

CITY OF OAKLAND



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January 13, 2017

**Vegetation Management Unit Staff Report**

**WPAD Board Members,**

**Fire Suppression District Inspector Staffing:**

- Vegetation Management Supervisor - Vincent Crudele**
- Fire Suppression District 1 - Vacant**
- Fire Suppression District 2 - Adam Ball**
- Fire Suppression District 3 - Vacant**
- Fire Suppression District 4 - Vacant**
- Fire Suppression District 5 - Vacant**
- Program Analyst II - Anette Boulware**
- TPT Administrative Staff - Vanessa Barner & Joaunque Patten**

**STAFFING UPDATE:** As of mid-January, 2017 we will have 1 additional full time Fire Suppression District Inspector position filled in our unit. We are awaiting new employee processing by Human Resources to fill the remaining vacant full time Fire Suppression District Inspector position.

**Vegetation Management Statistics** (see attached Matrix)

**Update on status of fuel reduction for Chabot Space & Science Center project (\$216,000):** Staff is awaiting a status update and project timeline for the removal/limbing of the remaining trees from Davey tree, as weather conditions have caused delays in completing the project.

Davey Tree began performing clearing in this area on November 16, 2016. Group 1 completed with more than 70 trees removed. Group 2 started with the removal of 9 Eucalyptus trees that blocked telescope access. Limbing of 32 Group 2 trees and 11 more eucalyptus removals.

**Status of Vegetation Management Plan Progress and Work Schedule:**

Horizon is in the beginning stages of their data gathering and analysis work. We are awaiting information for updated community engagement strategy and list of stakeholders. Once community outreach dates have been set the WPAD committee members will be advised.

**Procedures for protected species:** an updated draft of the procedure manual is being reviewed by Supervisor Vincent Crudele to finalize and complete.

**Progress of implementing GIS systems for vegetation management:**

● **GIS mapping tool**

Fire Prevention to prioritize the list of items the WPAD presented as action items for the I.T. department for cost analysis.

● **Accela project**

Ahsan Baig, City of Oakland Division Manager from the Information Technology department to present project to City Council February 14, 2017.

**City of Oakland Contract Compliance Requirements and Vegetation Management Contracts;**

1. **Civicorps-** Fire Prevention working to further develop the scope of work and contract compliance requirements. In addition to this, research is being done to define the specifications for equipment, commitment of hours worked, project efficiency, budget and invoicing practices.

2. **Cal Fire Delta Crews-** Fire Marshal Miguel Trujillo has a meeting set with Cal Fire to discuss project areas, scope of work and establishing an M.O.U. The project will utilize approved workers to handle debris and or Eucalyptus removal requests in park land areas only (Non- residential).

\*Fire Marshal Miguel Trujillo is working to set a meeting with Deborah Barnes of Contract Compliance to explore any possible options to expand the contractor pool.

**How OFD will approach training and monitoring of first inspections by firefighters to improved consistency and accuracy.**

Acting Assistant Fire Marshal Sworn, Maria Sabatini will be overseeing the vegetation management unit and the following changes will be incorporated in her action plan for the upcoming fire season;

- Recruit academy instruction in Fire Prevention practices
- Increased live and on-line training sessions for firefighters in wildland fire hazard recognition.
- Greater oversight of Inspection Reports by Company Officers with weekly mandated quality reviews performed by Battalion Chiefs.

Thank you,

/s/

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