

Supporting Oakland
and Alameda County
in reducing the risks
of wildfire danger to
people and property



EDUCATION
ADVOCACY
PROGRAMS
COMMUNITY BUILDING

[View in browser](#)

We have A LOT to be thankful for this year at OFSC!

[Read All About It](#)



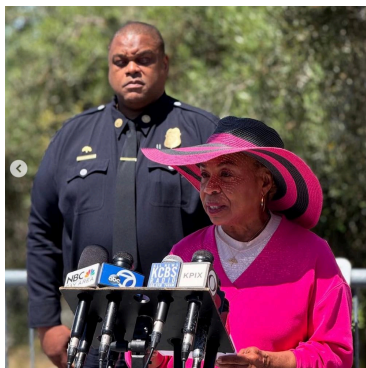
THREE NEW, VERY
DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS
(NOW BOARD MEMBERS!)



OAKLAND FIREWISE
COMMUNITIES



OAKLAND FIRE
DEPARTMENT /
EMSD



SUPPORT FROM LOCAL
OFFICIALS



A GRANT FROM PG&E



COMMUNITY PARTNERS
AND FELLOW ORGS



And YOU! From attending our community meetings, subscribing to our newsletter, following us on social media, to making the financial contributions that help keep OFSC connecting with the community.

Thank you for all that YOU have done to **SUPPORT** OFSC's work

BY THE NUMBERS



In our previous newsletter we shared that, through a grant from PG&E, OFSC successfully facilitated and completed critical vegetation management and fire mitigation projects on twenty-three residential properties and three key City of Oakland properties. Here's a few to review (and check out those numbers!):

Spees Canyon – 60 cubic yards of fuel removed



Defensible space creation at Spees Canyon (City-owned property) by extensively clearing vegetation that previously posed a direct wildfire threat to surrounding residences: Chipping logs and branches on ground, weed whacking of overgrown

Corner of Oakwood & Wild Current – 56 cubic yards removed



Evacuation Route Clearance: Ensuring clear, safe egress for residents by removing tree tunnels and overgrown hazards: trees along Oakwood and Glen Oaks Drive down to Wild Current were pruned up and trimmed back so that they didn't hang over the street.

Upper Sausal Creek (corner Ascot /Mastlands) – 100 cubic yards removed



Structural protection at Upper Sausal Creek (City-owned property) with aggressive vegetation removal to protect adjacent homes from wildfire: Removal of two big bay branches in creek, prune all tree branches up 10', removed dead vegetation on

vegetation 20' south and 20' North to large pine at top, prune all tree branches up 15' off the ground.

Clearing of overgrown invasive vegetation at corner of Wild Current/Oakwood that was growing into the evacuation route.

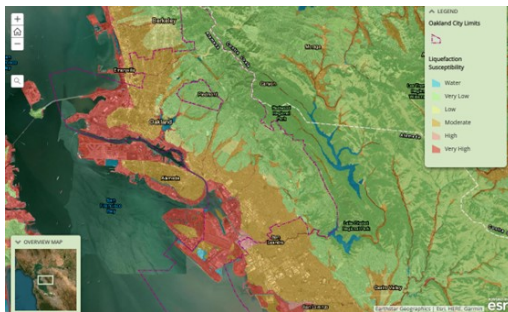
ground and ivy growing up trees, weed whacking up hillside behind homes.

For the entire list of project activities, details and more photos
SEE THE WHOLE STORY

NO DECEMBER MEETING

We're taking a break from meeting this month, but we look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on January 21, 2026 –the **special presentation** will be an update on Oakland's 2026 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) with Veronika Cole, Emergency Planning Coordinator, Emergency Management Services Division (EMSD).

REGISTER



YOUR INPUT IS REQUESTED

To reduce risk and increase resilience equitably, the mission of the City of Oakland Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is to establish and promote a comprehensive mitigation strategy and efforts to **protect the whole community and environment** from

identified natural and human-caused hazards. City staff are engaging with the community to collect feedback that will inform Oakland's 2026 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. **Be involved in the process!** Learn more & **Take the Survey** (available in 4 languages)

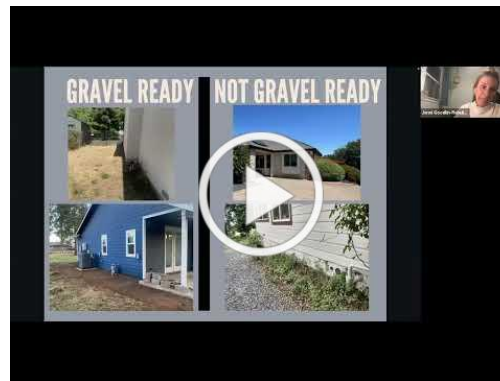
FOLLOW-UP TO OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

AN EXCELLENT AND INFORMATIVE PRESENTATION

At our November meeting, we heard from Jen Goodlin, Executive Director of the **Rebuild Paradise Foundation**. Founded after the 2018 Camp Fire, the organization partners with Paradise and surrounding communities to support grant programs and advocate for insurance companies to return to the region.

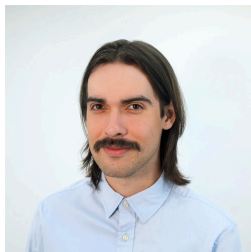
Their experience and advocacy on home hardening, defensible space, and navigating insurance offers **relatable and valuable lessons for local our communities.**

Just in case you missed it (or want to review and/or share), here's a great **RECAP**. You can also click on the image to view the recording.



If you have **suggestions for a future speaker** at our monthly meeting, **please let us know!**

MEETING FIRST-TIMER INTRODUCES HIMSELF AND WORK

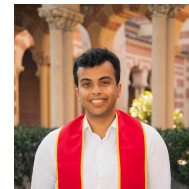


Kaleb Adams-Orozco

Fellow – Climate Resilience & Disaster Preparedness
CORE Community Organized Relief Effort

For some short background, I graduated from California State University Fullerton, studying Political Science, Public Policy, and Geography.

My fellow California Emergency Response Corps (CERC) member Abhay Manchala and I deploy to state-declared emergencies and are California's on-the-ground disaster workforce, stepping in wherever extra hands are most needed. When not on deployment, Abhay and I volunteer at our host site, **Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE*)**, to support communities from within.



CORE's work focuses on empowering communities to better prepare for, withstand, and recover from disasters. They listen to those affected by disasters and then respond accordingly. CORE consistently engages with marginalized and vulnerable populations through disaster-preparedness education, community-building efforts, urban-gardening projects, and wildfire-mitigation activities.

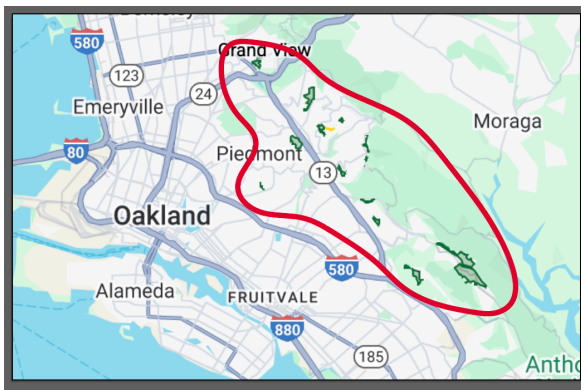
CORE is currently expanding climate resilience and disaster preparedness initiatives throughout the Bay Area, aiming to strengthen local capacity and support communities facing growing climate-related risks.

Thanks again for the invitation and opportunity. We are excited to work with the City of Oakland and participate in future OFSC activities.

Kaleb can be reached at Kaleb.adams-orozco@coreresponse.org

**Not to be confused with CORE: "Communities of Oakland Respond to Emergencies"*

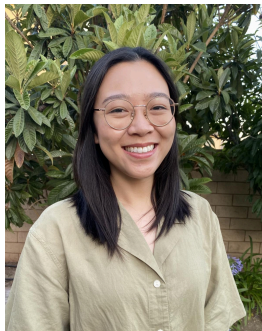
NEW INTERACTIVE FIREWISE MAP



Thanks to the help of the our new City of Oakland Wildfire Resiliency Fellows, Leslie and Julia (see our [November newsletter](#)), we now have an interactive map of featuring Oakland's 15 Firewise Recognized Sites (9 new in 2025!)

SEE MAP

OFSC can help your neighborhood group with the Firewise USA® recognition process – visit our program page [FIREWISE USA® FOR OAKLAND](#)



REMINDER TO SHARE YOUR FIREWISE EXPERIENCE — Isabel Qi is an Oakland resident and a PhD student at UC Berkeley studying Firewise communities and the homeowners insurance availability and affordability challenges. She'd love to hear about your experiences with organizing Firewise communities, any challenges you are facing with insurance, or your interactions with insurance companies. Please reach out if you're willing to share. Email: iqi@berkeley.edu

BUILDING COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE - YOU'RE INVITED!



You are invited to the Resilient Neighborhoods Network quarterly meeting and potluck.

Monday, December 15th
5:30 - 7:30pm
In-person, location given upon RSVP

RNN is a growing collective (currently 30) of interdependent neighborhood associations in the Bay Area who are dedicated to building collective resilience

through community connection, preparedness, and mutual support. We are home to numerous neighborhood associations, Firewise Communities, and self-led preparedness initiatives. Let's unite!

At this meeting, the focus will be how can we support each other in our work, so please come prepared with 1-2 things that the Network can currently help you with and something to share at the potluck.

If you'd like to attend, [RSVP here](#) or email Shirah at shirah@resilientpeeps.com.

MORE OF NOTE

- East Bay Wildfire Coalition of Governments (EBWC) Meeting: Dec. 17 / Wednesday / 9AM-12PM / In-person and online. Open to the public [Details](#)
- From Tom Grossman, Chair of the Oakland Wildfire Prevention Commission (WPC): the next meeting is January 15th from 5-7 p.m. at Oakland City Hall, room TBD. Agenda is expected to be posted on the city website a week before. From Elizabeth Stage, WPC member: since that hasn't been working well, you can send your email address to DHamilton2@oaklandca.gov to be added to the mailing list
- A Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection (WRAP) Working Group Meeting was held on November 4, 2025. See presentations from IBHS Chief Engineer Anne Cope on Zone 1 mitigation measures as well as a presentation from Katherine Rogers on Durabond Fencing solutions for Zone Zero fencing [View Recording](#)
- Cal Trans is conducting a study with regards to removing the truck ban on 580 (which would affect highway 13 as well). Of wildfire safety concern is that big rigs on 580 could cause more congestion on a major evacuation route. [Learn more on the CalTrans site](#) which also has a public portal link for comment

AND FINALLY

- NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS – Our newsletter is published once a month, about one week before our third-Wednesday-of-the-month meeting. If you have something you'd like to announce or share, send along a submission by the [first Monday of the month](#) for consideration. EMAIL: outreach@oaklandfiresafecouncil.org
- Was this newsletter forwarded to you? Join our mailing list: [SUBSCRIBE](#)
- The next OFSC meeting is January 21st



Oakland Firesafe Council (OFSC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to reducing the risks of wildfire danger to people and property through preparedness education, programs and materials, outreach, advocacy and volunteer opportunities.

[CONTACT](#)

OFSC free services and communications are received by thousands in Oakland and the East Bay. We're only able to continue doing this with the help of donors like you.

SUPPORT

Oakland Firesafe Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Donations are tax-deductible.

Publication #161

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