

Valley Center Community Planning Group Emergency Evacuation Sub-Committee

Minutes

August 27, 2020 6:30pm
Zoom Meeting ID: 810 3449 8235



Committee

Delores Chavez Harmes
Chair / VCCPG

LaVonne Norwood
Vice Chair / VCCPG

Lisa Adams
VCCPG / Mobility

Sgt. Sean Zdunich
SD Co. Sheriff

William Del Pilar
VCCPG / Villages

James Gordon
LAFCO

Jim Davidson
VC Fire Marshal

Dorothy Kennedy

Chief Joe Napier
Valley Center Fire

BC Robert Reynolds
Cal Fire



Representatives

Benjamin Mills
SDCo. Public Safety

Kevin Johnston
SDCo. Planning Dept.

Sgt. Patrick Shannon
SDCo. Sherriff

Mark LaTulippe
CHP

A. Attendance: Delores Chavez-Harmes (Chair/VCCPG), LaVonne Norwood (Vice Chair/VCCPG), William Del Pilar (VCCPG/Villages), James Gordon (LAFCO), Jim Davidson (VC Fire Marshal), Chief Joe Napier (Valley Center Fire), Jim Courter (GVCFCSC)

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Welcome & Introduction of Guests: The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Chair Harmes.

D. Approval of Minutes: Minutes for June 2020 to be approved at Sept. 24th mtg.

E. Public Comments

F. Action items

The agenda is available to members prior to regular meetings through email distribution and is also available for public review at the same time at the Valley Center Community Hall. Hardcopy documents for public review will also be made available at the regular meetings.

1) Chief Napier-Update:

- Red Cross Co-ordination:

Chief has been working with Cal Fire & Bixie of the Red Cross for placement of conex containers set up in strategic locations throughout the area, including Station 70, Rincon Fire, San Pasqual Fire. VC disaster animal response team (DART) will be available for our four-legged friends. The public Safety Grid will be utilized to move residents safely to where they need to be in an orderly fashion as quickly and safely as possible. Goal of October 1, 2020 to be ready. Extreme fire season for Southern California is end of September through December.

- COVID Safe Temporary Evacuation Points for Valley Center
Chief has spoken with school district Superintendent Ron McGowan. Covid safe temporary evacuation points are in parking lots at Valley Center schools with the overflow onto athletic fields that can accommodate.
- Valley Center Corridor Concept Plan
Chief met with Kevin Johnston of PDS and his team to look at up to three alternative corridors including Vesper to Banbury. This research will include single lane and double lane roundabouts. The Valley Center Corridor Concept Plan is directed to slow traffic when entering Valley Center from Escondido. With the road designed to have 60mph vehicles it is proving difficult to have people go 45mph, as signs are posted at 45mph. Roundabouts calm traffic speeds but also slow emergency response times. Traffic signals can be controlled by emergency personnel resulting in faster response times.

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2) Fire Marshall Jim Davidson:

- VC/SDGE Ready Set Go wildfire preparedness at Bates
440 members of the public showed up to a very informative and well run event. Valley Center Fire prepared detailed Ready-Set-Go packets which are now posted on the VCCPG website. Information was also provided from Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council, the Burn Institute and SDG&E handed out backpacks filled with items necessary for an evacuation and when power is down. Incredibly positive event. More events like this will be planned in the future, i.e. San Pasqual may be interested in a joint efforts around Fire Prevention week in early October.

3) Jim Courter-Greater Valley Center Fire Council (GVCFC)

- Cal Fire Grants
GVCFC received \$160,000.00 in fuel reduction funding for evacuation. This will cover apx. 13 miles of road clearing. Betsworth, Lilac, Old Castle, Valley Stream Rd, Duro Rd, Anthony Rd and the canyon behind Via Piedra are potential areas for clearing. These funds will be used in areas that have not already been cleared by the county. Jim requested locations to target and needs official backing on these locations. Committee member Del Pilar suggested bringing the priority road list to the VCCPG for recommendation additional input before submitting the final list. Chief Napier, Jim Courter and Dee Harmes will meet Monday, Aug. 31st to drive some of the identified roads. Jim shared that just the environmental portion could take up to a year to get done. Chief Napier also wanted to remind everyone that fire is not the only situation that evacuation takes place. He mentioned if there was an earthquake and Turner Dam failed, all of the folks in the way of the water would require evacuation as well.

Next Meeting September 24, 2020 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm

Respectfully submitted by: LaVonne Norwood (VCCPG)

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