

# East Bay FireSafe Alliance Recommendations to the East Bay Wildfire Coalition

The East Bay FireSafe Alliance consists of the leaders of the Berkeley FireSafe Council, the Claremont Canyon Conservancy, Make El Cerrito Fire Safe, the Oakland Firesafe Council, and the West Contra Costa Fire Safe Council.

# Recommendations to the East Bay Wildfire Prevention Coalition

## Overall Objective

To work with and encourage all jurisdictions and institutional neighbors in the East Bay to individually and collectively prevent and prepare for catastrophic wildfire that could threaten 1.2 million residents and 400,000 homes by an extreme weather, wind-driven wildfire or earthquake-driven mega fire, and to support development of an overall regional wildfire prevention and mitigation plan.

# Sub-Objectives for EBWC and/or each jurisdiction and institutional neighbor

**Support clean-up of the understory of all flammable tree groves** with significant fuels and fire ladders in the understory. This clean-up should include all groves, not just roadside areas, as the ember storm from a wind-driven canopy fire will cross over fuel breaks.

**Encourage the removal of the hazardous trees and restore the environment** by planting non-invasive, non-hazardous species to be supported by historical ecology and environmental impact studies.

**Support enforcement of defensible space programs** on all residential, commercial and public properties, supported by annual inspections, meaningful enforcement and common codes, to be led and implemented by fire departments. This will significantly reduce the risk of further ignition of vegetation and structures in a wind-driven ember storm.

# Sub-Objectives for EBWC and/or each jurisdiction and institutional neighbor

**Promote the implementation of significant home-hardening programs** in all jurisdictions.

Significant public funding will be needed, including funding to fire safe councils, to share costs with private property owners. Codes will also be needed to require the most important and cost-effective elements.

**Enhance the coordination and management of evacuations.** Emergency Responders continue to manage evacuations, build community awareness and training, and create emergency exit routes, particularly public routes for one-way in or out communities.

**Seek State and Federal insurance solutions** to ensure that homeowners have access to sustainable, comprehensive, and affordable homeowners' insurance.

**Final Sub-objective, the EBWC should encourage continuing development of aligned regional wildfire prevention and mitigation plans.**

**In conclusion,**

**The East Bay FireSafe Alliance pledges to support and work with the East Bay Wildfire Coalition to design and fund these efforts.**