

RHFD SPCG MAY 14, 2022
Meeting Notes

Dear Strategic Planning Community Group,

Thank you for giving your time to learn about the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District and contribute to its strategic planning process. You play an important role in framing goals and objectives for RHFD's future; identifying ways to improve; and connecting with our communities' expectations. Your participation in discussions provided excellent feedback. We look forward to continued input from you and the groups you represent.

Below please find notes we hope will help you share the meeting with your Board and stakeholders:

The Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District is an independent fire district in western Contra Costa County, serving the City of Hercules and the unincorporated Town of Rodeo. The District has a combined population of 34,000 and an area of approximately 32 square miles, including residential and commercial zones, an oil refinery (Phillips 66), marine terminals, underground fuel pipelines, wildland interface, a large industrial park, two rail lines, and two major freeway corridors: Highway 4 and I-80. The District has 2 fire stations, one in Rodeo (Station 75) and one in Hercules (Station 76).

RHFD is governed by a board of five locally elected directors under §13800 of the CA Health & Safety Code. Its principal funding comes from general property taxes, two fire suppression assessments enacted by the Board in 1987 and 1998; Measure O, enacted by the voters of the District in 2016; and Measure H, a county tax.

The District provides various services to the community: emergency medical services; firefighting; fire prevention (weed abatement, plan checks); public outreach and education (school visits, fire and home safety training, smoke detector program, bicycle helmet program, annual tree lighting); citizen emergency response training (CERT); and blood pressure screening. Some of these activities were put on hold due to Covid-19, but we look forward to resuming these activities over the coming months when it is safe to do so.

The RHFD presentation provided a look into the internal workings of the department. The slide deck is attached.

The presentation by Fitch and Associates focused on how to measure a fire department's services by looking at performance metrics and outcomes. Response times, for example, are a critical factor. A given service like firefighting will produce different outcomes if delivered with different response times. We need to understand the community's goals for services and response times, and the community needs to understand budgetary constraints. The consultant's presentation analyzed the services of the fire department through the lens of property- and life-insurance, a helpful way of bringing together considerations of risk and cost. Attached find presentation slides which illustrate this as it relates to property loss, cost of displacement, cardiac arrest survival rates, burns, and how a fire department's performance impacts fire insurance premiums.

Comments were received regarding the need to promote diversity, definitions of a quint and other fire department terms, and greater clarification about the RHFD budget and its funding sources. An article regarding diversity is attached. Budget information is forthcoming. A list of definitions will be uploaded to the website. Additionally, included are informative articles regarding insurance.

You, your boards and stakeholders can play an important role in planning the goals and objectives for RHFD's future, identifying ways to improve, and connecting with our communities' expectations. Join us at one or more of the events below.

- June: online survey at: <https://www.rhfd.org/strategic-plan/>
- July: polls on Nextdoor
- August 10 at 7pm: Draft strategic plan presented at the Regular RHFD Board meeting
- Sept 21 at 7pm: Presentation and acceptance of the final strategic plan, implementation plan, and tools to manage the plan at a Special RHFD Board Meeting

Go to <https://www.rhfd.org/strategic-plan/> for additional information on the process and questions.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Attachments-5

RHFD Overview

RFHD SPCG May 14 Presentation (Fitch selected slides)-- property loss, cost of displacement, cardiac arrest survival rates, burns, ISO 2 rating,

*Insurance articles: Understanding the cost and value of your homeowners policy

Market trends 2021

Diversity, equity, and inclusion in the fire service: Seven steps agencies can take

* The informational items explaining the cost and value of your homeowners policy, and showing 2021 market trends are prepared by Chubb. Neither Fitch nor the RHFHD endorse Chubb over any other insurance provider, but we found these documents to be helpful explanations of what drives cost for insurance premiums.