



Parkrose Fire Station

Emergency Preparedness Report

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Parkrose Community Plan

January 2022



THE BUREAU OF
**PLANNING &
SUSTAINABILITY**

Emergency Preparedness

Part 1: Existing Conditions

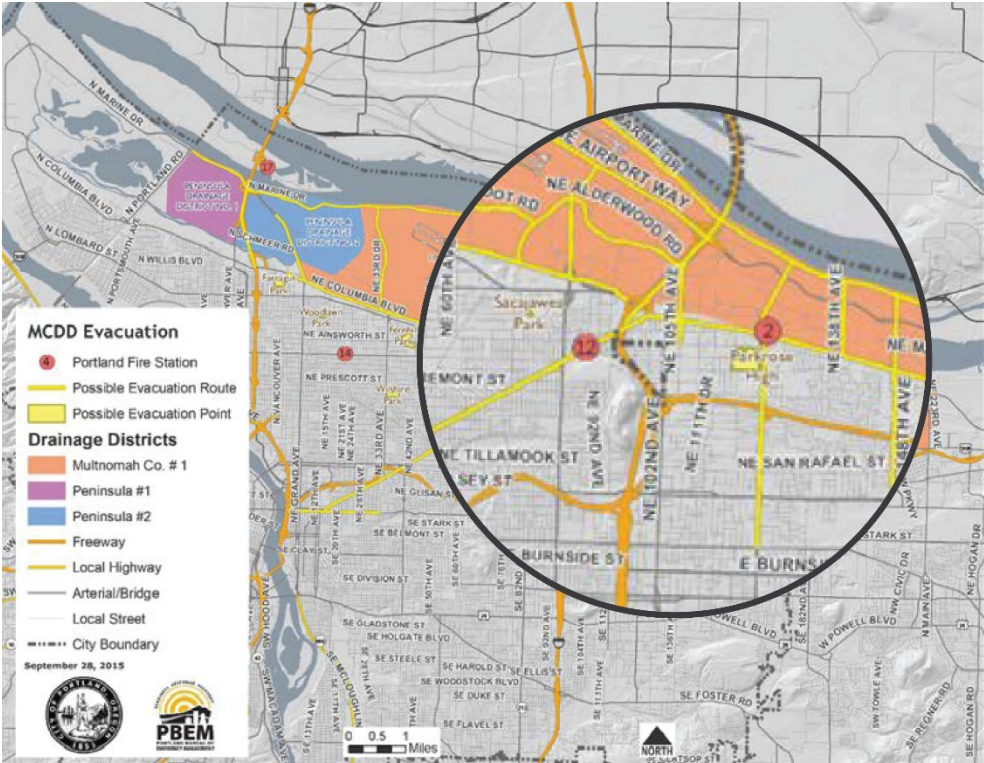
The purpose of the Existing Conditions section is to provide information on the hazardous natural phenomena that could potentially hit the Portland region, as well as an overview of the emergency preparedness resources available for the Parkrose community.

There are at least four natural hazards identified in the Portland region: earthquakes; volcanic eruptions; wildfires, floods, increasing heatwaves; and diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Several city agencies and community-based organizations provide resources to address some of these hazards and reduce risk to community members. In the Parkrose area, emergency preparedness resources include:

Evacuation plans

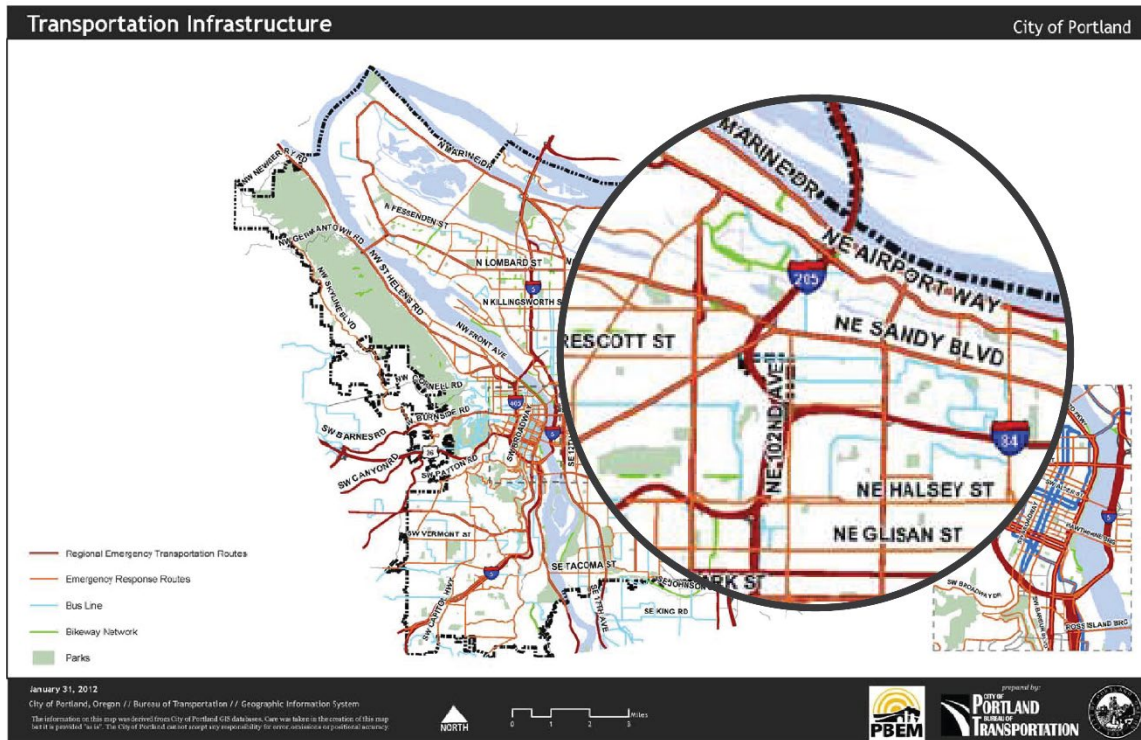
PBEM’s Basic Emergency Operation Plan (2016). The plan provides information on possible evacuation routes and possible evacuation points in case of flooding, levee breach or failure, hazardous material release, transportation incidents, and suspected or threatened terrorism.

The plan defines the northern sector of Parkrose as an Area with Special Planning called Multnomah County Drainage District (Map 1). Possible evacuation routes in case of emergencies in northern Parkrose include NE Marine Dr, Sandy Boulevard, NE 122nd Ave, and NE 105th Ave.



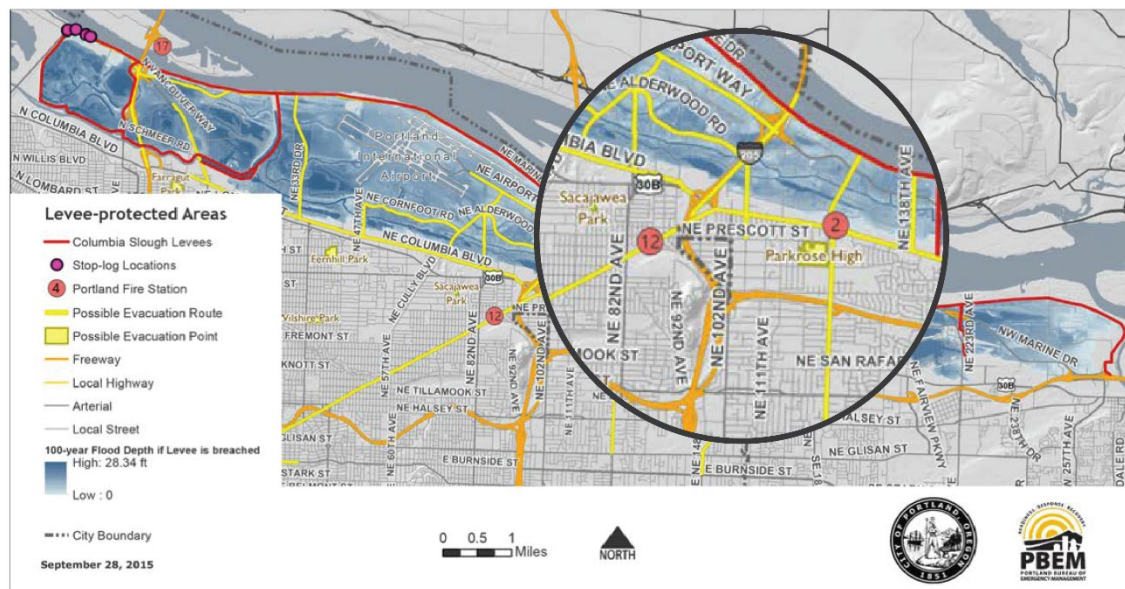
Map 1 – Multnomah County Drainage District. Portland Bureau of Emergency Management.

Earthquake response appendix (2012). Provides a transportation map with regional emergency response routes in case of earthquakes (Map 2).



Map 2 – Transportation emergency routes – Portland Bureau of Transportation

Flood Hazard-Specific Appendix (2018). Includes potential evacuation routes in case of flooding, as well as possible evacuation points (Map 3).



Map 2 – Possible evacuation routes in case of flooding – Portland Bureau of Emergency Management

Safe spots during disasters

Basic Earthquake Emergency Communication Node (BEECN). BEECN is a place to go in Portland after a major earthquake, to ask for emergency assistance if telephone service is down or report severe damage or injury. Each site includes volunteers with a red tent, a radio to report severe damage or injuries, a first aid kit, and emergency information. In Parkrose, the BEECN NE-19 is located at the Parkrose High School (12003 NE Shaver Street).

Fire Station 02 - Parkrose. There is one fire station in Parkrose. On-duty personnel includes two company officers, five firefighters, and one firefighter paramedic.

Emergency assistance

NET - Argay-Parkrose. The NET team provides assistance in different capacities, including emergency training events, assisting at warming and cooling centers, sandbagging during potential floods, search and rescue functions after earthquakes, and providing radio coverage through Amateur Radio Operators (AROs). Most recently, the NET team hosted a COVID-19 Informational Campaign Support, and assisted operations during wildfires occurred in September 2020.

Trauma Intervention Program NW (TIP). The program consists of a group of specially trained citizen volunteers who provide emotional aid and practical support and resources to victims of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours following a tragedy.

COVID 19 Assistance. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Historic Parkrose has developed different assisting programs for the Parkrose community, including:

- COVID 19 Emergency Rent Assistance Program (ERAP): Rental assistance through partnerships with PHB and Home Forward
- Civic Life/JVIC Program: Distribution of household grocery gift cards
- COVID 19 Vaccine through partnership with OHSU at the Historic Parkrose pop-up market
- Customers and business opportunities for home-based business at the Historic pop-up market. (See Jobs Solutions memo for more details)
- Utility, food, technology, and PPE assistance through a grant from Oregon Health Authority
- Food aid program: food and PPE monthly distribution
- PPE to small businesses and the community through donations from Prosper Portland and Multnomah County
- Household hygiene products through donations from City Emergency Coordination Center
- Small business disaster relief small grants

- Disaster relief grants to East Portland businesses through a partnership with Prosper Portland

Emergency preparedness training

Essential first aid training. Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties offer free mental health first aid trainings for community members interested in learning about emotional support. Several training sessions are offered online, making it accessible for interested Parkrose residents.

Listos. Listos is a program developed by PBEM to provide culturally specific emergency and disaster preparedness training in Spanish.

Emergency preparedness information

Community resilience workbook (PBEM). Provides information about what to do during earthquakes, residential fires, fires, winter storms, excessive heat, and floods. The workbook was designed for use in workshop settings in communities from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Pacific Power resources. Provides information on what to do before, during, and after storms and power outages, and tips on work, home, and wildfire safety.

Cascades Volcano Observatory. Provides information about preparedness for volcanic activity.

Public alerts in case of emergencies

Multnomah County Public Alerts. PublicAlerts sends landline phone, cell phone, text, and email alerts to Multnomah County community members. The system warns residents to take action to stay safe, such as staying indoors or evacuating.

Emergency Preparedness

Part 2: Recommended Solutions

Parkrose Emergency Preparedness Community Working Group Members:

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Danell Norby (Parkrose resident)
Harmonee Dashiell (Parkrose resident, BPS)
JR Lilly (Historic Parkrose board, EPAP)
Kathy Reese (NET volunteer, Argay)
Paul Tabron Jr. (program director at Elevate Oregon, Parkrose resident)
Safiyya Algellal (works with Parkrose School District and homeless youth)
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INTRODUCTION

The Emergency Preparedness Community Work Group (CWG) focused on the challenges and needs that community members have identified in Parkrose regarding resources available and preparedness in case of emergencies. This document summarizes the needs that community members highlighted during the meeting and provides a list of emergency preparedness resources available in Parkrose. The last section presents the CWG's recommendations on solutions and actions to address issues and opportunities identified by the community, as revised by the Community Decision Team on December 13, 2021. This section also identifies issues related to implementation and identifies who may benefit or be burdened by these solutions in order to inform the CWG's consideration of the solutions.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Community Working Group - Issues and Opportunities

- There are no hospitals in the Parkrose area.
- There is a lack of emergency information street signs in the area.
- Childless people don't know about resources available at schools.
- Emotional preparedness resources.
- Important to get more involved with faith organizations to connect more people and as places with resources in an emergency.
- Inventory of skills and resources that could provide support in a disaster.
- Different cultures have different responses to emergencies. It is important to provide guidance and communicate appropriately.

- Resources in different languages. Many of Parkrose’s non-English speaking families have difficulty locating and accessing support services.
- An issue is how to ensure continuity in the event of an emergency – losing electronic communications, air quality impacts, heat waves and lack of cooling centers.
- Historic Parkrose is planning to continue this conversation and create an Emergency Preparedness Community Plan.
- There are no resources to respond to wildfires/heatwaves in the Parkrose area.
- The Argay-Parkrose NET team tried to reach out to residents along Sandy Blvd, but turnover in apartment managers made it difficult.
- Identify schools or other buildings with solar panels or other power resources in case of power outages. Could PCEF provide funding for something like this?
- Parkrose Middle School is a beacon site but only for earthquake emergencies. There are not good resources for other power outages.
- Parkrose has no cooling station to support houseless residents during heat waves. Need to invest in long-term facilities, and tents and equipment necessary to establish a temporary cooling station and hub space to provide support during heat waves and other emergencies.
- Emergencies are not just earthquakes and tsunamis; they have become more immediate. Plans for extreme hot and cold days are needed so people can know where they can go during an emergency.
- Signs identifying sites/homes with generators or other power resources.
- Community events so people can get to know neighbors. Not everybody knows their neighbors, who is the most vulnerable, who has pets.
- Ongoing resources for people experiencing crisis even outside an emergency.
- Important to build community resilience.

Community Open House Survey Input

Question: Do you feel prepared in the event of a natural or climate disaster? If not, what might help you feel safer or more prepared?

- Knowing the cost of emergency supplies.
- An emergency plan.
- A resource center.
- Getting to know the neighbors.
- First aid training.
- Contact information for help.
- Knowing the location of shelters.
- Sharing community practices.
- Having a readiness checklist.
- Local map with evacuation routes and location routes and location of health facilities.
- A list of common natural/climate disasters in Oregon.
- Instruction manual of what to do in case of disaster.
- Having a safe place to store water.

- Electric generators.
- More and better police.
- Financial help.
- Putting together a go bag.
- Knowing emergency services available in the area.

RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION SOLUTIONS

The following are solutions and actions the Emergency Preparedness CWG recommended to be included in the Parkrose Community Plan, as revised by the Community Decision Team on December 13, 2021.

Infrastructure for emergencies

1. Health Care Facilities

Action: Promote the creation of hospitals or urgent care centers in the Parkrose area that can respond to local emergencies.

Issue (s) addressed: Lack of any hospitals, medical facilities, and mental health facilities in the Parkrose area.

Feasibility / Barriers: It would be a major undertaking to develop a new hospital in the area. It could be more feasible for a small urgent care facility to be located in Parkrose. Other barriers include land availability, and lack of interest from health companies, investors, health nonprofit organizations.

Benefits / Burdens: Traffic issues, displacement and gentrification.

Priority (High/low): High.

2. Fire station improvement

Action: Work with City to get financial resources for needed improvements to the local fire station and so that it can survive a major earthquake. Consider a maintenance plan.

Issue (s) addressed: The local fire station is not in good shape. Last retrofit occurred in 1992. Portland Fire and Rescue is in need of funding to either rehab the Training Center (Fire Station 2) on NE 122nd Avenue or relocate. Most likely, do repairs. The buildings need upgrading (many are portable type buildings) and the concrete and blacktop need upgrades to keep the Columbia River Slough safe from any runoff.

Feasibility / Barriers: PF&R is getting ready to go for a bond to replace this facility, which potentially could include not also building retrofits, but also meeting spaces designed through a participatory design process.

Benefits / Burdens: An upgraded fire station that could withstand an earthquake event would benefit area residents and contribute to community resiliency. With limited funding, this need might compete with other community needs for funding. Community might consider prioritizing needs to ensure government addresses most vital needs first.

Priority (High/low): High.

3. Emergency information signs

Action: Work with community members, CBOs, school districts, and City to: identify and survey homes/businesses/institutions that have resilient power systems or other resources that could serve communities in an emergency and implement emergency information signs in multiple languages. Emergency signs include, but are not limited to signs for places with generators; signs for places where people can go during snowstorms, heat waves; signs for safe sites during power outages, etc.

Issue (s) addressed: In terms of emergency and preparedness, the most important things missing in Parkrose are need of information signs, signaling in different languages, and having people know where to go in case of emergency.

Feasibility / Barriers: Availability of financial resources, although this action is relatively low cost. Action dependent on willing property owners, business, institutions. Potential logistical issues, especially with shelters. Signs would need to change frequently depending on the temporary location of the shelter.

Benefits / Burdens: Supports community resiliency. No displacement impacts.

Priority (High/low): High.

4. Emergency wayfinding system

Action: Work with community members, CBOs, and City to create an emergency wayfinding system. Community members would make a mental map of how to find their way with landmarks if they had to walk in case of an emergency. Important to use a range of languages and culturally appropriate material.

Issue (s) addressed: In terms of emergency and preparedness, the most important things missing in Parkrose are: need of information signs, signaling in different languages, and having people know where to go in case of emergency (especially childless families).

Feasibility / Barriers: Availability of funding, although relatively low cost. Action dependent on willing participation of government agencies and community organizations.

Benefits / Burdens: Supports community resiliency. No displacement impacts.

Priority (High/low): High.

5. Cooling/warming shelters

Action: Work with City, County, school districts, HOAs, and apartment managers to identify sites that could work as temporary shelters during extreme heat and cold events.

Issue (s) addressed: Parkrose doesn't have cooling or warming shelters in the community.

Feasibility / Barriers: Opening a cooling or warming shelter takes a lot of coordination, although the area does have multiple schools that could serve this purpose.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members by contributing to community resiliency. No displacement impacts. As with needed repair at the Parkrose firehouse, this need might compete with other community needs for funding. Community might consider prioritizing needs to ensure government addresses most vital needs first. To help save costs and consolidate services, this center could be housed at an existing facility, such as the Parkrose School District site.

Priority (High/low): High.

6. Power sources during outages

Action: Look for grants or financial assistance for property and business owners to install community solar systems with battery storage for emergency back-up power. Potential fund sources: PCEF grants, Climate Resilience Fund grants, PGE Renewable Development Fund.

Issue (s) addressed: Lack of places to access power, including for powering cell phones in the event of power system failure.

Feasibility / Barriers: PBEM willing to support the idea. Funding could be a barrier. Dependent on willing property owners.

Benefits / Burdens: Contributes to build community resilience if all community members allowed to access emergency power. No substantial displacement risk.

Priority (High/low): High.

7. Urban greenery to reduce carbon emissions and urban island effects

Actions: Work with City to develop and implement programs focused on reducing urban island effects in Parkrose. Programs and activities include:

- A. Reduce hot dark surface, such as asphalt and roofing.
- B. Reduce exposed surfaces, such as sidewalks, streets, and parking lots, with shade structures and tree canopy.
- C. Promote tree planting, preservation, and maintenance. Ensure that there is infrastructure for leaf collection in conjunction with increasing tree canopy.
- D. Install urban water features.
- E. Promote the creation of green/permeable parking spaces.
- F. Install efficient appliances to reduce the grid load during high heat days to avoid blackouts.
- G. Tree/vegetative planting on south and west side of buildings to shade and prevent heat gain.

Issue (s) addressed: Lack of resources to respond to wildfires/heatwaves in the Parkrose area.

Feasibility / Barriers: High priority for PBEM. Funding sources and willing of property owners could be a barrier.

Benefits / Burdens: Several contributions, including traffic reduction, urban flooding reduction, and creation of friendly public rights-of-way. However, there is a risk of gentrification if the neighborhood starts to look greener.

Priority (High/low): High.

Emergency communication resources

8. Emergency Preparedness plan

Actions: Develop an Emergency Preparedness Community Plan that includes the following elements:

- A. Guidebook: Work with City, community members, and culturally specific organizations to create a printed guidebook in different languages with basic information on list of common natural/climate disasters in Oregon, emergency resources, contact information, maps, cost of supplies, readiness checklist, etc. A printed guidebook would provide information to community members with limited digital literacy or internet access.
- B. Website: Work with community members and CBOs to create a website that concentrates the information of the guidebook in a digital format. A website would be helpful for community members who are more used to look for information through digital means.
- C. Community Skills Survey: Work with community members to identify languages, first aid, boy scout training, nurses, etc.

Issue (s) addressed: Historic Parkrose is planning to continue this conversation and create an Emergency Preparedness Community Plan. This would map out resources in the community, what we have, what needs to be done to prepare, and would be designed to be accessible to those for whom English is not their first language. The plan would consider what emergency preparedness means for people who grew up in other countries – need approaches that everyone can understand, approaching things through an equity lens.

Feasibility / Barriers: Requires resources to update website content on a regular basis.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): High.

9. Social media releases

Action: Create a social media strategy for community to learn about resources available in case of emergencies, first aid training, community events, etc. The strategy would also aim to

encourage neighbors to meet each other. Important to include announcements in different languages.

Issue (s) addressed: Lack of community awareness of emergency resources, especially for non-English speaking residents.

Feasibility/Barriers: Relatively low cost but requires resources to develop material and ongoing promotion. Seniors are often not social media savvy.

Benefits/Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience. No substantial displacement risk.

Priority (High/low): Medium.

10. Informative sessions in person

Action: Work with neighborhood and business associations to organize monthly or bimonthly emergency preparedness in-person informative sessions.

Issue (s) addressed: Some communities of color and immigrants are more used to get information in a more personal way rather than doing a google search.

Feasibility / Barriers: PBEM can support these sessions with materials, food, translation, and other resources for community partners. A potential barrier could be community members availability, especially those who work long hours or work during the weekend.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): Medium.

11. Meetings with apartment managers

Action: Work with neighborhood associations to organize meetings with apartment managers to explore ways to reach out to residents and request them to check on their at-risk residents during heat and smoke events.

Issue (s) addressed: The Argay-Parkrose NET team tried to reach out to residents of apartments along Sandy Blvd, but turnover in apartment managers has made this difficult.

Feasibility / Barriers: PBEM can offer resources for building managers, but still, it is dependent on willing apartment managers. Availability of community members, especially those who work long hours or work during the weekend. Landlords, apartment managers not always good people to work with. Turnover with apartment managers is an issue as they tend to change frequently

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members, particularly renters, in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): Low.

Community services in case of emergencies

12. Ongoing emotional support services

Action: Work with community members to create a network that provides ongoing emotional support to neighbors who have had traumatizing experiences during disasters or other traumatic events, and trauma recovery groups with ongoing conversations about how the community can be emotional prepared for a disaster.

Issue (s) addressed: Emergency preparedness is not only about having resources ready when disasters happen, but also about being emotionally prepared. There is a need to provide these supports in Parkrose, and a need to address issues unique to culturally specific groups, for example, destigmatizing mental health issues among communities of color.

Feasibility / Barriers: Talking about traumatizing experiences can be overwhelming for some people.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): High.

13. Community events

Action: Work with community members and neighborhood associations to organize community events where neighbors get to know each other, share resources, and build resilience together.

Issue (s) addressed: In a disaster, neighbors are the biggest asset that communities have. Neighbors do save neighbors.

Feasibility / Barriers: Availability of community members, especially those who work long hours or work during the weekend.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): High.

14. Involvement of faith organizations

Action: Partner with faith organizations with sufficient indoor space to storage emergency items, and to reach out to non-English speaking community members during emergencies.

Issue (s) addressed: The NET team distributes lists of things you need in an emergency, but people don't need everything right away.

Feasibility / Barriers: Dependent on faith organizations willing to share their space. Preference to work with neutral organizations.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies.

Priority (High/low): Medium.

Ongoing financial support

15. Support existing services

Action: Support existing structures and services, such as the neighborhood emergency teams (NET), and making sure they are fully resourced.

Issue (s) addressed: The NET team needs about \$8,000 to fund equipment and supplies for emergencies. The team currently depends on donations.

Feasibility/Barriers: A potential barrier could be the ability of City and CBOs to get additional funds to sustain a program of this type.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): High.

16. Support for households and small businesses

Action: Work with community members, City, and CBOs to create ongoing financial support programs for households and small businesses experiencing crises, even outside of an emergency.

Issue (s) addressed: Support for people in an ongoing way would also help during an emergency.

Feasibility/Barriers: A potential barrier could be the ability of City and CBOs to get additional funds to sustain a program of this type.

Benefits / Burdens: Benefits community members in the event of emergencies and support community resilience.

Priority (High/low): Medium.