

May 2022 Update

Dear Neighbors,

Here is May's Update with important information for all of you.

Paving Task Force – Members of the IRA-PRERAB Paving Task force wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all PRE residents and owners who supported the recently successful parcel tax vote, which enables the DVD re-paving project. As reported last month the final tally was yes = 119; no = 13. Many folks in PRE assisted with this effort, which was a very important element in the successful vote.

The Task Force met recently to review steps to take to bring about the actual paving. Step one, already accomplished, was meeting with the ILS engineer who developed the plan that informed our vote. He will now work with the County to develop a much more detailed plan that can be used for soliciting contractor bids. Once the bids are received and the County decides on the contractor, there will be much work to do assisting him in planning for paving, necessary road preparation, and traffic diversions. The Task Force will be deeply involved in this stage of the process and will keep the community informed as it progresses. Homeowners who wish to have their driveways paved or re-paved when the contractor is working here will be able to arrange for that shortly before the work begins. They will pay the contractor directly for this work.

While it is impossible now to precisely say when all of this will happen, our engineer, who has experience with Marin private road projects, estimates that bidding may take place in September with project work taking place approximately 3-4 weeks later depending on weather. Everyone hopes the work can be done before winter sets in. Stay tuned for updates during the summer and into the fall.

• **IRA Evacuation Committee** - PRE Evacuation Drill a Success!

West Marin's first ever fire evacuation drill was conducted successfully May 11 in coordination with IRA and 51 PRE participants. The Alert Marin notification to evacuate went out at 10:30 am to PRE residents to signal the start of the drill after which three Marin Sheriff vehicles sounded the Hi-Lo siren up DVD and the side roads. Residents posted their Evacuated signage and made their way down DVD. They were met at SFD by a full complement of Marin Fire Department vehicles and California Highway Patrol cars directing traffic along the exit route. At Bear Valley Visitor Center residents were met by volunteers, completed an on-site survey, and participated in a debrief and Q&A.

Marin Fire Captain Ben Ghisletta led the debrief. He was joined by additional MCFD staff, Brennan Collins of the Sheriff's Department, and representatives from the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (Alert Marin). Marin Humane Society was present and registered animals. The Point Reyes Disaster Council's Lynn Axelrod discussed the importance of our PRE Neighborhood Liaisons and their role during an emergency.

Main areas of discussion during the Q & A were alternative evacuation routes, the importance and effectiveness of the Alert Marin system, audibility of the Hi-Lo siren on side roads, the importance of redundancy in fire warnings and need to clarify maps.

The drill gave both PRE residents and fire emergency response personnel a real time scenario to practice and to strengthen important interdependent relationships between residents and emergency responders.

Huge thanks to Jennifer Howard who led this initiative and obtained the inter-agency cooperation to pull it off. Thanks as well to Christian Winslow for his work in communications and as Neighborhood Liaison.

Be sure to **sign up for Alert Marin** to receive emergency alerts via call, text, email or smartphone application from the County of Marin :

<https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services/alert-marin>

The FireSafe Marin website is an important source of evacuation information.

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

• **IRA Firesafe Committee** – Once again there will be a Measure C-funded Curbside Chipper Day Program. Two pickups (weeks of July 11 and October 10) are scheduled for PRE. Advance reservation is required. For details and to make a reservation, go to <https://chipperday.com/marin>. Clear your defensible space and help keep PRE safe!

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Tim Stanton
IRA President