

## **Topanga Emergency Management Task Force August 22, 2012**

Task Force Members in Attendance:

Pat MacNeil, T-CEP and ARC  
Susan Nissman, Cynthia Scott, Third District  
Maria Grycan, Fire Department  
Sgt Chuck Norris, SD  
Officer Leland Tang, CHP  
Mary Lukins, Fred Agoopi, Lisa Eldridge, Dept of Animal Care and Control  
John Adkins, Dept of Public Works  
Stacy Sledge, Topanga Town Council  
Joseph Rosendo, Topanga Chamber of Commerce  
Scott Ferguson, CERT  
Ben Squire, Arson Watch  
Michael Edwards, ARC  
Ryan Ulyate, N. TCB Fire Safe Council (newly appointed primary)  
Chase McMunn, Library

### **I. Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Pat Mac Neil.  
Review of the May 16, 2012 Minutes followed.

### **II. Issues and Reports**

#### **A. Alert LA by Maria Grycan:**

To improve the efficiency of the County's mass communication system, Maria is working with SD's Mark Flores to preload tactical zone phone numbers in groups for future alerts.

#### **B. SD Report by Sgt. Norris:**

The SD "surprise" drill for Topanga held on 7/18 was one of many scheduled every couple of months to educate law enforcers in each LA County region. Officers in other areas played to increase their awareness of Region 1's challenges. One of the primary focuses was on the local Lost Hills Station and their EOC and Disaster Communication Service. Scott Ferguson asked if there was any possibility of T-CEP participating in future drills. Sgt Norris recognized T-CEP's past influence on SD to acquire better radio receptors. The drills will ultimately expand, but at present the drills are in early stages of development. Maria requested that the drills include the Incident Command System of communication so that everyone is drilling in sync with LA County practices.

CHP Officer Tang noted that as of 2013, Cal EMA will no longer be an agency. He is working with Assemblymember Blumenfield's office VPREP Task Force Team to create an Auxiliary Communication System at the Van Nuys State Building. A stakeholder meeting will be held on Friday at his office to discuss. There will be an effort to integrate and link in the DCS as well.

T-CEP has a vehicle now that is fully equipped as a mobile EOC if Topanga EOC is evacuated. Susan also reported that a SD sub-station of approx. 5k sq ft is proposed at the Malibu Civic Center where the SMCC satellite campus is planned. There will be classrooms to potentially teach law, justice, and emergency management. The station can also be converted to a JIC in a disaster event.

#### C. Communications Committee Report by Stacy Sledge:

The Committee had a meeting on July 13 to discuss several issues, the most pressing, the revised Topanga Disaster Survival Guide. The group debated the purpose of the guide- educational, a field guide, or an emergency source. There are many variables that dictated the original guides size, format and content. While an effective tool, over the years there has been a cultural shift and many are well-versed in the terminology. There will be a need to use social media and promote the revised guide in a fresh way. Susan requested that the committee reconvene and make recommendations for what info will remain, what will be revised, and what will be eliminated. Ryan informed the group of a study of Santa Barbara evacuation plans that could be used to augment the revised guide. It notes choke points in the routes and recommendations, for instance to take one car per family.

Susan informed the group that the Supervisor's office is proposing a wish list of funding ideas. One such item is to create phone applications for smart phones that educate tactical zones and red flag weather. Ryan offered to send the link to the group for the free application that Evans Valley Fire District uses. Another option is an information kiosk that could be located at the Topanga Library. Stacy stressed the need to use onetopanga.com to cross promote events and info with all local organizations. Maria emphasized the continuous branding of the FD "Ready, Set, Go" program. She produced a spot on KTLA about preparedness in Corral Canyon and is in the process of a similar spot on NBC about the brush clearance efforts in Horizon Hills.

#### **IV. Announcements**

John Adkins reported that DPW is cleaning the roadside drains in the area.

Kanan tunnels are also being realigned over the next few months.

Sgt Norris reported that SD is focusing on earthquake preparedness this Fall.

Scott Ferguson noted that Topanga CERT is offering free training for four Saturdays in September at Topanga Fellowship Church.

Officer Tang discussed the need to offer more CHP horse trailer inspections and educate the residents about how to operate and maintain their equipment. Inspections are all conducted without citations.

Michael Edwards reported that ARC is working with SCE on their "Prepare Southern California" campaign.

#### **V. Future Agenda Items**

- OEM's Topanga Wildfire Evacuation Annex- this is a chapter of an organizational plan that meets FEMA's requirements. It needs to be updated and reviewed for disability access as well.
- Sgt. Norris offered Mark Flores to attend and discuss Alert LA with the group

#### **VI. Public Comments – None.**

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Next Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, November 14 at 9:30 am at the Topanga Library.