Greater Ross Valley Fire Agencies
Defensible Space Inspection/Evaluation (Software) Tool

*Developer: Fire Aside, LLC*

Software designed to improve the Defensible Space Evaluation resident experience and support agencies with advanced data

Spring 2021
“Old” Resident Report

9,000 inspections in 2020

Triplicate form

Entries duplicated in CAL FIRE’s “Collector” app

No entry into ERS

Indecipherable…
Process Overview

1. Creates inspection events & parameters to assign teams
2. Inspection Officer(s) deployed to residences
3. Real-time information on location, activity, & photos
4. Customized report prioritized for their property
5. Reporting, analysis, data extracts

Reporting & Metrics
- Interactive reports capture data about resolved issues for efficient follow-up
- Data exported to stakeholders (e.g., CalFIRE)

Resident Experience
- Online portal for residents to access information about their inspection
- Links to resources to resolve issues (DIY, Vendors, etc)
- Prioritization and visualization of issues
Development Timeline Summary

January
- Initial Flowcharts
- Wireframes & Design

March
- Refine Designs
- Field Application, Resident Report, Admin Manager, Data Integrations

Mid-April
- Test with 1-2 friendly users, potentially run in parallel with real estate inspections. Manual review of resident reports

Mid-May
- Monitor usage, ongoing support for break-fixes, updates, etc
- Program Reporting

User Testing completed on Resident Report (v5) using clickable prototype. Avg. age of tester 56 (Range 44-73). All residents in Ross Valley

Field Application initial build complete Admin Manager will be next sprint
Solution Overview:

Resident Report

Digital & Dynamic Report

- Online delivery & access
  (Report emailed, or US Mail, to resident and/or property owner)

- Parcel level location
  (Each finding is mapped to a spot on their property vs. generic zone map)

- Interactive report
  (Usage and information updates based on issues resolved and ongoing inspections)

- Education & FAQs
  (Supports and expands reach of local agency and FireSafe work)
Solution Overview:

Resident Report

User Friendly, Readable, Interactive

• Checklist of items to be resolved
  (Interactive feeds back to program manager with photos uploaded by residents)

• Resources
  Links to specific resources such as vegetation, DIY videos, etc. from FireSAFE MARIN

• Prioritization
  Based on importance and impact to home resilience
Field Crew & Program Management

Mobile app

• Support multiple field crews
  (Assignment of multiple crews for blanketeting a neighborhood)

• Home Sale Inspections
  (Individual inspections for resale- workflow and email of completed inspections)

• Helps prioritize re-inspections into daily workflow

• Performance Data
  (Evaluation of inspector team(s) and analysis for optimization of field work)
Solution Overview:

Field Crew

Mobile app

- Rich texture & data on findings
  (Dead grass in 1 or many locations)

- Capture non-code findings
  (Home hardening recommendations)

- Fast & intuitive field interface
  (Based on 10,000s of actual inspections and evaluation of existing Collector tool)
Solution Overview:

Admin Manager

Web/Cloud Based Service

- **Map Management**  
  (Easy upload and adjustment of maps to assign to team and data extraction)

- **Inspection Management**  
  (Plan Upcoming Inspection Events, Active inspection events and review historical inspections)

- **Resident support**  
  (Review any resident requests and follow up inspections)

- **Program Data & Reporting**  
  (Analysis by type of discovery, remediation or not, location, etc.)
Better ROI for Defensible Space Budgets

• Improved property owner and resident reporting and communication increases resident satisfaction and compliance

• Detailed data to understand hotspots, resident messaging and prioritization for hardening and mitigation work

• Real time data capture of properties including on-site photos, infractions (if any), and notes about vegetation

• Automated reporting allows easy end of program review

• Integration to file LE 100 information with CalFIRE

Example heat map of findings with Evacuation Zone layers
Thank you

fire aside