



October 20, 2006

RENEWAL OF LETTER OF INTENT

HILLS EMERGENCY FORUM

Since October 19, 1993, the chief executives of the City of Berkeley, the City of Oakland, the East Bay Municipal Utility District, the East Bay Regional Park District, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of California have demonstrated a mutual desire to continue the local inter-jurisdictional council known as the Hills Emergency Forum. We believe that the continuation of this council provides an excellent example of inter-jurisdictional cooperation on a regional basis, strengthens important linkages among our organizations and area residents, and provides a regional approach to fire prevention, preparedness and suppression issues in the urban-wildland intermix area of the Oakland-Berkeley hills.

The following information shall serve as a renewal Letter of Intent among our organizations to expand our membership to include two new members: the City of El Cerrito and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This letter sets forth a general description of the purpose, function and organization involved in the operation of the Hills Emergency Forum. Our mutual signature on this Letter of Intent will indicate our agency's intention to participate in the meetings of the Hills Emergency Forum. Meetings shall continue to only be scheduled when representatives of all agencies can be present because the absence of any one at a meeting would diminish the group's overriding goals of effective communication and consensus building.

The Hills Emergency Forum shall be composed of the signatories to this letter, or their successors, who shall meet not less than semi-annually to act as a policy body to receive reports and provide feedback and direction on fire prevention, mitigation, suppression and planning for the urban-wildland intermix area of the Oakland-Berkeley hill area. It is the intent of the signatories to expand membership in the Hills Emergency Forum as necessary and to share our findings with other affected public agencies. Each participating organization shall commit

♦ City of Berkeley ♦ City of El Cerrito ♦ City of Oakland
♦ California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ♦ East Bay Municipal Utility District
♦ East Bay Regional Park District ♦ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory ♦ University of California Berkeley
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necessary financial resources for staff support as determined by the Hills Emergency Forum and shall assign a staff member to serve as the lead or coordinating staff to the Forum. This staff member shall serve on the Staff Liaison Committee to the Forum.

The purpose of the Hills Emergency Forum continues to be to:

- Provide a forum for considering and evaluating fire-related standards, codes and ordinances for fuel management, equipment and training.
- Provide an umbrella organization or clearing house for information collection and evaluation related to hill area fire hazards.
- Provide a forum for fire response groups and decision makers to build consensus.
- Demonstrate a united and coordinated effort to the public, media and area legislators.
- Serve as a possible intermediary step and the foundation for a more formalized local or regional organization.

The functions of the Hills Emergency Forum continue to be as follows:

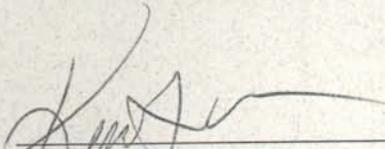
- To act as a liaison between technical and policy-level groups.
- To coordinate development of fire and vegetation management standards, codes and ordinances.
- To advise local jurisdictions of fire policy recommendations approved by its membership.
- To inform members of relevant state legislative action.
- To coordinate fire operations preparation, training, prevention and response.
- To identify new areas of potential cooperation.
- To explore financing and organizational alternatives as needed.

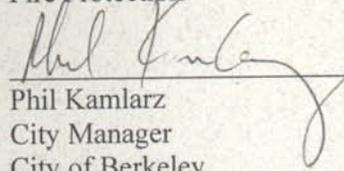
The organizational structure and operating principles of the Hills Emergency Forum continue to be as follows:

- The chief executives of each participating organization shall participate in the Hills Emergency Forum.
- There shall be not less than two regularly scheduled meetings each calendar year.
- Financial support shall be as determined by the Hills Emergency Forum.
- Meetings shall be scheduled to ensure participation by all Forum members.

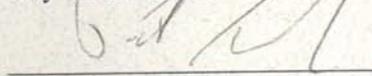
- Each year one member organization shall commit personnel resources to serve as lead and shall be responsible for administrative and overall coordinating details of Forum activities. The lead organization shall manage on behalf of the Forum the following responsibilities: record keeping, preparation of minutes, mailings, scheduling of meetings, clerical assistance, agenda preparation, follow up on assignments and coordination with standing committees. These administrative and logistical tasks may be subcontracted as agreed upon by Forum members.
- The Staff Liaison Committee shall be a standing committee which makes reports directly to the Forum. There shall be additional committees established as required who will report to the Staff Liaison Committee.

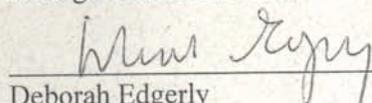
Following signature update of this Letter of Intent, staff representatives from the nine participating jurisdictions shall meet formally to implement the Letter of Intent. This agreement supersedes the letters of intent dated October 19, 1993 and renewed October 19, 1999.

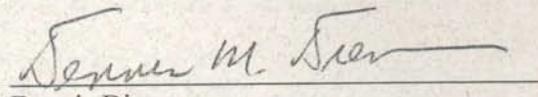

 Deputy Director Ken McLean
 California Department of Forestry and
 Fire Protection


 Phil Kamlarz
 City Manager
 City of Berkeley

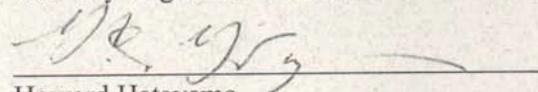

 Scott Hanin
 City Manager
 City of El Cerrito

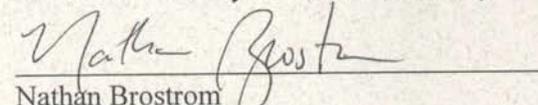

 Chief Pete Nowicki
 Moraga Orinda Fire District


 Deborah Edgerly
 City Administrator
 City of Oakland


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 East Bay Municipal Utility District


 Patrick O'Brien
 General Manager
 East Bay Regional Park District


 Howard Hatayama
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 University of California, Berkeley