



KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DATE: May 6, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
RE: Strategic Planning 6 Goals Summary
SUBMITTED BY: Tim Barry, Interim General Manager

At the April 24th Special Board meeting, the board reviewed the attached district mission, goals and objectives (Exhibit A), discussed strategic planning and determined that it would be good for each director to put forward 6 goals important to them. I requested that directors send me those goals and I would present them back for this meeting. I found the goals to cover a few main categories of the district's business, so I listed them in those categories (not set in stone and in no particular order) with the director's initials who contributed the goal. This draft list is for discussion purposes.

1. Emergency Preparedness and Fire Prevention

- A. Vegetation management along Kensington's borders
 Develop a comprehensive plan, integrating EBRPD, El Cerrito, Berkeley, and Richmond as needed, which can be used as a basis for grant applications and actionable work.
 Establish a fund whereby citizens can make tax-deductible donations to promote the district's planned vegetation management. **DL**
- B. Strengthen the relationship and deepen the engagement between the Kensington Fire Protection District (KFPD) board of directors and the KFPD manager with the El Cerrito - Kensington Fire Chief in order to work together on relationships with East Bay Regional Park and other fire agencies with fire fuel threats and concerns similar to Kensington. **JS**
- C. Explore strategic synergies with El Cerrito Fire Department and other fire agencies for administrative and emergency coordination staffing, including possible inter-agency contracts, demonstration projects, or joint powers agreements. **JS**
- D. Identify and pursue appropriate certification and training, along with more robust board of director advisory oversight, for an ongoing emergency preparedness coordinator role. **JS**
- E. Review recent system improvements and determine next steps. **DL**
- F. Work with El Cerrito fire department on possible cost cutting measures and improvements in fire prevention in Tilden Park and reduced fire risk on Kensington residential properties. **JW**

- G. Establish a fire hazard reduction program with East Bay Regional Park District and budget at least \$100,000 annually to reduce fire risk **JW**
- H. Add additional fire hydrants adjacent to Tilden Park, better emergency vehicle access to the park and culdesac turn around at Lake Drive. **JW**
- I. Establish a path of travel for emergency access vehicles to reach the Tilden park interface. Budget sufficient money to widen streets used for emergency vehicles and Kensington home owner access. **JW**
- J. Install an emergency traffic signal at Arlington and Sunset and realign current access route. **JW**
- K. Take the necessary steps to obtain government grants for the reduction of fire risks similar to grants awarded nearby communities by Con Fire, Measure C and the Dept. of Forestry. **JW**
- L. That the district consider each natural hazard it faces proportionally to the risk: fire (including wildfire), earthquake, landslide, fire following earthquake, earthquake induced landslides, severe weather, flooding, etc. and do something every month about each one. **DM**
- M. Move EPC to a committee under both KPPCSD and KFPD with at least one director - and ideally two - from each board participating in it. **DM**
- N. Establish a “top-three” prioritized list for vegetation management issues to be reviewed at each board meeting (what, when, where, how) – propose two of these be ridgeline brush management and communication to upper Kensington property owners with vegetation management issues. **RA**
- O. Consider the formation of a dedicated subcommittee to establish and manage partnership of fire prevention efforts with EBRP and WCCCSO along the ridgeline. **RA**
- P. Approach KPPCSD with a goal of establishing a standing joint evacuation preparedness committee to enhance community ability to evacuate in the event of an emergency. **RA**

2. District Management

- A. To enhance the district’s reputation, aggressively pursue and continuously maintain the Kensington Fire Protection District of Distinction certificate through timely board member training and satisfaction of all administrative requirements. **JS**

- B. To recruit and retain top quality staff, strategically align the Kensington Fire Protection District staffing structure, including number of employees and desired expertise, with the District's strategic goals and objectives. **JS**
- C. Identify steps the district can take to promote insurance renewals. **DL**
- D. Develop and maintain a strong working relationship and active communication with the KPPCSD and hold at least two joint meetings/year. Discuss each district's needs and goals, financing issues, and how each district can support them all of them. **DM**
- E. Improving communication between GM and board with district news as it happens - say, update emails. **DM**
- F. Improve communication between board members, provide more ways to engage with each other without violating the Brown Act. Bulletin board? Jam board? **DM**
- G. Keep many goals already established in the policy handbook and specify how they can be accomplished. Communicate those goals and plans for their accomplishment to the public/engage the public more. **DM**
- H. Support Ridgeline Financial Analysis and engage in good faith in the near term with KPPCSD to provide necessary framing for a unified district structure. **RA**
- I. Revisit Policies and Procedures manual on the topic of volunteer participation on district subcommittees with a goal of expanding the use (if possible and prudent). **RA**
- J. Establish clear "rapid-response" mechanism for responding to grant opportunities. **RA**

3. Ambulance Service

- A. Make ambulance service improvements in the district. **DL**
- B. Explore strategic alliances with other fire and emergency medical agencies west of the East Bay Hills to strengthen ambulance service and integrate dispatch service, including across the West Contra Costa and the Alameda County line. **JS**