

March 2022 Update

Dear Neighbors,

I have much news to share with you this month, which makes this Update longer than usual. This information is very important to PRE safety and welfare, so please read it all. Thank you.

• **IRA-PRERAB Paving Committee** - Those of you registered to vote in PRE will have received this past week a ballot for Measure R, the PRE Road Paving Project. These are mail ballots that must be returned to the County no later than April 12.

With the assistance of a community volunteer the Task Force developed the attached “Talking Points” information sheet that contains critical elements in the plan and explains why passage of Measure R is so urgently needed now. If you have any questions about the project, please contact any Task Force member to discuss them.

Due to concerns raised by community members about speed calming devices planned for West Robert, the Task Force deleted them from the Plan in February, as noted in an Addendum posted on the paving project page on the IRA website, <http://invernessridge.info>.

It is important to note that while some members of the Task Force are also members of PRERAB, the two groups are distinct and have separate functions. The Task Force was established by IRA and PRERAB to develop the Paving Plan. PRERAB is a pre-existing group established long ago that is responsible for PRE road maintenance. Community members have recently raised concerns about water bars on our dirt roads in reference to Measure R. Water bars are the responsibility of PRERAB, not the Task Force and are not addressed in the Measure R Paving Plan. If you have a concern about water bars, please address it to a PRERAB member. Their names and contact details can be found on the IRA website.

The Task Force urges all voters to vote **Yes** on Measure R.

• **IRA Evacuation Committee** - Members of the IRA Board and the Point Reyes Disaster Council (PRDC) have joined forces to better prepare our community for evacuation in an emergency. Committee members are Jennifer Howard, Tim Stanton, Leah Light (IRA) Chris Eckert (IRA, PRDC), and Christian Winslow (PRDC).

On March 3 the committee met with Lynn Axelrod, (President of the PR Disaster Council), Senior Captain Ben Ghisletta (Marin County Fire Department), and Lieutenant Brennan Collins (Marin County Sheriff) to develop an evacuation plan. At this meeting Ghisletta and Collins made clear that DVD is the evacuation route residents will use in the event of a fire or other emergency. Alternative routes on Sunnyside/Limantour and Laurel are not advised unless directly ordered and escorted by Marin Fire and Sheriff Department personnel.

The evacuation plan will include an Evacuation Drill directed by the Sheriff and Fire Departments. Prior to the drill we will organize one or two community-wide education meetings to prepare. Resources for a drill of this kind represent a significant commitment by the County, so residents are urged to participate.

Residents are strongly advised to sign up for Alert Marin if they have not already done so. Nixle is also a good source of information, but it is more general. Alert Marin is how the departments communicate specific and localized information and will likely be used during our drill.

The FireSafe Marin website is an important source of evacuation information for PRE. <https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

Please do not hesitate to contact any committee member with questions.

• **PRERAB** – PRERAB continues its review of dirt road water bars and their configuration. As a part of this process, it is in contact with the Fire Department to obtain its input on the impact of the water bars on emergency vehicle use of dirt roads. Members are consulting with ILS Associates and possibly other civil engineers knowledgeable about dirt road maintenance and appropriate means of erosion control that do not unnecessarily impede every day and emergency use. In addition, PRERAB has begun research and experimentation with erosion control devices that could be installed below the road surface.

• **IRA Firesafe Committee** - Notices have now been sent to last year's participants in the popular Measure C-funded Curbside Chipper Day Program. Two pickups (weeks of July 11 and October 10) have been scheduled for our neighborhood, but 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