



Oakland Community Preparedness and Response Program (OCP&R) Progress Report

Period: January 1, 2020 – March 31, 2020

April 14, 2020

To address wildfire and earthquake disaster threats to our City, the Oakland Firesafe Council has launched a new program called Oakland Community Preparedness and Response (OCP&R). This program provides **awareness, educational workshops, materials and support to help increase the overall community preparedness level and to improve disaster response capabilities.**

The OCP&R program is funded by grants from CAL FIRE and the California Fire Foundation. The program covers the entire City of Oakland, as earthquakes and even wildfires are serious threats to a large segment of the population. Initial focus is on the Oakland Hills and foothills areas—communities most at risk of significant damage from a major wildfire or earthquake disaster.

OCP&R research and preparation efforts started in July, 2019, and program development kicked-off in September, 2019. Community outreach, workshop delivery and support started in late February, 2020 and will continue through at least March, 2021.

COVID-19 Update: The Shelter-in-Place and social distancing mandates put an immediate halt to our instructor-led, community workshops, just as we were getting started. All scheduled workshops were canceled on March 11, 2020. OCP&R pivoted to develop a series of on-line video workshops that can be viewed from our new Web site. The videos are currently in final production.

Summary of activities that have taken place during the time period noted above:

- ✓ Continued presenting our Oakland Community Preparedness and Response (OCP&R) program to numerous stakeholders, agencies (including at the Alameda County Emergency Managers Association conference) and community organizations (to over 575 individuals)
- ✓ Completed development of the OCP&R instructor-led workshop presentation, 16 of 21 planned OCP&R Guides (<https://oaklandcpandr.org/guides>) and marketing collateral

- ✓ Delivered the instructor-led OCP&R workshop (1 hour in length) in late February and early March to 6 organized neighborhood groups (over 120 participants)
- ✓ Scheduled 10 workshops for March (for over 350 planned participants) before COVID-19 concerns necessitated canceling the workshops (canceled all scheduled workshops on 3/11/20)
- ✓ Pivoted to develop a series of on-line video workshops that can be viewed from our Web site—videos are currently (as of 4/14/20) in final production
- ✓ Developed and released our new OCP&R Web site: <https://oaklandcpandr.org>
- ✓ Developed a “Prep is Youth!” program for individuals 21 or younger to create short instructional or inspirational videos on emergency preparedness and response (<https://oaklandcpandr.org/videos>)
- ✓ Began development of social media sites to promote the OCP&R program, including Facebook and Instagram
- ✓ Continued providing feedback for a potential new technology emergency notification/evacuation system (Zonehaven)
- ✓ Created an emergency GMRS radio repeater network for Oakland and surrounding cities to enable neighborhood-to-neighborhood communications in a disaster, as part of our OCP&R program to help facilitate emergency response (<https://oaklandcpandr.org/gmrs-radio>)
- ✓ Developed a program on emergency preparedness for older adults, and presented at the San Francisco Aging2.0 chapter event and to senior communities in Oakland
- ✓ Engaged with the Oakland Public Library system to hold workshops at library conference facilities and to promote OCP&R to library users (on-hold due to COVID-19)
- ✓ Created an ArcGIS map of delivered workshop area boundaries (on-hold due to COVID-19)

Challenges and concerns faced during the time period noted above:

- ❖ The COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place and social distancing mandates put an immediate halt to our instructor-led, community workshops
- ❖ Emergency notification systems (i.e. AC Alert) will be negatively affected during extended power outages (PG&E’s PSPS) or a real disaster due to cell phone/Internet service loss or system overload, and communities are justifiably concerned with how they will be notified in the event of a wildfire or evacuation
- ❖ Oakland’s CORE (Communities of Oakland Respond to Emergencies) training has not been available since the end of 2018—emergency preparedness and response training is a key component of OCP&R’s recommendations and needs to be available to Oakland communities (hiring plans are moving forward and OCP&R will assist in on-line candidate interviews)
- ❖ The matching funds from the City of Oakland have not yet been made available to the Oakland Firesafe Council

Planned OCP&R activities for the next quarter:

- Finalize development of the OCP&R on-line training videos, offer them from the Web site and promote them on social media and in print
- Finalize development of the remaining planned 5 OCP&R Guides (<https://oaklandcpandr.org/guides>)
- Continue building out our OCP&R Web site by adding additional Guides and information on emergency preparedness and response
- Continue engaging partners to leverage expertise and existing materials and information
- When meeting restrictions are eventually lifted and it is safe to do so, begin re-scheduling workshops for the communities that had signed up, focusing on venues such as libraries, community centers and churches in order to educate larger groups at time to better scale
- Perform additional outreach and marketing via social and print media and with partners including civic and community organizations and the Oakland Public Library
- Develop metrics to measure success in implementing the OCP&R program
- Address challenges and concerns noted above

Contact for questions or further information:

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