## University City Fire Safe Council | 2021 Community Wildfire Protection Plan



## University City Fire Safe Council

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## FireSafe Council <br> UNIVERSITY CITY

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# PREFACE: WHAT IS A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN? 

A Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) is a blueprint for fire prevention and preparedness at the neighborhood level. The CWPP organizes a community's efforts to protect itself against both structural fires and wildfires, and empowers residents and community members to move in a cohesive, common direction.

The University City Fire Safe Council CWPP was developed collaboratively by residents and community members with the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and federal, state, county, and the City of San Diego management agencies. Among the goals of this CWPP:

- Align with the local fire agency's cohesive pre-fire strategy, which includes educating homeowners and building understanding of wildland fire, ensuring defensible space clearing and structure hardening, safeguarding communities through fuels treatment, and protecting evacuation corridors
- Identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatment
- Recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect the community
- Recommend measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan

Note: The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project "activity" as defined under the "Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA." Any actual project activities undertaken that meet this definition of project activity and are undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.

The University City Fire Safe Council produced this CWPP in partnership with the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County and the San Diego County Fire Safe Council.

Funding is provided by a National Fire Plan grant from the Cooperative Fire program of the U.S. Forest Service through the California Fire Safe Council.

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## SECTION I: SNAPSHOT OF THE COMMUNITY

Each community in San Diego County has a unique history and identity. Below is a description of what sets this area apart, including its landscape, preparedness, and firefighting resources.

A. OVERVIEW

The University City Fire Safe Council area (which mirrors the boundaries of the University Community Planning Group) is located in the north-central portion of San Diego, California, approximately 10 miles north of Downtown. (Maps available in Appendix B.) The Fire Safe Council area is 8,409 acres within the City of San Diego and is connected to the region via Interstate 5 (I-5), Interstate 805 (I-805), and State Route 52 (SR-52). The southern boundary of the Fire Safe Council area is San Clemente Canyon (SR-52). Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar is federal land to the east of Interstate 805. Rose Canyon divides the Fire Safe Council area into north and south areas. The Fire Safe Council area includes the Torrey Pines State Natural Preserve and the Torrey Pines Golf Course in the northwest portion of the community overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The southern area of the University City Fire Safe Council area is predominantly single-family homes; the area north of Rose Canyon is home to multi-family dwellings and HOA communities, the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), research and development facilities, and multi-story, high-rise corporate and residential buildings. Nearly all the residential structures within the Fire Safe Council area were permitted and built before July 2008. These residential buildings were built before the City of San Diego updated and published building codes and defensible space guidelines in 2008. The Blue Line Trolley travels north and south adjacent to Interstate 5, through the UCSD campus and terminates at Westfield UTC Mall on Genesee Avenue at Nobel Drive. The Trolley connects the Fire Safe Council area with the Santa Fe Depot in downtown San Diego; service begins in late 2021. The LOSSAN (Los Angeles to San Diego) double track train system travels through Rose Canyon. The eastern portion of the Fire Safe Council area is an Aircraft Accident Potential Zone due to proximity to MCAS Miramar.

In addition to UC San Diego, the University City Fire Safe Council area is home to six public schools, several private schools, two libraries, three large community parks, and several neighborhood parks. Standley Park on Governor Drive is home to two swimming pools. The estimated total population of University City Fire Safe Council area in 2019 was 72,854 residents, according to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). The household population is estimated at 61,264 and the population in group quarters (UCSD student housing, apartments, and other group housing facilities) is estimated at 11,590. The community includes several age-55-and-older residential communities.

## B. LANDSCAPE

- TOPOGRAPHY

The University City Fire Safe Council area contains several Multi-Habitat Planning Areas (MHPA) in the northeast portion of the community and in areas closely aligned with Rose Canyon, Torrey Pines State Natural Preserve, and the Torrey Pines Golf Course. (Maps in Appendix B.) The MHPA is the City's planned habitat preserve within the Multiple Species

Conservation Program. With proper permits, current regulations allow public access in many areas of the MHPA that are consistent with species protection and habitat management.

Most of the Fire Safe Council area consists of disturbed or developed areas (5,620 acres). Other vegetation by type includes bog/marsh, forest, grasslands, vernal pools, meadows, and other herb communities; riparian and bottomland habitat; shrub and chapparal, and woodland.

Steep developed and undeveloped slopes in the University City Fire Safe Council area are defining features of the community. The predominant topographic feature in the Fire Safe Council area is the gently rolling mesa separated by canyons and hillsides. Although these canyon and hillside landforms provide recreational opportunities for residents and contribute to a sense of place, the topography can provide shelter for the unsheltered and impede connectivity. This can present a challenge for fire safety, transportation, and evacuation planning throughout the community.

- Fire History

The University City Fire Safe Council area has not experienced a major fire in recent years. However, in 2003, the Cedar Fire burned through parts of MCAS Miramar as far west as the eastern boundary of the Fire Safe Council area (Interstate 805). In 1935, a fire in Rose Canyon burned 2,220 acres. In 1942, a fire in San Clemente Canyon burned 1,045 acres. (Burn history maps are available in Appendix B.)

## - Key Infrastructure

Utilities and Water Supplies:

- Rose Canyon SDG\&E Power Substation (west side of I-5 just north of SR 52)
- Municipal water supply - City of San Diego
- Miramar Lake Reservoir - 10 miles northeast
- Pacific Ocean - 3 miles west

Transit:

- Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Bus
- MTS Mid-Coast Trolley
- LOSSAN (Los Angeles to San Diego) double track train system

Major Businesses, Hospitals, and Healthcare Facilities:

- UTC Westfield Mall
- Seritage
- Costa Verde Center
- Illumina
- General Atomics
- Leidos
- UC San Diego Health, Thornton Hospital and related clinics
- Scripps Memorial Hospital and related clinics
- Scripps Green Hospital and related clinics
- Veterans Administration Medical Center

Schools and Educational Institutions:

- University of California San Diego (UCSD)
- University City High School
- Standley Middle School
- Curie Elementary School
- Doyle Elementary School
- Spreckels Elementary School
- The Preuss School
- La Jolla Country Day School
- Fusion Academy
- Mission Bay Montessori

Recreational Facilities and Parks:

- Standley Park and Recreation Center
- Doyle Park and Recreation Center
- Nobel Athletic Fields and Recreation Center
- Jewish Community Center
- Rose Canyon Open Space Park
- Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve
- Torrey Pines Golf Course
- Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA)
- Maps (refer to Appendix B):

Using technology and local expertise, the sponsors of this CWPP have included a series of maps depicting the site and situation of the University City Fire Safe Council area. The following maps are visual aids from which the Fire Safe Council and community members can assess and make recommendations.

1. Area Community - Fire Safe Council Boundary
2. Fire Hazard Severity - Fire Threat
3. Fire History (1910-2020)
4. Evacuation (Main Roads / Egress Routes)
5. (Fuels Treatment Projects) Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA)

## C. FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES

The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and the Miramar Fire Department maintain websites with Fire Prevention, Preparation, and Safety information for the community. Fire stations serving the University City Fire Safe Council area include:

- SDFD - Fire Station 35, 4285 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, CA, 92037
- SDFD - Fire Station 50, 7177 Shoreline Drive, San Diego, CA 92122
- SDFD - Fire Station 27, 5064 Clairemont Drive, San Diego, CA 92117
- SDFD - Fire Station 9, 7870 Ardath Lane, San Diego, CA 92037
- Federal - Miramar Fire Station 61, 7224 Mitscher Way, San Diego, CA 92145


## SECTION II: COLLABORATION

Strong working relationships are critical in ensuring that our communities are wellprepared. This section describes those key partners and their roles in developing this CWPP

## KEY PARTNERS

The University City Fire Safe Council led the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) with guidance, support, and feedback from several partners. The development team thanks representatives from the agencies and community groups who supported our efforts.

| Organization | Roles/Responsibilities |
| :--- | :--- |$|$| University City Fire Safe Council <br> (UCFSC) | Leads the development of the CWPP. Conducts public <br> outreach and solicits input and feedback from <br> community members and organizations. |
| :--- | :--- |
| San Diego Fire-Rescue <br> Department (SDFD) | Provides overall support for the development of the <br> CWPP; approves local CWPP. SDFD is the lead fire <br> protection agency in the FSC area. |
| University City Community <br> Association (UCCA) | Provides input and feedback on CWPP; provides <br> opportunity for public communication. |
| University Community Planning <br> Group (UCPG) | Provides input and feedback on CWPP; provides <br> opportunity for public communication. |
| San Diego Police Department <br> (SDPD) | Coordinates with SDFD for fire and disaster response <br> related to evacuation planning and management. |
| San Diego County Fire Safe <br> Council / Resource Conservation <br> District (RCD) | Coordinates SD County Fire Safe Council, provides <br> outreach, and supports local Fire Safe Councils. <br> Facilitates approval of local CWPP. |
| Miramar Fire Department (at <br> MCAS Miramar) | Provides fire protection services for a portion of the Fire <br> Safe Council area. |
| Standley Park Community <br> Recreation Group and University <br> City Parks Council | Provides input and feedback on CWPP; provides <br> opportunity for public communication. |
| San Diego Parks and Recreation <br> Open Space Division | Provides input to the Defensible Space section of <br> CWPP (via email and website). |
| The American Red Cross <br> Southern California Region | Provides input to the Evacuation Planning section of the <br> CWPP. |
| San Diego County Office of <br> Emergency Services (OES) | Provides input via information posted on their website <br> about communication tools and notification apps. |

## A. PRIORITIES

To provide ongoing community education to ensure that residents are aware of critical fire prevention and preparedness information as described in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide and on their website.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council builds Fire Safe prevention and preparedness through:

- Monthly articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices


## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Outreach at community events
- Display boards and/or exhibits at public libraries


## SECTION IV: STRUCTURAL HARDENING

Long before a wildfire sparks, there are numerous steps that residents can take to protect their homes and other structures. This section describes some of those efforts.

## A. PRIORITIES

To encourage structural hardening to protect homes and other structures as described in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide and on their website.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council provides information about structural hardening through:

- Monthly articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices


## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Conduct public outreach at local community events
- Highlight Services \& Programs provided by San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Community Risk Reduction Division such as:
- Inspections and permits
- Inspection checklists
- Fire code permits


## SECTION V: DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating a buffer between buildings and the grass, trees, shrubs, and other wildland areas surrounding it are essential to improving survivability. This section looks at efforts to build this key layer of protection.

## A. PRIORITIES

To encourage property owners and residents to use guidance provided by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide and the Brush Management and Weed Abatement program (as posted on their website) to create and maintain defensible space.
B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council provides information about Defensible Space through:

- Articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices


## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Encourage residents to use the City of San Diego's Get-lt-Done app to report Tree \& Vegetation issues as well as other safety and maintenance issues as posted on the City of San Diego website
- Provide information about the Fire Hazard Advisor brush management complaint process as posted on the City of San Diego website
- Provide information and Brush Management schedule related to the Open Space Parks Brush Management Program as posted on the City of San Diego website


## SECTION VI: FUELS TREATMENT

Fuels are combustible materials such as grasses, leaves, plants, shrubs and trees that feed flames. This section describes efforts to treat and manage these materials in the community.

## A. PRIORITIES

To encourage compliance with the City's Proactive Brush Management Program for homes and properties on canyon rims as well as canyon fire safety measures as described on the City of San Diego's Wildland Management and Enforcement website.

Note: Much of the Open Space in the University City area is part of the Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA). Most areas within the MHPA are also within the Fire Hazard, Fire Threat and/or Fire History Zones. (Refer to the maps in Appendix B.) Fuels Treatment projects in these areas are regulated and limited by City Municipal Code. More information about the MHPA and Landscape Regulations are available through the City of San Diego Planning Department.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council provides information about Fuels Treatment through:

- Articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices


## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

Use the information provided on the City of San Diego's Wildland Management and Enforcement website to provide information and to encourage Fuels Treatment:

- Support and promote the work of Open Space Parks Brush Management Program for brush management on city owned open space within 100 feet of habitable structures
- Partner with Parks and Recreation Open Space division to remove invasive species in canyons and open space
- Remove trash and garbage in canyons and open space
- Provide information to homeowners who wish to perform brush management on City Open Space within 100 feet of a habitable structure with an approved "Right of Entry Request Form" as posted on the City of San Diego website
- Encourage removal of non-native and invasive vegetation in public, City-owned properties and the removal of diseased or dead vegetation in privately owned properties
- Support state and local ordinances for fire prevention and preparation


## SECTION VII: EVACUATION PLANNING

Identifying key corridors in and out of a community - as well as Temporary Safe Refuge Areas (TSRA) - is essential to being prepared for evacuation.

This section provides an overview of the PACE system (primary, alternate, contingency and emergency) used to plan ahead.

Evacuation planning is a dynamic process subject to the nuances of each community. This section provides an overview of the University City Fire Safe Council area's potential roads out of the community (egress routes), information about evacuation planning in the City of San Diego, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas, priorities, completed projects, and future projects.

## A. OVERVIEW OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

As mentioned in Section I, the University City Fire Safe Council area is 8,409 acres within the City of San Diego and is connected to the region via Interstate 5 (I-5), Interstate 805 (I-805), and State Route 52 (SR-52). (Refer to maps in Appendix B).

At the individual level, evacuation planning in the University City Fire Safe Council area may be a challenge because many streets in residential and commercial areas are dead-ends and there is only one way in or out. Where possible, each individual community member should plan ahead and identify at least two routes out of their neighborhood and out of the community (a Primary and an Alternative route).

At the neighborhood level, evacuation planning may be a challenge because Genesee Avenue is the only local north / south route through the community and is frequently under construction and subject to traffic congestion; Regents Road is not a through street as it does not cross Rose Canyon; and Governor Drive does not cross or connect to Interstate 5.

## B. DESIGNATED EVACUATION CORRIDORS AND TEMPORARY SAFE REFUGE AREA(S) (TSRA).

## Evacuation corridors and PACE (Primary, Alternate, Contingency and Emergency)

 options: In the PACE system, P represents a Primary evacuation option, A an Alternate, and C a Contingency. An Emergency Temporary Safe Refuge Area (TSRA) represents an emergency location at which to take refuge if safe evacuation is no longer possible. A TSRA is a short-term Emergency option representing the E in the PACE system. Evacuation corridors are selected as PAC options if there are safe possibilities available in each category. A large open parking lot or park may be used an Emergency TSRA in a community.During an emergency that requires an evacuation, residents must follow the directions of local Authorities. Neither the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department nor the San Diego Police Department publishes pre-planned evacuation routes. In the University City Fire Safe Council area, evacuation corridors are subject to change due to many conditions such as:

- Location of fire
- Size and intensity of fire
- Weather conditions
- Traffic patterns
- Road conditions
- Traffic conditions
- Time of day
- Day of week

Evacuation routes are determined during an assessment of the emergency incident by the local law enforcement agency San Diego Police Department (SDPD). The SDPD will direct traffic via the safest route possible and to control the flow of traffic. The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department does not have the authority to review or approve community evacuation routes and cannot endorse pre-planned evacuation routes.

Community members are urged to always maintain situational awareness. Residents can be notified about fire activity, evacuations, and temporary safe refuge areas via public service announcements on the radio, tv, reverse 9-1-1, 2-1-1, and mobile apps.

SDPD and emergency agencies issue wireless emergency alerts (WEA). Users are urged to enable their mobile devices to receive Emergency and Public Safety Alerts. Community members are urged to use mobile applications such as "PulsePoint", "AlertSanDiego" and "San Diego County Emergency" apps to get up to date information.

As advised in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide (available at sandiego.gov/fire), if there is a possible threat to homes or evacuation routes, residents should not wait to be advised to leave. By leaving early, residents give themselves and their families the best chance of surviving a wildfire. They also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling emergency personnel to move more freely and do their jobs in a safer environment. Residents should leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke, or road congestion. When advised to evacuate by the local Authorities, residents should not hesitate.

## During an emergency that requires an evacuation, residents must follow the directions of local

 Authorities. Some of the University City area streets and roadways that could be designated by the San Diego Police Department as Primary, Alternate, or Contingency options (PAC) and options for Emergency Temporary Safe Refuge Area (E), depending on fire and emergency conditions, are listed in this section, and are displayed on the maps included in Appendix B.
## Primary Options:

- Interstate 5; North-South Federal Freeway. 4-5 lanes each way. Begins at Mexican Border and continues north to Canadian Border.
- Interstate 805; North-South Federal Freeway. 4-5 lanes each way. Begins at the Mexican Border and terminates where it merges with Interstate-5 in northern part of community.
- State Route 52; East-West State Freeway. 2-4 lanes each way. Begins at Interstate 5 and heads east, terminating at State Route 67.
- La Jolla Village Drive; City East-West Primary Arterial. 3-4 lanes each way. Begins east at Torrey Pines Road and heads east, crosses Interstate 805 and becomes Miramar Road which intersects with Interstate 15 and continues east as Pomerado Road.


## Alternate Options:

- Genesee Avenue; City North-South Major Street. 2-3 lanes each way. Begins south at State Route 163, travels north through Clairemont and University City, becomes a Primary Arterial north of Nobel Drive before merging with Torrey Pines Road just north of the intersection with Interstate 5 in northern University City.
- Governor Drive; City East-West Collector. 2 lanes each way. Begins at Interstate 805 and heads west and terminates at Stresemann St (Governor does not cross or connect to Interstate 5).
- Nobel Drive; City East-West Major Street west of Genesee, Primary Arterial between Genesee Avenue and I-805, and Major Street east of I-805. 2-4 lanes each way. Begins east at Miramar Road and heads west, terminates just west of Interstate 5.
- Eastgate Mall; City East-West Collector. 2 lanes each way. Begins west at Regents Road, crosses Genesee Avenue, crosses over Interstate 805 (Eastgate Mall does not connect to Interstate 805), then travels east to Miramar Road.


## Contingency Options:

- Gilman Drive; City North-South Major Street. 2 lanes each way. Begins south at Interstate 5 and heads north into the UCSD campus, then east, crosses over Interstate 5 where it becomes Medical Center Drive.
- La Jolla Colony Drive; North-South City Collector. 2 lanes each way. Begins at Interstate 5, heads northeast and terminates at Palmilla Drive.
- Regents Road north of Rose Canyon; City North-South Major Street. 2 lanes each way. Begins at north at Genesee Ave, heads south and terminates just south of Arriba Street. Regents Road does not cross Rose Canyon.
- Regents Road south of Rose Canyon; City North-South Major Street. 2 lanes each way. Begins south of State Route 52, heads north and terminates just north of Lahitte Court. Regents Road does not cross Rose Canyon.
- Torrey Pines Road; City North-South Collector (south) and Major Street (north) with 2-3 lanes each way. Begins south at La Jolla Parkway and heads north, intersects with Genesee Avenue, and continues north as a Primary Arterial into Del Mar.


## Emergency Temporary Safe Refuge Area (TSRA) Options:

- A Temporary Safe Refuge Area (TSRA) represents a emergency location at which to take refuge if safe evacuation is no longer possible. A TSRA is a short-term emergency option representing the E in the PACE system. P represents a primary evacuation option, A an alternate and C a contingency.
- Evacuation routes are determined during an assessment of the emergency incident by the local law enforcement agency San Diego Police Department (SDPD) and are selected as PAC options if there are safe possibilities available in each category. If safe evacuation is no longer possible, a large open parking lot or park could be designated as a Temporary Safe Refuge Area.

During an emergency that requires an evacuation, residents must follow the directions of local Authorities. Parks and open areas such as those listed below could be designated at the time of
the emergency as possible emergency Temporary Safe Refuge Area (TSRA) within the University City area community:

- Doyle Park
- Marcy Park
- Nobel Athletic Area
- Standley Park
- University Garden Park
- University Village Park
- Villa La Jolla Park
- Weiss Mandell Eastgate Neighborhood Park


## Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP)

- A Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP) is defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a safe staging area for those who will be (or have been) displaced by an emergency incident or disaster. Temporary Evacuation Points are typically used on a short-term basis before residents are permitted to return home or referred to another location, such as a disaster shelter. Depending on emergency conditions, a TEP could be set up at an area park or school or parking lot.
- The American Red Cross Southern California Region maintains a database of potential locations throughout the City and County of San Diego and has agreements in place with facilities that can be utilized in a disaster for various purposes such as temporary evacuation points, temporary safe refuge areas, sheltering, staging of supplies, distribution of emergency supplies, pet sheltering, feeding sites, etc.
- Safe evacuation sites are determined during an assessment of the emergency incident by the Authorities in partnership with the Red Cross. There is no pre-planned map or lists of evacuation or overnight sheltering sites.
- If you are unable to get to a TEP and are trapped, call 9-1-1 and shelter in place if no other options are available. Refer to the Survival Tips in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide available on the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department website at sandiego.gov/fire.


## C. PRIORITIES

To encourage residents to use the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide to create their own wildfire prevention, protection and evacuation plans.

To encourage residents to use public service applications developed by the San Diego County Office of Emergency Service such as the SD Emergency and AlertSanDiego apps for emergency preparedness and response alerts.

## D. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available from the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, the San Diego Police Department, the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (OES), the American Red Cross Southern California Region, Ready San Diego, and related agencies, the Fire Safe Council provides information related to Evacuation Planning and Emergency Response through:

- Articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices


## E. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Research, support, and promote the use of agency guides for fire prevention, protection and evacuation planning
- Research, support, and promote the use of public service mobile apps for emergency preparedness and response alerts
- Research and support the San Diego Unified School District plans for disaster preparedness


# SECTION VIII: OTHER MITIGATION \& PREPAREDNESS PROJECTS 

There are countless ways that communities can act to protect themselves ahead of wildfires. This section details additional past, current and future efforts underway that were not previously mentioned.

## A. PRIORITIES

## To provide additional information and resources to help our community prevent and prepare for wildfire and/or structure fires.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available through the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and related agencies such as the American Red Cross and the Burn Institute, the Fire Safe Council provides information about other Mitigation \& Preparedness Projects through:

- Promote free smoke alarm program and carbon monoxide alarm program provided by the American Red Cross and the Burn Institute
- Encourage participation in "Be Red Cross Ready" American Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Education
- Promote use of City of San Diego's Get-it-Done app to report health, maintenance, and safety issues
- Support legislation for the licensing of contractors who provide structural hardening services


## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Encourage community members to use City of San Diego code-compliant address signs on home and curb
- Research and support education related to pet evacuation
- Support and promote SD County Fire Safe Council "Wildland Urban Interface" training
- Support and promote SD County Fire Safe Council "Last Chance Survival Guide"
- Research, support, and promote education and information about fire insurance
- Research, support, and promote education and information about recovery resources


## SECTION IX: SIGNATURES

This plan must be approved by the following key parties: the local Fire Safe Council president, the chief of the primary responding fire agency and chair of the CWPP review committee. This section includes these signoffs.

This Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as developed by the University City Fire Safe Council:

- Was collaboratively developed and meets the intent of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) in emphasizing the need for agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects, and places priority on treatment areas identified by communities themselves in a CWPP. Interested parties and federal land management agencies in the vicinity of this CWPP have been consulted.
- Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect areas within this CWPP.
- Recommends measures to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only, utilizing a compilation of community issues/goals and projected fire mitigation strategies. The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project "activity" as defined under the "Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA." Per the Community Guide, Section 3.1.1, "CEQA only applies to public agency decisions to approve, or actions to carry out, a discretionary project." Any actual project activities meeting this definition of project activity and undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.
- Assists and encourages compliance with current county and state fire code standards.
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7 12/2021

President of the
Fire Safe Council Submitting this CWPP


Participating Fire Agency representative
(State, Local, or Tribal)

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREVENTION PLANS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

This CWPP was reviewed and recommended for approval by the San Diego Community Wildfire Protection Plan Review Committee as demonstrated by the signature below.


Don Butz, President
Fire Safe Council of San Diego County

The CAL FIRE Unit Chief has final signing authority on CWPPs in San Diego County. The signature below attests that the standards listed in the section above and the content of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan are proposed to be met and mutually accepted.


Tony Mecham, Unit Cheif
CAL FIRE San Diego Unit

## SECTION X: APPENDICES

This section includes important additional information that complements other portions of the plan.

## APPENDIX A: MEETING TRACKING DOCUMENTATION

This CWPP was developed for the community in the University City Fire Safe Council area through a series of community meetings. Due to COVID-related restrictions, some research required to complete this CWPP was conducted via email and/or phone and/or agency websites. Some of those who contributed time and talent and expertise to the preparation of the CWPP and who assisted the University City Fire Safe Council include the following:

University City Fire Safe Council: Diane Ahern (president), Louis Rodolico (vice president/treasurer), Tom Cartier (treasurer), Jemma Samala (secretary), William Beck, Laura Cartier, Gigi Esguerra, Jack Friery, Greg Hom, Merle Langston, and Sue Rye

Community Representatives: Barry Bernstein (UCCA) and Chris Nielsen (UCPG)
Agency Representatives: Marci Garcia (SDFD), Melanie Bognuda (SDPD), Kristin Camper (MCAS Miramar/Miramar Fire), Britney Munoz (SDCFSC/RCD), Kaitlyn Willoughby (SD City Council District 1), and Melissa Altman (American Red Cross)

Meeting Dates: Due to COVID-related restrictions, all meetings were conducted using online meeting software and/or email and/or telephone.

- 12/23/2020 - UC Fire Safe Council met with Kaitlyn Willoughby from Council District 1
- 1/14/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council hosted a Community Information Session with SD Fire Rescue, MCAS Miramar Fire, SD County Fire Safe Council, Council District 1
- 1/27/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended SD County Fire Safe Council CWPP Workshop 1
- 1/28/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCPC (Parks Council) to provide Public Comment
- 1/29/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended a community leaders forum hosted by Council District 1 to provide Public Comment
- 2/3/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council coordinated phone call meeting with SD Police Department regarding evacuation planning
- 2/9/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCPG (Planning Group) to provide Public Comment
- 2/10/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended SD County Fire Safe Council CWPP Workshop 2
- 2/10/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCCA (Community Association) to provide Public Comment
- 2/12/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council met with San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel regarding CWPP and evacuation planning
- 2/15/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council CWPP Subcommittee meeting
- 2/22/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council hosted a Community Meeting attended by SD Fire Rescue
- 3/1/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council met with SDFD personnel regarding CWPP and evacuation planning
- 3/10/2021- UC Fire Safe Council attended SD County Fire Safe Council CWPP Workshop 3
- 3/10/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCCA (Community Association) to provide Public Comment
- 3/24/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council coordinated phone call meeting with SD Fire-Rescue regarding CWPP and evacuation planning
- 03/25/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCPC (Parks Council) to provide Public Comment
- 3/29/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council facilitated an email exchange with American Red Cross Southern California Region with information for the Temporary Safe Refuge Areas portion of the Evacuation Planning Section
- 3/29/2021-3/29/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council coordinated Public Meeting to review CWPP draft; attended by input from American Red Cross Southern California Region
- 4/01/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council coordinated phone call meeting with SD Fire-Rescue regarding CWPP and evacuation planning
- 04/01/2021 - 05/19/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council CWPP facilitated community Comment, Feedback, Suggestion period
- 04/13/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council president Diane Ahern provided a CWPP Information Item at the University Community Planning Group (UCPG) meeting
- 04/14/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council president Diane Ahern provided a CWPP Information Item at the University City Community Association (UCCA) meeting
- 05/14/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council met to discuss CWPP final review and revisions
- 05/18/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended Community Plan Update Subcommittee to provide Public Comment
- 05/20/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council president Diane Ahern submitted the University City Community Wildfire Protection Plan to San Diego Fire-Rescue Department representative Marci Garcia for review and signature
- 05/26/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council president Diane Ahern met with District 1 City Councilmember Joe LaCava about Fire Safe Council and Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- 06/08/2021 - CWPP Review Committee reviewed the University City Fire Safe Council Wildfire Protection Plan
- 06/14/2021 - Britney Munoz (RCD/SDC FSC) provided CWPP Review Committee Comments indicating that revisions were needed in the Evacuation Planning section specifically pertaining to the PACE model
- 06/28/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council hosted a community public meeting with SDFD Marci Garcia, Raquel Elias, Steven Macias, and Cpt Alma Lowry. Topics included pending fire safe legislation, brush management, agency coordination, and the CWPP.
- 07/13/2021 - Diane Ahern and Louis Rodolico, president and vice president respectively of the University City Fire Safe Council, met with SDFD Marci Garcia and Raquel Elias to review revisions to the Evacuation Planning section of the CWPP

APPENDIX B: MAPS
Figure 1: Area Community - Fire Safe Council Boundary (2020) - RCD


Figure 2.1- Fire Hazard Severity - Fire Threat (2020)- RCD


Figure 2.2- Fire Hazard Severity - Fire Threat (2021) - SDFD and UCFSC


Figure 3.1: Local Burn History (2020) - RCD


Figure 3.2: County Burn History 2000-2020 - RCD


Figure 4.1: Evacuation (Main Streets / Egress Routes) (2021)- UCFSC


Figure 4.2: Evacuation (Recommended Street Plan 2019) - SD Planning Dept


Figure 5.1 \& 5.2: Fuels Treatment (Project Constraints) - Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) (2018) - SD Planning Dept


Figure 5.3: Fuels Treatment (Project Constraints) - Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) Habitat Preservation by Percent (2021) - SD Planning Dept, SanGIS and UCFSC


