

Memorandum



DATE: September 5, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:
Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice-Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates,
Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: **Wildland Urban Interface Program**

On Monday, September 8, 2014, you will be briefed on the Wildland Urban Interface Program. The briefing materials are attached for your review.



Charles M. Cato
Interim Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

Wildland Urban Interface Program



Public Safety Committee
September 8, 2014





Wildland Urban Interface

- Zones where structures and other human improvements meet and intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.





Wildland Urban Interface

In Texas, 85% of Wildland Fires happen within 2 miles of a community.





Wildland Fire Emergency Why Now?

Population



Climate
Weather
Cycle

Changes in Land Use - Fuels



HISTORY

- Program started with a \$200,000 federal grant
- Coordinator selected to run the program in June 2010 and create Dallas's first Wildland Strike Team which is part of the Special Operations division
- Partnered with the Texas Forest Service for training and technical support



HISTORY (cont.)

GRANT FUNDS PAID FOR:

- Wildland PPE
- Wildland Hoses and Nozzles
- Hand Tools
- Radios
- Chain Saws
- Protective Shelters
- Initial Wildland Training Course



WUI TEAM COMPOSITION

90-MEMBER TEAM

6 - BATTALION CHIEFS

24 - COMPANY OFFICERS

60 - DRIVERS & PRIVATES



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE







Dallas Fire Module



What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)?

- **A written and agreed upon document that identifies how a community will reduce its risk from Wildland fire**
- **The purpose of the CWPP is to describe how Dallas Fire-Rescue and our partners will mitigate against, prepare for and respond to wildfires and disasters.**



Why should DFR have a CWPP?

- As noted in the Texas Wildfire Protection Plan....
 - *In Texas 85% of Wildland Fires happen within 2 miles of a community.*
- Dallas has an extensive amount of critical WUI areas.
 - Mountain Creek Area
 - Trinity River Forest
 - 6k acres of City owned property



Why?

- **The DFR Vision Statement**
 - **“To be the best trained, technologically advanced, customer-focused fire service organization in the country.”**
 - **Largest Department in the State of Texas with a CWPP**
 - **We owe it to our customers of today and the future!**



Questions?

