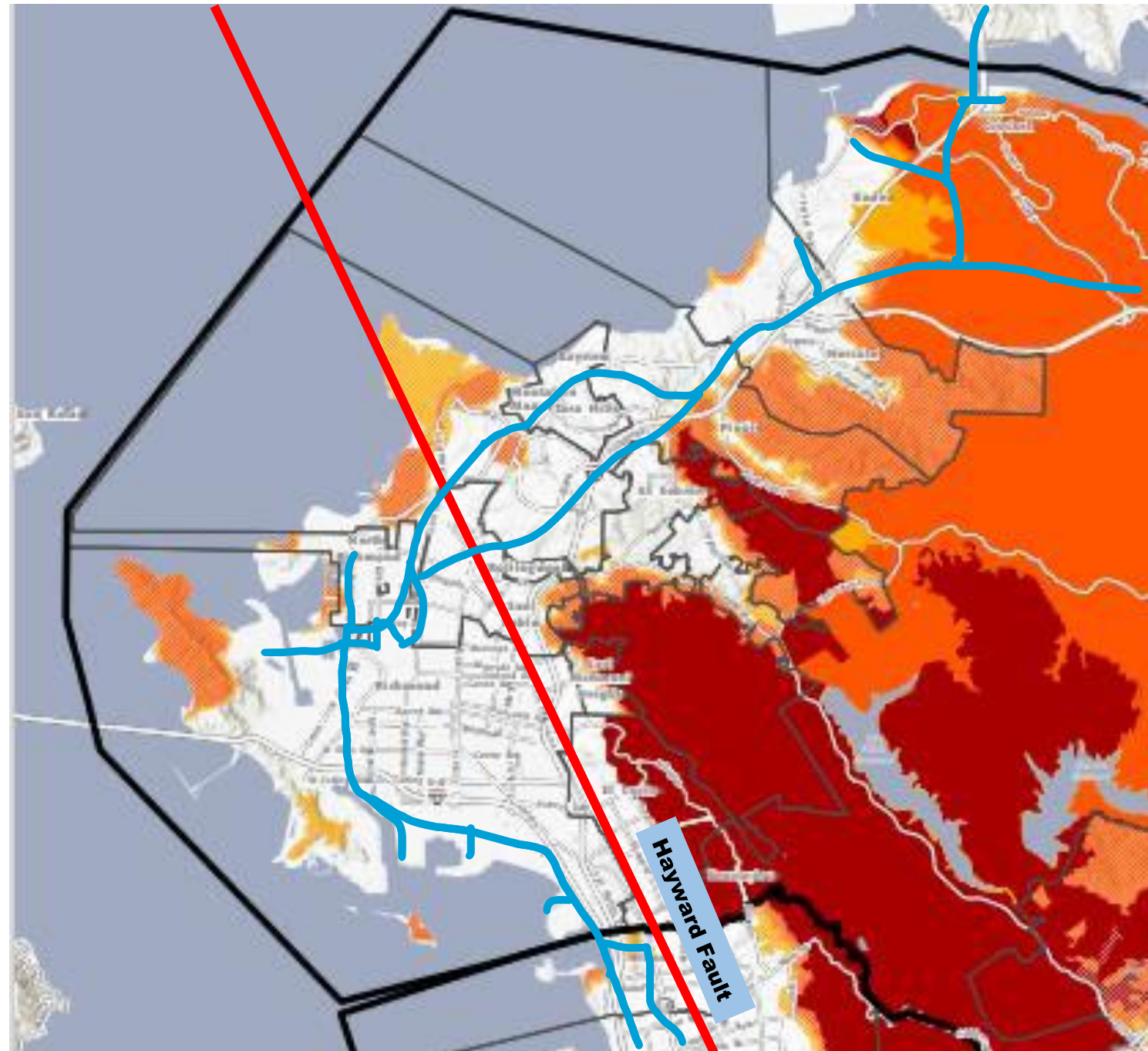




# MORE...

- Hayward Fault
- PG&E Gas Pipelines

Both crossing I-80



PG&E Gas Transmission Pipeline



Hayward Fault



**Adopted / Recommended  
Fire Hazard Severity Zones**  
(includes areas within SRAs and LRAs)

- Very High
- High
- Moderate

**Draft Fire Hazard  
Severity Zones**  
(includes areas within FRAs, SRAs, and LRAs)

- Very High
- High
- Moderate

0 5 10  
miles

# Objectives

- Fuel Reduction
  - Residents (Education & Awareness)
  - Community (FireWise)
  - Advisory Agencies (Vegetation Management/Fuel Reduction)
- Raising Public Awareness
- Emergency Preparedness (Individual & Community)
- Emergency Communication Network





# Achievements

Cooperation with Con Fire >>> Use Measure X Resources >>> Crew 12

## I. Clearing Evacuation Routes

- Carriage Hills/Castro Heights
- Pinole Valley Road

## II. Promoting FireWise Communities

## III. Clearing Public Emergency Egress Routes:

- El Sobrante & Pinole by Con Fire & Pinole Fire Dept.
- Hilltop Green by RPD and Pinole Fire Dept.



# Achievements (Continued)

## IV. Fire Access Lanes

- Identifying Issues (4 so far)
- Accessibility, Marking, Grading, Clearing

## V. Fuel Reduction Recommendations/Updates

- EBRPD – Tour + Report + WCCFSC Recommendations
- EBMUD - Report

## VI. Installing Fire Danger Today signs by CCCFPD, RFD, EBRPD



# Achievements (Continued)

VII. Raising Public Awareness about **CWS** & **Zonehaven**

- In Collaboration with **CCCFPD** (Con Fire) & **CCC Tax Collector**

VIII. Collaboration with Emergency Communication Network

**IX. Fire Station #63 Open House** with **WCCFSC** – Fire Prevention Week

X. Emergency Evacuation Drills – **First** in Richmond!







# I Clearing Evacuation Routes

Measure  
X  
Resources

Crew  
12





# II - FireWise Communities

- 1 community started (11 homeowners)
- 3 more communities starting soon (total of nearly 30 homeowners)



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## PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public Education

Fire causes & risks

Top fire causes

Regional risks

Seasonal fire causes

Specific groups at risk

Behavioral risks

Public Education / Fire causes & risks / Wildfire / Firewise USA®



**FIREWISE USA®**  
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

Every year, devastating wildfires burn across the United States. At the same time, a growing number of people are living where wildfires are a real risk.

While these fires will continue to happen, there are things you can do to protect your home and neighborhood as well as your family. The Firewise USA® program is here to help you get started.





# V – Fuel Reduction Recommendations/Updates (EBRPD)



Left to Right:

- EBRPD Captain McIntyre
- EBRPD Fire Chief Theile
- WCCFSC Agency Liaison  
Fire Chief Montoya
- EBRPD Assistant Chief  
Helae
- EBRPD Fuel Reduction  
Coordinators, Collin Gallagher and Steve Kelle





# III – Installing **Fire Danger Today** signs by CCCFPD, RFD, EBRPD

- Increase Public Awareness on **Red Flag** Days

Red Flag Weather Matrix		Sustained Winds				
		<6 mph	6-11 mph	12-20 mph	21-29 mph	30+ mph
Humidity	Daytime Min <29-42% and/or Night Max 60-80%					RFW
	Daytime Min <19-28% and/or Night Max 46-60%				RFW	RFW
	Daytime Min <9-18% and/or Night Max 31-45%			RFW	RFW	RFW
	Daytime Min <9% and/or Night Max <31%		RFW	RFW	RFW	PDS RFW
		Low	Medium	High	Very High	Extreme



## VII – Raising Public Awareness: **CWS & Zonehaven**

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

#### 3 STEPS TO A SAFER FIRE SEASON

##### 1 Find your evacuation zone

Visit the Zonehaven website to learn your evacuation Zone.

KNOW YOUR ZONE



[Community.zonehaven.com](https://community.zonehaven.com)

##### 2 Subscribe to CWS

The Community Warning System (CWS) sends you emergency messages in Contra Costa County. CWS will let you know if your area needs to be evacuated.

If we can't reach you, we can't ALERT you.



[cwsalerts.com](https://cwsalerts.com)

##### 3 Protect your home with defensible space

Identify vegetation hazards, and make a plan to address them.



[linktr.ee/firedistricts](https://linktr.ee/firedistricts)

In collaboration with:

- CCC Tax Collector
- CCC Fire Protection District



# X – Richmond's **First Emergency Evacuation Drill**

- **Date:** May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- **Drill Area:** Carriage Hill North & Castro Heights
- **Destination:** Hilltop Mall
- **Project Leader:** Richmond Battalion Chief Victor Bontempo
- **Participants:**
  - Richmond Fire Department**
  - Richmond Police Department
  - CCC Sheriff
  - CCC Office of Emergency Services
  - Richmond Office of Emergency Services





# WCCFSC & Richmond Fire Department

COLLABORATED ON **FIRST** EVACUATION DRILL





# **WCCFSC Invites City of Richmond to Collaborate on Wildfire Safety**

## **1. Public Works:**

- FireWise assistance by free green dumpsters & chippers

## **2. Building Division:**

- Enforcement of California Fire Marshal Building Code
  - Residents
  - Contractors



# **Invitation to the City of Richmond**

**LET'S TEAM UP!**  
**for**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY!**



***QUESTIONS?***



**THANK YOU!**

**[WCCFireSafe.org](http://WCCFireSafe.org)**

**[WCCFireSafe@gmail.com](mailto:WCCFireSafe@gmail.com)**