

## East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Governments (EBWC)

September 23, 2024

### Strategic Framework One-Pager

During the recess, the ad hoc committee: Chair Susan Wengraf, Vice Chair Janani Ramachandran, Supervisor John Gioia and Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, worked to develop a proposed strategic framework that identifies the organization's purpose/mission, areas of interest, and immediate priorities.

The attached Strategic Framework "One Pager" is intended to help define and communicate strategic priorities of the newly formed organization. It is not meant to be an over-arching strategy document; long-term goals and specific activities are still to be defined.

The components of the strategic framework that the EBWC is being asked to adopt are:

1. Mission Statement: The proposed mission statement (text in italics) briefly describes who we are and what we (intend to) do: *The East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Governments (EBWC) is a regional consortium of elected officials representing cities, counties and fire districts committed to safeguarding our communities and natural landscapes in the East Bay Hills. We champion proactive, cooperative approaches to mitigating, through education and collaboration, the increasing threat of wildfires due to the climate crisis.*
  - a. **FOR DECISION:** Discuss and approve the mission statement
2. Strategic Focus: The ad hoc committee identified two program areas to focus our efforts and gain some "quick wins":
  - 1) home hardening – to include defensible space and "zone zero" with three specific objectives: education, legislation and funding;
  - 2) vegetation management – develop a science-based, ecologically sound, regionwide vegetation management plan.
    - a. **FOR DECISION:** Discuss and agree that the current focus areas of the EBWC are home hardening and vegetation management, pursuing the activities described in the one-pager
3. Areas of Interest: Five program areas were defined in the MOU as our "Shared Intent". The one-pager merely translates the MOU contents into concise language.
  - a. **FOR DECISION:** Discuss and agree that the one-pager reflects EBWC members' shared intent.
4. Members: Lists current members jurisdictions and their representatives; Strategic Partners; role of fire chiefs.
  - a. **FOR DECISION:** Discuss and agree that that list of members currently reflects EBWC and its relation to regional partners and fire departments.

Once the concept and contents are approved by the EBWC, a designer can be retained to create a more professional-looking document.

# East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Governments (EBWC)

The East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Governments (EBWC) is a regional consortium of elected officials representing cities, counties and fire districts committed to safeguarding our communities and natural landscapes in the East Bay Hills. We champion proactive, cooperative approaches to mitigating, through education and collaboration, the increasing threat of wildfires due to the climate crisis.

## Focus: Home Hardening

- **Education:** Create program to inform community & decision-makers, local contractors & landscapers about home hardening, defensible space and “zone zero”
- **Legislation:** Support adoption of local ordinances to include wildfire risk reduction measures: home hardening, defensible space and “zone zero”
- **Funding:** Create regional assistance program for homeowners to implement “zone zero”

## Focus: Vegetation Management

- **Funding:** Raise funds for situational analyses, plans and environmental impact report for a regionwide vegetation management plan
- **Project management:** Apply for grants, distribute funding and support activities

## Members (Autumn 2024)

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Alameda County	Supervisor Elisa Marquez
Contra Costa County	Supervisor John Gioia
Berkeley	Vice Mayor Susan Wengraf (Chair)
El Cerrito	Councilmember Paul Fadelli
Hercules	Councilmember Alex Walker-Griffin
Oakland	Councilmember Janani Ramachandran (Vice Chair)
Pinole	Mayor Maureen Toms
Richmond	Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin
Rodeo-Hercules FPD	Vice Chair Marie Bowman

**Regional Advisors:** UC Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, East Bay Regional Parks District, East Bay FireSafe Councils and others.

**Fire Chiefs:** Fire officials participate in all EBWC meetings and advise their respective elected representatives between meetings.

## Areas of Interest



Strengthen local **building & fire codes** and adherence



Advocate for local and state **legislation**



Support science-driven **vegetation management** priorities



Support **evacuation & response** programs



Secure new **funding** for **regional priorities**