Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Initiative
Video can be viewed on home page of website
www.marinwildfire.org
Marin’s Wildfire Hazard

- 2017 & 2018 Deadliest and Most Destructive Fire Seasons on Record
- Wildfire knows no borders
- Marin’s hazardous vegetation increases risk of wildfire
- 19 local agencies w/fire & taxing authority
- No single county coordinating agency for wildfire prevention & mitigation or preparedness
2016: Community Wildfire Protection Plan
“This document provides a framework for future collaboration that can be used to identify, prioritize, implement, and monitor hazard reduction activities throughout the county.”

2018: Lessons Learned from North Bay Fire Siege
“When fires started October 8th the only thing separating Marin County from their neighbor's north was simply an ignition source.”

2019: Marin Civil Grand Jury Report on Wildfire Preparedness
The Grand Jury proposes "the creation of a joint powers authority to coordinate a comprehensive, consistent approach to pre-ignition planning...This new approach will remedy the gaps in our preparedness and demonstrate our political will to improve wildfire safety in Marin."
Proposed Solution: Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

- Local fire agencies and emergency service providers
- Cities and towns
- Marin County

Working together as a single Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for comprehensive wildfire prevention and emergency preparedness
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>% of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JPA Core</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire Detection &amp; Evacuation Program Improvements</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation Management / Fire hazard reduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Education – FIRESafe Marin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Defensible Space Evaluations – Home Hardening</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the ability for an agency to administer vs JPA</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Level  Wildfire Prevention Mitigation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local jurisdiction fire prevention issues with no funding</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced fire patrols for problem areas, additional fire hazard reduction work, evac route parking issues</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wildfire Detection & Evacuation Program Improvements

- Improvements to early emergency alert and warning systems
- Organized and coordinated evacuation planning
- Improved evacuation routes and infrastructure
MWPA Goals: Fire Hazard Reduction

Coordinated program objectives:

• Reduce combustible plants & vegetation
• Protect communities, critical infrastructure
• Utilizing a combination of crews, equipment, grazing, rx fire & environmentally sound practices
MWPA Goals – Fire Hazard Reduction

Coordinated Vegetation Management & Fire Hazard Reduction
Example of Coordinated Prevention

Coordinated prevention & mitigation creates benefit across communities
MWPA Goals - Public Education

Educating the Public About Wildfire Preparedness

• Support FIRESafe MARIN community outreach & fire preparedness education

• Establish & support FIREWISE USA programs in neighborhoods throughout Marin
A Coordinated Defensible Space Management Program

- Home evaluations/inspections
- Home hardening advice
- Educate homeowners about reducing wildfire hazards
- Ensure defensible space around critical public infrastructure
- Grants & support for seniors, low income & people with access functional needs
- Dedicated abatement program
Specific Local Needs

Addressing Specific Local Community Needs

• Core program ensures consistency and coordination across Marin

• Local wildfire mitigation program assists local fire agencies in meeting unique community needs
  • Fire patrols for problem areas
  • roadside vegetation removal on evacuation routes
  • Parking boxes
Dedicated Wildfire Prevention Funding

- Wildfire Prevention Program Budget: ~$20 million annually
- Stable source of locally controlled funding dedicated to wildfire prevention & mitigation
- Supplementing and not supplanting existing funds
- Potential countywide tax measure for March 2020 election
- Requires 66.7% support countywide
- Recent survey of Marin voters shows strong support for a wildfire prevention funding measure
- Ongoing vs one-time funding and grant dependence
- Funding stream long term as needs change, maintenance, climate change.
# Wildfire Prevention Expenditure Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Estimated Funding</th>
<th>% of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JPA Core</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire Detection &amp; Evacuation Program Improvements</td>
<td>$12 million</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation Management/Fire Hazard Reduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Education – FIRESafe Marin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Defensible Space Evaluations – Home Hardening</strong></td>
<td>$4 million</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With option for agency to administer vs JPA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Level Wildfire Prevention Mitigation</strong></td>
<td>$4 million</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local jurisdiction fire prevention issues with no funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cost:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20 million</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voter Opinion Survey Results

Voter Support for March 2020 Wildfire Prevention Funding Measure
Countywide Results

- 11 cents Per Sq. Foot: 39% Definitely Yes, 36% Probably Yes
- $178 Per Parcel: 35% Definitely Yes, 38% Probably Yes
- 1/4% Sales Tax: 34% Definitely Yes, 26% Probably Yes

66.7% Support for Monthly Wildfire Prevention Funding Measure
Local Area Survey Results

City of Novato

- **11 cents Per Sq. Foot**
  - Definitely Yes: 36.2%
  - Probably Yes: 40.4%
  - Total Yes: 76.6%

- **$178 Per Parcel**
  - Definitely Yes: 23.5%
  - Probably Yes: 37.7%
  - Total Yes: 61.2%

- **1/4% Sales Tax**
  - Definitely Yes: 30.4%
  - Probably Yes: 26.3%
  - Total Yes: 56.7%

In total, 66.7% of respondents answered 'Definitely Yes' to the survey questions.
Local Area Survey Results

**Novato Fire District**

1. **11 cents Per Sq. Foot**
   - Definitely Yes: 36.7%
   - Probably Yes: 38.7%
   - Total Yes: 75.4%
   - 66.7%

2. **$178 Per Parcel**
   - Definitely Yes: 21.7%
   - Probably Yes: 42.2%
   - Total Yes: 63.9%

3. **1/4% Sales Tax**
   - Definitely Yes: 30.4%
   - Probably Yes: 25.6%
   - Total Yes: 56.7%

- **Total Yes:** 75.4%
Local Area Survey Results

City of San Rafael

11 cents Per Sq. Foot
- Definitely Yes: 37.1%
- Probably Yes: 35.5%
- Total Yes: 72.6%

$178 Per Parcel
- Definitely Yes: 41.8%
- Probably Yes: 35.6%
- Total Yes: 77.4%

1/4% Sales Tax
- Definitely Yes: 31.0%
- Probably Yes: 24.4%
- Total Yes: 55.4%
Local Area Survey Results

Southern Marin

- **11 cents Per Sq. Foot**
  - Definitely Yes: 41.7%
  - Probably Yes: 30.4%
  - Total Yes: 72.1%
  - Definitively Yes: 66.7%

- **$178 Per Parcel**
  - Definitely Yes: 40.5%
  - Probably Yes: 38.9%
  - Total Yes: 79.4%

- **1/4% Sales Tax**
  - Definitely Yes: 36.9%
  - Probably Yes: 24.2%
  - Total Yes: 61.1%
Local Area Survey Results

Ross Valley

11 cents Per Sq. Foot
- Definitely Yes: 42.8%
- Probably Yes: 37.2%

Total Yes: 80.0%

$178 Per Parcel
- Definitely Yes: 35.1%
- Probably Yes: 31.1%

Total Yes: 66.2%

1/4% Sales Tax
- Definitely Yes: 34.1%
- Probably Yes: 27.1%

Total Yes: 61.2%
Local Area Survey Results

West Marin

- **11 cents Per Sq. Foot**
  - Definitely Yes: 37.9%
  - Probably Yes: 36.2%
  - Total Yes: 74.1%
- **$178 Per Parcel**
  - Definitely Yes: 36.9%
  - Probably Yes: 29.0%
  - Total Yes: 65.6%
- **1/4% Sales Tax**
  - Definitely Yes: 34.0%
  - Probably Yes: 32.2%
  - Total Yes: 66.2%

### Summary
- **West Marin**: Total Yes 66.7%
Mandatory Fiscal Accountability

• All funds must stay local and cannot be taken by the State

• Funds must be used for wildfire prevention /mitigation and cannot be diverted

• Independent Oversight
  • Annual reporting of financials
  • Annual audits

• Exemptions available for low-income seniors

• Helps Marin qualify for state and federal grants that otherwise go to other counties
19 Agencies
5 areas = 11 Members
• 2 – Novato
• 2 – San Rafael
• 2 – Ross Valley
• 2 – Southern Marin
• 2 – West Marin
• 1 - Unicorporated Districts
  • Kentfield, Muir Beach, Bolinas, Stinson, Inverness, Marinwood

Agencies will maintain independent, local control
MWPA Governance Structure

Citizens Oversight Committee

Board of Directors (11)
2 electeds from each zone
plus 1 from small district

Operations/Budget Committee (11)
Agency Staff of Members

Advisory Committee
LMA, PG&E, other Technical Staff of Members
The Why’s?

• Why a JPA?

• Why $20 million?

• How are the Land Managers (NPS, MMWD, Open Space) participating in this effort?
Timeline and Next Steps

• August – September 2019
  • Informational presentations to fire district boards and city councils
  • Gather Feedback
  • Finalize MWPA structure
  • Finalize Wildfire Prevention Funding Measure
  • Draft JPA for review

• September – October 2019
  • Fire district boards, city councils and Board of Supervisors adopt resolutions joining MWPA

• November 2019
  • Board of Supervisors adopts resolution placing Wildfire Prevention Funding Measure on March 2020 ballot

• March 2020
  • Election and Implementation of MWPA
Questions and Discussion

For more information www.marinwildfire.org