

CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors

AGENDA NO. **7.A.**

FROM: John F. Weigold, IV, General Manager  
William Hollingsworth, Fire Chief

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Meeting Date: May 12, 2022                      Subject: Discussion and Consideration of a  
Report from the Board Ad Hoc  
Committee Regarding Emergency  
Evacuation Routes

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Staff recommends the Board of Directors discuss and consider this report of evacuation routes and support of grant applications, including Zonehaven, and provide direction to staff, as deemed appropriate.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

To date, the CCSD approved the expenditure of \$10,000, in the fiscal year 2019/2020 budget for the initial evacuation studies of southwest Lodge Hill. All other expenditures related to the implementation of Zonehaven and additional evacuation studies completed by Cal Poly have been done through grant funding, with no additional cost to the CCSD. The Hazardous Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) subapplication is valued at \$281,328, of which a 25% match (\$70,332) will be the responsibility of the CCSD. There is existing legislation that may drop this requirement to a 10% match (\$28,132), but that status is unknown at this time.

**DISCUSSION:**

In 2019, the San Luis Obispo Fire Safe Council (SLOFSC) partnered with Cal Fire and Dr. Nuworsoo from Cal Poly, to develop an Assessment of Cambria's Emergency Evacuation Plan. This plan focused solely on the complete evacuation of southwest Lodge Hill and laid the foundation for similar studies in the future.

In September of 2021, the San Luis Obispo County Fire Chief's Association (SLOFCA) applied for and received a California State Fire Prevention Grant for \$385,179, to implement Zonehaven countywide. The grant will pay for all evacuation modeling, development, and system management for a 3-year period. Zonehaven is an evacuation management platform that provides a comprehensive set of evacuation tools for fire and law enforcement to build and maintain evacuation plans and train using accurate evacuation simulations and scenarios. During a live emergency incident, Zonehaven enables responsible agencies to react swiftly, make informed evacuation decisions, and communicate evacuation status updates in real-time to other agencies and the public. It includes preplanning, training, alerts and notifications, and community engagement.

In September of 2021, the Cambria Fire Safe Focus Group was awarded a \$25,000 local grant from SLOFSC, for additional evacuation modeling. Dr. Nuworsoo from Cal Poly

completed 5 remaining evacuation modeling scenarios. The data for all completed scenarios will be available and utilized for the implementation of Zonehaven.

In January of 2022, the Board of Directors authorized the General Manager and Fire Chief to apply for and pursue a Notice of Intent (NOI) (the first step of a two-step process) for a HMGP subapplication (second step) for an Emergency Alert System for the community of Cambria. In February of 2022, Cal OES notified the CCSD that we were approved to proceed with the filing of the full subapplication. Staff is currently finalizing this subapplication, in the amount of \$281,328. This subapplication includes the installation of addressable roadway signage, audible siren alarms, and social media and local radio station interconnectivity for notifying the public. It is due for submission no later than April 9, 2022. FEMA is anticipating announcing application awards beginning fall 2022.

The CCSD Ad Hoc Committee on Emergency Evacuation Routes continues to explore how to expedite the evacuation of Cambria in the event of an emergency. They partnered with the Cambria Fire Safe Focus Group to acquire road cones that can be deployed by Cal Trans to safely expand Highway 1 road widths to double the exit capacity. They assisted in securing the final evacuation studies completed by Cal Poly. They continue to evaluate alternative exit strategies by expanding infrastructure and partnering with local landowners. Currently, they are in the development process of marketing brochures targeting both visitors and residents to assist in responding to emergencies.

Staff recommends the Board of Directors discuss and consider this report on emergency evacuation routes and support of grant applications, including Zonehaven, and provide direction to staff, as deemed appropriate.

Attachment: Report from the CCSD Board Ad Hoc Committee on Wildfire Evacuation - Amended