

	
Director	CAO

<i>COUNCIL AGENDA</i>	
Date: <u>May 30, 2022</u>	Item: <u>9.</u>



9.

DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER BC V7V 3T3

COUNCIL REPORT

Date:	April 14, 2022
From:	D. Clark, Fire Chief, Fire & Rescue Services
Subject:	Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update
File:	2700-01

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report dated April 14, 2022 titled “Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Progress Update” be received for information.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on the progress of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) recommendations. The objectives of these recommendations are to review and amend the current District of West Vancouver regulatory framework to incorporate:

- wildfire mitigation and preparedness considerations
- protect critical infrastructure and mitigate post wildfire impacts
- undertake fuel treatments to improve emergency access
- reduce wildfire hazard on private land
- reduce wildfire threat through fuel management
- increase public wildfire awareness
- reduce wildfire risk from industrial sources
- improve water availability for emergency response
- improve access/egress to enhance emergency preparedness
- enhance wildfire equipment and training
- to encourage FireSmart initiatives.

2.0 Executive Summary

This CWPP provides the District with a framework that can be used to review and assess areas of identified moderate and high fire risk within the District.

The District has completed 31%, or seventeen of the fifty four recommendations, to date. Highlights of the completed CWPP initiatives include:

- Working cooperatively with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) to secure funding for community protection planning and fuel

- management;
- Completion of a Wildfire Development Permit Area to increase FireSmart compliance of new development in the District;
- Completion of seasonal outreach to communicate FireSmart information via social media, and hand delivery of over 800 educational door hangers in the most vulnerable neighbourhoods;
- Spatial delineation of FireSmart Zones to facilitate FireSmart planning and implementation;
- Identification and recruitment of Community Champions (one secured in each of Horseshoe Bay and Caulfield FireSmart Zones) and FireSmart Board members consisting of community citizens and District employees;
- Completion of cross-training with BC Wildfire Service and a multi-agency “Dry Lightning” exercise with a commitment to maintain and build these interagency relationships;
- Metro Vancouver Wildfire Tabletop exercise scheduled for May 25- participants include West Vancouver Fire & Rescue, District of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue, Coquitlam Fire, British Columbia Wildfire Service and Metro Vancouver Watershed Protection Officers.
- Establishment of a permanent base at Station 2 (Horseshoe Bay) to store and service wildland firefighting equipment (a Type 2 structural protection unit put into service in 2021, initial training completed in 2021 with a refresher training program completed in April 2022);
- Procurement process started for a second Type 2 structural protection unit;
- FireSmart assessment of critical infrastructure (31 structures);
- Fuel management prescriptions for four high-priority polygons totaling 65.8 ha;
- Community events including a Wildfire Community Preparedness Day and two Wildfire Development Permit Area workshops; and
- Fuel management prescriptions have been developed for approximately 48.1 ha of high priority Wildland Urban Interface.

3.0 Legislation/Bylaw/Policy

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan is directly related to Council’s priority titled ‘Environment’ which articulates the commitment to protect our natural environment, reduce our impact on it, and adapt to climate change.

4.0 Council Strategic Objective(s)/Official Community Plan Council Strategic Plan

Councils Strategic Objectives address the threats of wildfires and floods in section three Climate Change & Nature.

Official Community Plan

The District's 2018 Official Community Plan recognizes that climate impacts, such as sea level rise and more frequent extreme weather events, are being observed around the world. Flooding from king tides, summer droughts and increased wildfire risk are all hazards understood to be impacted by our changing climate. In response, the Official Community Plan identifies new policy directions to enable our infrastructure- and our community – to remain resilient. The Official Community Plan looks at wildfire risk through the following policies:

Policy NE 1: Wildfire Hazard Development Permit Area Guidelines

5.0 Financial Implications

This report is for Council's information on the progress related to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan recommendations. To date the costs associated with the Community Wildfire Protection Plan have been covered by a number of grants from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). So far we have received funding from four grants:

- CRI-250 \$70.01k
- CRI-347 \$139.06k
- CRI-434 \$102.96k
- CRI-551 \$36.75k

6.0 Background

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan process was created in British Columbia as a response to the devastating 2003 wildfire in Kelowna. As an integral part of the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative, managed and funded through the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Working Group, Community Wildfire Protection Plan aims to develop strategic recommendations to assist in improving safety and to reduce the risk of damage to property from wildfires.

The District staff have recognized wildfire mitigation and planning to be a foundational component of emergency planning and preparedness. In early 2019, B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd. was retained to assist the District in developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. This Community Wildfire Protection Plan focuses on integrating the updated Provincial Strategic Threat Analysis, updated BC Wildfire Service fuel type mapping, and the updated and improved wildfire threat analysis methodology.

6.1 Previous Decisions

Council, at its NOVEMBER 18, 2019, regular meeting passed the

following resolution(s):

1. the 2019 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), attached as Appendix A to the report from the Fire Chief dated October 31, 2019 be approved;
2. the submission of a grant application to the 2020 Union of BC Municipalities Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) Program to support the implementation of West Vancouver’s CWPP be approved; and
3. staff report back to Council by April, 2020 with a workplan for implementing the CWPP that identifies short, medium and long-term opportunities and initiatives, including funding implications.

7.0 Analysis

7.1 Progress Update - Community Wildfire Protection Plan

For more information the entire Community Wildfire Protection Plan is available at <https://westvancouver.ca/home-building-property/emergency-preparedness/fire-rescue/community-wildfire-protection-plan>.

Item	Department Responsible	Recommendation / Next Steps	Status
#1	Planning	<p>Review and amend the Official Community Plan (OCP) Section 2.2 to include a growth management policy which considers wildfire risk and other natural hazards during strategy development. By containing development within a specified area, the overall fire risk is less than when compared to areas of intermixed development, i.e. sprawl. In intermixed or rural areas there is often the potential to have inadequate or unreliable water supply for suppression, as well as longer emergency response times. By constraining development, the District can ensure that future development occurs where urban services, such as water for fire suppression, is available, reliable, and accessible.</p> <p>Overall intermix and rural areas are generally more vulnerable (at a higher risk) to interface fires.</p>	On track

#2	Planning	Review and amend OCP Section 2.2 to include a proactive approach to reducing wildfire risk to new developments by ensuring that developers hire a Qualified Professional to identify wildfire hazard adjacent to planned developments, determine fuel mitigation options, and implement fuel treatments prior to the construction of new developments. This is particularly relevant for new developments in the wildland urban interface (e.g. the Upper Lands, Cypress Village, Rodgers Creek, etc.). Consider incorporating this recommendation into the Wildfire Development Permit guidelines when they are developed.	COMPLETE
#3	Fire	Review and update the Area-Specific landscaping guidelines that apply to areas within the proposed wildfire Development Permit Area (DPA) to ensure that they do not conflict with FireSmart vegetation, set-back, and building material guidelines developed to inform the Wildfire DPA requirements.	On track
#4	Planning and Parks	Review the OCP and associated supporting documents (e.g. park-specific master plans) and consider parks acquisition and maintenance through a wildfire risk lens, including consideration for long-term maintenance costs and access. Consider amendments where needed, including the following: 1) require the use of a Qualified Professional (QP) in review, assessment, and siting of parks and park access prior to acceptance; and 2) ensure that bylaws provide the District authority to request modification (either fuels, access, or siting) based upon QP recommendation and prior to acceptance to ensure that the park is received in, and able to be maintained in, an acceptable range of risk.	On track

#5	Planning	Review Bylaw No. 4940, 2017: Development Procedures Bylaw and update the OCP to incorporate a Wildfire Development Permit Area where wildfire interface guidelines based on FireSmart principles apply. See Section 5.2.2 Planning and Development for further details regarding a new development permit.	COMPLETE
#6	Fire	Review District Fire Prevention Bylaw No. 4366, 2004: Fire Protection and Emergency Response Bylaw and update to include wording that expands the types of combustible materials that are prohibited to accumulate on private property. This should include accumulations on and under exterior projections, such as decks and patios, near the home, and in gutters and roofs. The revised bylaw should provide the District the authority to require removal/clean-up of combustible materials or to complete removal and recoup costs from the owner. Consider including language specific to green waste, not just garbage, under the prohibitions section to ensure that there is a legally enforceable bylaw to prevent flammable materials to accumulate, collect or to remain on the property unless securely contained.	COMPLETE
#7	Fire	Update the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Bylaw and remove reference to the Community Forester. Consider transferring the authority to action and dictate activities that may contribute to the risk of fires to the Fire Chief or other District staff.	COMPLETE
#8	Fire	Work with the Fire and Building Department (i.e., building inspectors) to ensure house numbering is posted prior to occupancy of new development and to provide instructions on how and where best to affix numbering to	On track

		facilitate emergency response and evacuation efforts. Consider encouraging home owner participation via a District-wide engagement campaign and providing incentives such as the opportunity to acquire/purchase discounted address signs.	
#9	Planning	Revise Bylaw No. 4892, 2016: Tree Bylaw to include language which allows the issuance of a permit for cutting of trees if it is required to reduce wildfire hazard within the wildland urban interface, as determined by a Qualified Professional.	COMPLETE
#10	Planning	Review the OCP and strengthen existing OCP policies regarding natural hazards that have the potential to impact values within the District of West Vancouver. Natural hazards include, but are not limited to, wildfire and interface fire which has the potential to impact public health and safety, economics (e.g. through evacuations, loss of tourism, interruption of services), ecosystems, habitat, and water quality among other values. Identification of natural hazards such as wildfire can allow for planning and policies to be put in place to increase District resilience, mitigate potential damages and increase public and official awareness of risk.	On track
#11	Parks	The District's existing park maintenance program should be reviewed and updated to facilitate a combined approach that addresses both public safety (hazard trees) and wildfire risk (hazardous fuels). Tree mortality associated with drought (particularly shallow-rooted species such as western red cedar and western hemlock) should be incorporated into this review to ensure that these trees are not	On track

		increasing wildfire or tree failure risk across the District.	
#12	Fire	The use of fire-resistant construction materials, building design and landscaping should be considered for all critical infrastructure when completing upgrades or establishing new infrastructure. Additionally, vegetation setbacks around critical infrastructure should be compliant with FireSmart guidelines. Secondary power sources are important to reduce critical infrastructure vulnerability in the event of an emergency which cuts power for days, or even weeks.	On track
#13	Fire	It is recommended that formal FireSmart assessments (by a Qualified Professional) be completed of critical infrastructure such as the fire halls, water infrastructure, and others as identified in this CWPP (Table 3) and by the District.	COMPLETE
#14	Parks	The District should develop a plan for post fire rehabilitation that considers the procurement of seed, seedlings and materials required to regenerate an extensive burn area (1,000-5,000 ha). The opportunity to conduct meaningful rehabilitation post fire will be limited to a short fall season (September to November). The focus of initial rehabilitation efforts should be on slope stabilization and infrastructure protection. These issues should form the foundation of an action plan that lays out the necessary steps to stabilize and rehabilitate the burn area.	On track
#15	Fire	Conduct future assessments to explore the potential hydrologic and geomorphic impacts of wildfire on the watersheds and community. Alternatively, there may be an option to complete a stand-alone	On track

		assessment to help identify and quantify the post-fire hazards, levels of risk to the community, and mitigation options. Exploration of potential funding opportunities through the province and the National Disaster Mitigation Program may be worthwhile.	
#16	Fire	Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to assess the area suitable for treatment (i.e., high hazard and non-private) along Highway 1 (Upper Levels) and Highway 99 and reduce hazardous fuels within 150 m of either side of the road, where possible. This is to increase public safety/improve emergency access in the event of an evacuation or wildfire event.	On track
#17	Parks	Proceed with detailed assessment, prescription development, and treatment of proposed treatment units identified and prioritized in this CWPP.	On track
#18	Parks	If and when operational fuel treatments are conducted within the District area of interest, treatment monitoring should be completed by a qualified professional in order to schedule the next set of maintenance activities (5–10 years out). This can be completed with a CWPP update or as a stand-alone exercise.	On track
#19	Fire	Apply for a FireSmart demonstration grant through the Community Resiliency Investment program. This type of fuel treatment can display the practices and principles of FireSmart activities to the public in the form of demonstration treatments. These small projects are not necessarily completed to reduce fire behaviour or increase stand resiliency in any measurable way, but instead are prioritized more by their visibility to the public and combining the treatment with	On track

		elements of public education (signage, community work days, public tours, active demonstrations of operations, etc.).	
#20	Parks	Continue to offer yard waste pick-up and disposal opportunities and consider developing and implementing a community chipper program with the help of neighbourhood representatives. As a demonstration, this program can begin twice per year in two separate neighbourhoods. This program can also be implemented in conjunction with community clean-up days.	On track
#21	Planning	Review the OCP and include wildfire as a natural hazard development permit area. Review similar Development Permit Areas established in other jurisdictions and use as models for various aspects of the Development Permit (DP) process. The DP should be continually updated to incorporate changes in zoning and the wildland urban interface. The following aspects should be considered in the OCP review and wildfire DP development: 1) Establish DP objectives (e.g. minimize risk to property and people from wildland fires; minimize risk to forested area surrounding the AOI; and conserve the visual and ecological assets of the forests surrounding communities; etc.; and 2) Where possible, it is recommended to mandate FireSmart construction materials, some of which may be beyond BC Building Code within the established wildfire hazard development permit area.	COMPLETE
#22	Planning	Ensure that Development Permit (DP) applications are provided to the fire department for opportunity for input prior to approval. As more wildfire DP applications are received, the	Ongoing

		importance of communication and integration between the fire department and the Development Services department will increase.	
#23	Fire	Develop a landscaping standard which lists flammable non-compliant vegetation and landscaping materials, non-flammable drought and pest resistant alternatives, and tips on landscape design to reduce maintenance, watering requirements, avoid wildlife attractants, and reduce wildfire hazard. Consider making it publicly available for residents and homeowners outside of the planned Development Permit Area (can be provided at issue of building permit and made available at the District office or other strategic locations). For further assistance in creating a FireSmart landscape and to obtain a list of fire resistant plants, refer to the FireSmart Guide to Landscaping, https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/resources-library/firesmart-guide-to-landscaping .	On track
#24	Planning	Engage the development/ building community (may include developers, builders, landscapers, and architects) in Development Permit process. This can be accomplished through a series of workshops/ informational sessions to: 1) increase awareness of wildfire risk, 2) demonstrate that there are a variety of actions which can be undertaken to immediately and measurably reduce the risk to the homeowner and community, 3) discuss various strategies and actions which could be implemented to meet DP objectives, 4) educate and inform regarding the DP process and expectations.	COMPLETE
#25	Planning	Incorporate Qualified Professional (QP) reports and sign-off as part of the	COMPLETE

		guidelines associated with a Wildfire Development Permit Area.	
#26	Fire	Conduct FireSmart assessments of the Hollyburn cabins. Particular attention should be paid to the location and vegetation surrounding propane tanks.	On track
#27	Fire	The District should hire a Qualified Professional (QP) or consider training local fire department staff members as Local FireSmart Representatives to assist the various communities in complying with FireSmart principles at the neighbourhood and individual home-level.	On track
#28	Communications	This report and associated maps should be made publicly available through webpage, social media, and public FireSmart meetings.	COMPLETE
#29	Fire	Complete or schedule periodic updates of the CWPP to gauge progress and update the threat assessment (hazard mapping) for changes in fuels, forest health, land planning, stand structure or changes to infrastructure in the interface. The frequency of updates is highly dependent upon major changes which would impact the District's wildfire threat assessment or the rate at which wildfire risk reduction efforts are implemented. An evaluation of major changes (including funding program changes that may lead to new opportunities) and the potential need for a CWPP update should be initiated every 5–7 years.	On track
#30	Communications	Develop a social media strategy and ensure that its full power is leveraged to communicate fire bans, high or extreme Fire Danger days, wildfire prevention	COMPLETE

		initiatives and programs, easily implementable FireSmart activities, updates on current fires and associated air quality, road closures, and other real-time information in an accurate and timely manner.	
#31	Fire	Promote FireSmart approaches for wildfire risk reduction and the DPA process to District residents through various engagement and education events. Aim to conduct the engagement/promotion campaign prior and during the fire season. Continue supplying FireSmart materials to homeowners in the interface during these engagement campaigns.	On track
#32	Communications	Develop a FireSmart webpage for the District of West Vancouver website. This could include the current Fire Danger Rating, Development Permit Area guidelines and application procedures, contact information for the BC Wildfire Service fire information line and reporting wildfires line, information about FireSmart workshops or other events, a link to the FireSmart Manual, and information about purchasing sprinkler protection systems.	COMPLETE
#33	Fire	Work towards FireSmart community recognition, at the neighbourhood level and facilitate uptake into the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program. This will help reduce fire risk and aid in further funding applications.	COMPLETE
#34	Fire	Facilitate the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program uptake within the District and enhance its applications by including the following: 1) inviting BC Wildfire Service crews to participate in and support the annual FireSmart events set up by	On track

		<p>participating neighbourhoods. 2) Encourage individual homeowner participants to complete the self-administered FireSmart home assessment tool. 3) Include within the FireSmart Canada Community Assessment Report the standard recommendation that participating neighbourhoods hold a home hazard assessment workshop as one of their FireSmart events.</p>	
#35	Fire	<p>Promote the use of the FireSmart Home Partners Program offered by the Partners in Protection Association, which facilitates voluntary FireSmart assessments on private property. Use the opportunity to educate the home or business owner about the hazards which exist on their property and provide easy improvements to reduce their risk. Ensure Development Permit Area guidelines are communicated during these assessments.</p>	On track
#36	Fire	<p>Encourage schools to adopt and deploy existing school education programs to engage youth in wildfire management and risk reduction. There is emergency preparedness curriculum available provincially, which includes preparedness for a variety of natural hazards, including wildfire (Master of Disaster). Other options/value-added activities include consulting with Association of BC Forest Professionals and British Columbia Wildfire Service (Fraser Fire Zone), as well as local fire department and FireSmart representatives to facilitate and recruit volunteer teachers and experts to help with curriculum development to be delivered in elementary and/or secondary schools (field trips, guest speakers, etc.).</p>	On track

#37	Fire	Develop and work with all key stakeholders (BC Wildfire Service, BC Parks, recreational groups/representatives, District staff, industrial operators, Metro Vancouver staff, and local First Nations) to review current Interface Steering Committee processes and members. The purpose of the steering committee is to identify wildfire related issues in the area and to develop collaborative solutions to minimize wildfire risks. The following subject areas are recommended for the group to explore: 1) Development of large, landscape level fuel breaks; 2) Public education and awareness needs; 3) Multi-disciplinary, multi- jurisdictional fuel treatment projects/ hazard abatement projects; 4) Development of a funding strategy; and 5) Reduction of human-caused fires, fire prevention and right-of-way management.	On track
#38	Fire	Work towards educating homeowners within fire limits areas (i.e., outside of the road accessible fire service area). This is particularly applicable to the Hollyburn cabins and boat access only areas. It is common, especially in the case of second homeowners / vacation owners, for them to be unaware of the lack of fire services in their area (in the event they call 911).	On track
#39	Fire	Work with industrial operators such as BC Hydro and Fortis BC to ensure that high risk activities, such as grubbing/brushing and right-of-way mowing work do not occur during high fire danger times to reduce chance of ignitions as per the Wildfire Act. Ensure that rights-of-way do not contain fine fuel accumulations (easily cured) prior to and during the wildfire season and are maintained in a low hazard state in order to serve as fuel breaks.	On track

#40	Fire	The location of firefighting equipment and water tanks for firefighting suppression efforts should be mapped. This information should be continually updated and provided to North Shore Emergency Management and the BC Wildfire Service.	On track
#41	Engineering	Commission a scenario-based cost/benefit analysis of improving the limitations of the water system so that it can support domestic water needs, structural firefighting, and wildland firefighting demands in the event of an emergency both currently and into the future.	On track
#42	Engineering	All new development outside existing District water systems should have a water system which meets or exceeds minimum standards of NFPA 1142, Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting ⁴ . The fire department should review the water supply to ensure it provides sufficient placement, flow, and reliability for suppression needs and that secondary power is available in the event of power outages.	On track
#43	Fire	Complete and participate in regular testing of, and updates to, the North Shore evacuation plan once completed in 2020.	COMPLETE
#44	Fire	Consider developing a community wildfire pre- planning brochure that addresses the following: 1) locations of staging areas; 2) identifies water reservoirs, communications requirements (i.e., radio frequencies), minimum resource requirements for structure protection in the event of an interface fire, and values at risk; and 3)	COMPLETE

		maps of the area of interest.	
#45	Parks	<p>Develop a Total Access Plan for the District to map and inventory trail and road network in natural areas for suppression planning, identify areas with insufficient access and to aid in strategic planning.</p> <p>This plan may also be used to inform future access improvements within the District.</p> <p>The plan should include identification of access infrastructure (i.e. roads and bridges), location, widths, and weight limits. It should also include the location of all structures within the District, including the cabins on Hollyburn Mountain. This would help to facilitate appropriate suppression equipment allocation during a wildfire event. Georeferenced maps with ground-truthed locations of potential optimal firebreaks should also be developed as part of the Total Access Plan and shared with fire suppression personnel and BC Wildfire Service to support emergency response in the event of a wildfire. The plan should be updated every five years, or more regularly, as needed to incorporate additions and/or changes.</p>	On track
#46	Parks	Include a Qualified Professional with experience in operational wildland/interface fire suppression in the planning and strategic siting of future trails and parks.	On track
#47	Fire	West Vancouver Fire & Rescue should work with BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) to initiate and maintain an annual structural and interface training program. As part of the training, it is recommended that annual reviews are conducted to ensure Personal	COMPLETE

		<p>Protective Equipment and wildland equipment resources are complete, in working order, and the crews are well-versed in their set-up and use. It is recommended West Vancouver Fire Rescue engage in yearly practical wildland fire training with BCWS that covers at a minimum: pump, hose, hydrant, air tanker awareness, and deployment of Structural Protection Units. Interface training should include completion of a joint wildfire simulation exercise and safety training specific to wildland fire and risks inherent with natural areas. It is recognized that BCWS crew resources are limited and their availability and is highly dependent upon the current fire season and other British Columbia Wildfire Service priorities.</p>	
#48	Fire	<p>West Vancouver Fire & Rescue should engage in regular cadence of communication with the BC Wildfire Service Fraser Fire Zone, Cultus/Haig Fire Base to foster a strong relationship and identify potential cooperative wildfire risk reduction opportunities.</p>	COMPLETE
#49	Fire	<p>Ensure that West Vancouver Fire & Rescue (WVFR) maintains the capability to effectively suppress wildland fires, through wildfire- specific training sessions. Ensure all WVFR members continue to have Structural Protection Program – Wildland Firefighting 1 at a minimum. Consider expanding the training program to maintain a high level of member education and training specific to interface and wildland fires. The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) also offers SPP 115 (formerly S-115) to train structural firefighters on the use of wildfire pumps and hose, and fire service hose and hydrants in the application of Structural Protection</p>	On track

		Units. The fire department should continue the practice of staying up to date on wildfire training opportunities, and to train members in this capacity, as training resources/budgets allow.	
#50	Parks	Train District parks and utilities staff in S-100, particularly those who undertake a considerable amount of work in the wildland urban interface and in forested areas within the District. The nature of their jobs may allow these District staff members to have an opportunity to provide immediate initial response and suppression before the West Vancouver Fire & Rescue or British Columbia Wildfire Service are able to respond.	On track
#51	Fire	<p>Work with the other North Shore communities (City of North Vancouver, District of North Vancouver), North Shore Emergency Management, local distributors, and homeowners within the District with the objective of improving education of homeowners and removing some barriers to FireSmart action. Local distributors can include: hardware stores, garden centers, and aggregate providers. Initiatives may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Developing and delivery of FireSmart workshop(s) for local distributors on FireSmart issues and solutions/advice for homeowners. These distributors can be educated upon which supplies are FireSmart and in what configuration they can be used (for example, external sprinkler system equipment, aggregates and ground cover, wire mesh for vents, deck skirting). 2) Advocating for a FireSmart branding in the retail stores (could be stickers on shelf pricing or a FireSmart-specific section) to increase public exposure to projects that can be done at a relatively low cost. 	On track

		<p>3) Compile a database of local service providers and retailers which can help to install or complete FireSmart home improvements. These providers may be able to further partner to flesh out a list of FireSmart options for various home improvements, based upon a range of variables (for example, price, time to deliver, installation costs, and aesthetics).</p> <p>Develop general cost implications of improvements so property owners can prioritize replacements.</p>	
#52	Fire	<p>Expand on existing programs which serve to remove barriers to action for homeowners by providing methods for them to cheaply and easily dispose of wood waste removed from their property. This could include scheduled community chipping opportunities, and/or yard waste dumpsters available by month in neighbourhood. Programs should be available during times of greatest resident activity (likely spring and fall).</p>	On track
#53	Fire	<p>Complete a vulnerability assessment of all critical infrastructure, secondary power sources, and fuel availability. Review current capability of secondary power sources, identify vulnerabilities, and prioritize needs, in the case of prolonged or extensive power outages. Upgrade or realign resources, as prioritized.</p>	On track
#54	Fire	<p>Acquire a Type II Structural Protection Unit (SPU), which provides protection for 25-30 residences, and an off-road capable wildfire response vehicle to improve wildfire response.</p>	COMPLETE

8.0 Options

8.1 Recommended Option

THAT

Council receive the report for information.

8.2 Considered Option

THAT

Council may request further information.

9.0 Conclusion

This report provides Council with a progress update on the District's Community Wildfire Protection Plan Recommendations which are now 31% complete. The progress of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan has been delayed due to the implications of COVID-19, supply chain issues, staffing issues and the cost of fuel. This report recognizes that the Community Wildfire Protection is an ongoing project, and that the District will need continue to review and assess areas of identified moderate and high fire risk within the District and to develop emergency plans, emergency response, evacuation plans, communication and education programs (including FireSmart), bylaw development in areas of fire risk, and the management of potentially hazardous forest lands adjacent to the community.



Author:

Dave Clark, Fire Chief, Fire & Rescue Services



Author:

Jim Bailey, Director, Planning & Development Services



Author:

Date: April 14, 2022
From: Dave Clark, Fire Chief, Fire & Rescue Services
Subject: Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

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Author: 
Jenn Moller, Director, Engineering & Transportation Services

Author: 
Donna Powers, Director, Community Relations & Communications