



Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2025

Staying Prepared in Challenging Times

The recent devastation caused by the Palisades and Hurst fires, coupled with the unnerving proximity of the Kenneth Fire, has reminded us all of the unpredictable nature of emergencies and the critical need for preparedness. These events serve as a sobering reminder to stay vigilant and proactive in safeguarding our families, homes, and community.

In light of these challenges, this month's February newsletter is an extra 2-pages and dedicated entirely to emergency preparedness and public safety. Inside, you'll find essential information on emergency notification systems, preparedness guides, and apps that every resident should download to stay informed during a crisis. Additionally, we're proud to highlight the significant steps taken in 2024 to enhance public safety, from infrastructure improvements to community programs.

We encourage all residents to visit our city website at www.hiddenhillscity.org/emergency-preparedness. There, you'll discover invaluable resources, tips, and plans to help you prepare for wildfires, earthquakes, high winds, storms, and more. Together, we can build a safer and more resilient Hidden Hills.

Home Ignition Zone Assessments



In December's newsletter, we highlighted a free, invaluable service available to Hidden Hills residents that's worth mentioning again considering the recent fires: Home Ignition Zone assessments provided by the Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Foundation (LAEPF), a privately funded organization supporting Los Angeles County with disaster preparedness and wildfire risk mitigation.

LAEPF mitigation specialists will visit your property, evaluate wildfire risks, and provide a detailed assessment report with specific recommendations to reduce exposures and protect your home. These assessments empower homeowners with proven strategies to mitigate vulnerabilities and help prevent structure loss during a wildfire.

This exclusive resource is only available to a select few communities in Los Angeles County. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your home's safety and resilience.

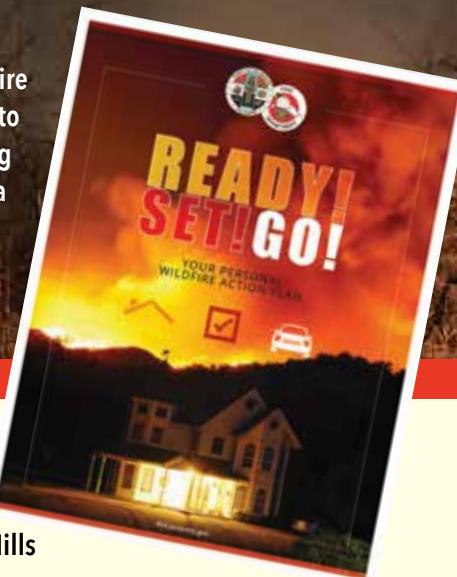
To sign up for your free Home Ignition Zone Assessment and learn more about the LAEPF, please visit: www.hiddenhillscity.org/laepf



LOS ANGELES
EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS
FOUNDATION

READY! SET! GO!

To help prepare the region for upcoming wildfire emergencies the Los Angeles County Fire Department, along with partnering agencies, created a Ready! Set! Go! brochure designed to provide you with critical information on creating defensible space around your home, retrofitting your home with fire-resistant materials, and preparing you to safely evacuate well ahead of a wildfire. Please protect yourself, your family, and your property by taking the time to download and read the Ready! Set! Go! brochure at www.hiddenhillscity.org/ready-set-go



Know Your Zone

Los Angeles County public safety agencies and Board of Supervisors 3rd District office, along with the Cities of Hidden Hills, Calabasas, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village, and Malibu, follow the "Know Your Zone" collaborative preparedness effort that aims to equip residents for emergencies or evacuations.

During a large-scale incident that requires evacuations, first responders will refer to the genasys Protect platform for planning and conducting evacuations. LA County Fire, with LA County Sheriff, has divided the City of Hidden Hills into two zones. Hidden Hills residents are either in zone HID-C501 or HID-C502, with Round Meadow Road being the primary intersection of the two zones.

During emergencies the Zone map will be updated in real time, so residents will have access to information about emergency services in their zone, see real-time zone status updates, shelter options, and more.

Knowing your zone is an important part of your emergency plan. Residents are encouraged to search their address and see their zone, by visiting: www.protect.genasys.com. Read more about genasys Connect on page 5.

For more Know Your Zone information, please visit:
www.hiddenhillscity.org/KYZ



Know Your Circuit

Unlike neighboring cities with multiple power circuits serving their communities, Hidden Hills relies on a single circuit that covers the entire city—called the Horizon circuit.

It's important to make a note of the Horizon circuit's name, as it becomes particularly relevant during extreme weather events. Southern California Edison (SCE) uses a wildfire prevention tool called Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS), which temporarily cuts off power to neighborhoods during dangerous weather conditions to reduce the risk of electrical equipment sparking a wildfire.

If SCE is planning a potential shutoff to the Horizon circuit, the City will issue a citywide emergency alert to help you plan ahead and ensure your backup supplies are ready. However, it's important to understand that the City of Hidden Hills has no control over SCE's decisions to de-energize circuits during high winds or Red Flag events, which are the most common triggers for PSPS events.

While losing power—whether planned or unplanned—is undeniably inconvenient, Hidden Hills has fared better than many surrounding communities during recent wildfire emergencies. For example, during the peak of the Palisades and Kenneth Fires, nearby areas experienced frequent and prolonged outages. In contrast, Hidden Hills was only affected by a single PSPS event on the Horizon circuit.

This relative resilience can be credited to the city's proactive investments in utility infrastructure. Efforts such as undergrounding utility poles and the ongoing installation of covered wire protectors have significantly strengthened the city's power grid. These upgrades play a key role in SCE field crews' decisions about which circuits to de-energize, helping ensure the Horizon circuit remains operational during emergencies. Thanks to these measures, Hidden Hills has been able to keep the lights on and maintain power during critical situations.

To learn more about Public Safety Power Shutoff's visit: [https://www.sce.com/psps](http://www.sce.com/psps)

To check the outage status for your home visit:
[https://www.sce.com/outage-center/check-outage-status](http://www.sce.com/outage-center/check-outage-status)

For more information, please visit: www.hiddenhillscity.org/psps

Sign Up for EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

During the height of the Palisades and Kenneth Fires, and a series of Red Flag Warnings, Hidden Hills faced a wave of critical challenges. The city sent out numerous emergency notification alerts, keeping residents informed and prepared amidst the uncertainty. From updates on Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) to an urgent Mandatory Evacuation when the Kenneth Fire started in Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve (Ahmanson Ranch), these alerts were a lifeline for the community, ensuring safety and swift action during a time of heightened risk.

If you haven't already, we strongly urge all residents to sign up for the city's emergency notifications delivered through the Blackboard Connect Notification System, should we need to quickly send out real-time critical alerts.

Why is this important?

This service enables the city to reach you in real time via email, phone, and text with important to urgent situations such as fires, floods, evacuations, potential power shutoffs, or critical Sheriff activity. With many in our community using a variety of home and mobile communication devices, signing up for all three emergency notification methods will enable you to choose the best way for the city to reach you and your family members.

If you were receiving emergency alerts from the city via phone, text, and email, during the emergencies, you are already subscribed. If not: Sign Up Now: www.hiddenhillscity.org/blackboard-connect



Sheriff's Blotter

December 2024

	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	CHANGE
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0
Robbery				
Armed	0	0	0	0
Strong-arm	0	0	0	0
Assault	0	2	1	+1
Burglary				
Residential	1	4	1	+3
Business	0	0	0	0
Vehicle (locked)	0	0	0	0
Theft				
Grand (\$950+)	0	2	2	0
Petty	0	1	0	+1
Vehicle (unlocked)	0	0	0	0
Grand Theft Vehicle	0	1	0	+1
Arson	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence / Felony	0	1	0	+1
Domestic Violence / Misdemeanor	0	3	1	+2
Trespassing Calls for Service	1	17	20	-3

Noteworthy Incidents

- A residential burglary occurred on Hidden Ridge Road. Entry was made through the upstairs rear window.



Must Have APPS

In an era of increasing wildfire threats and extreme weather events, staying informed is not just a precaution—it's a necessity. Two essential free apps that every Hidden Hills resident should have on their mobile devices are Watch Duty and genasys Connect. These apps are designed to keep you connected, informed, and ready to act during emergencies, making them indispensable for ensuring your safety and that of your loved ones.

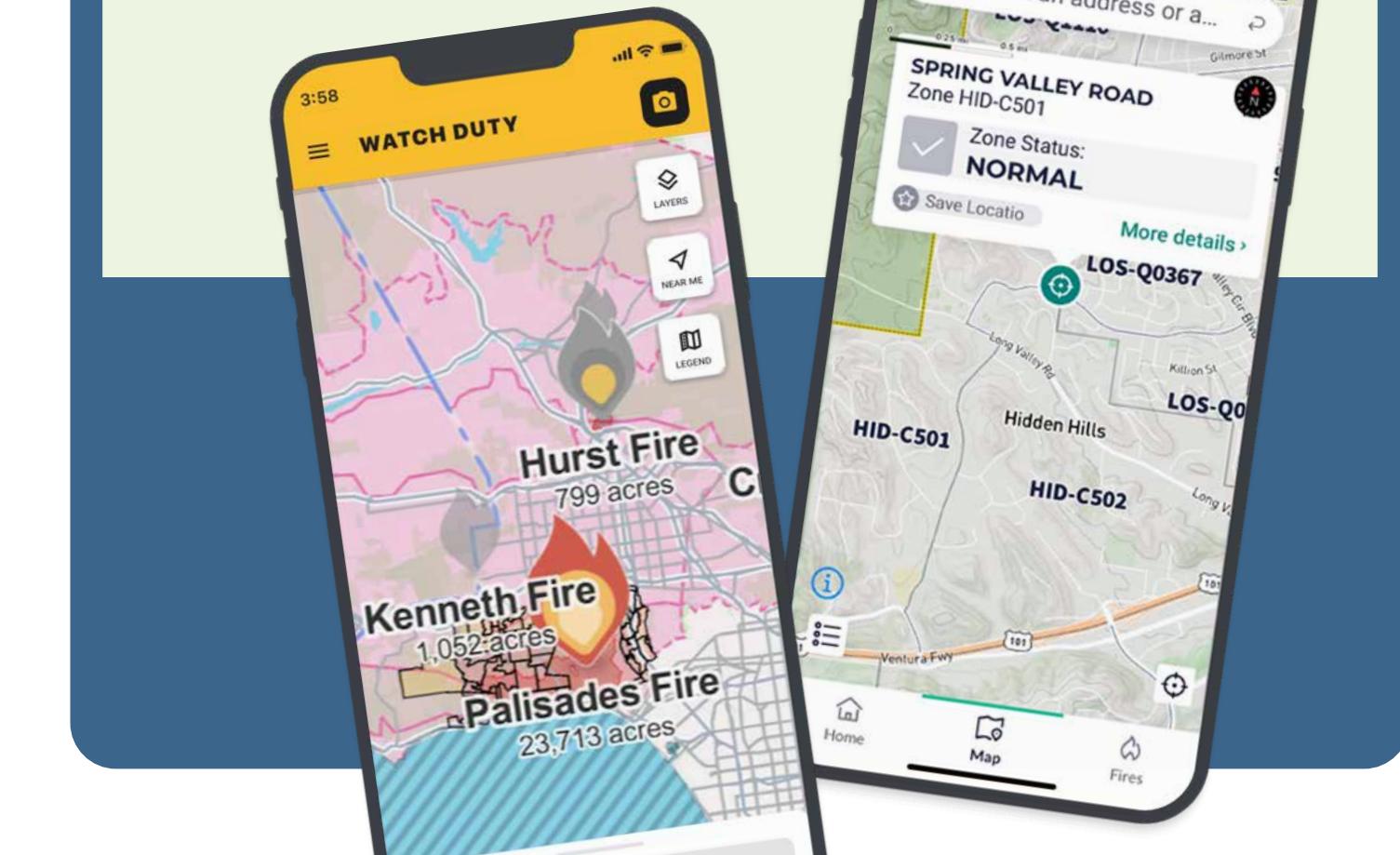


Watch Duty is a community-focused app that provides real-time wildfire information from verified sources such as active and retired firefighters, first responders, and fire monitors. It delivers critical updates on active wildfires, including location, size, movement, and containment efforts, all presented on an easy-to-read map. The app was created to help first responders protect communities and became an indispensable tool to many Southern Californian's safety and awareness during the wildfires.



genasys Connect is a public safety app that provides location-based alerts and emergency notifications directly from city and government agencies designed to provide hyper-localized information tailored to your location. During a large-scale incident that requires evacuations, first responders will refer to the genasys Protect platform for planning and conducting evacuations by regional zones. Hidden Hills is divided into two zones, HID-C501 and HID-C502, with Round Meadow Road being the primary intersection of the two zones.

Downloading these apps is simple. Both are available in your mobile device's App Store and setup takes just a few minutes.



City Council Updates

At the Council's Emergency Meeting on January 8th, 2025, the city declared a Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency empowering the City Manager, acting as the Director of Emergency Services to command all necessary resources to effectively protect life, public safety and infrastructure during the Palisades Fire emergency. The proclamation was ratified and extended by

Resolution No. 1038 at the Special City Council Meeting held on January 15th.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 10th. The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. and can be watched on Channel 3 (Charter/Spectrum Cable) or web streamed via the City's website.

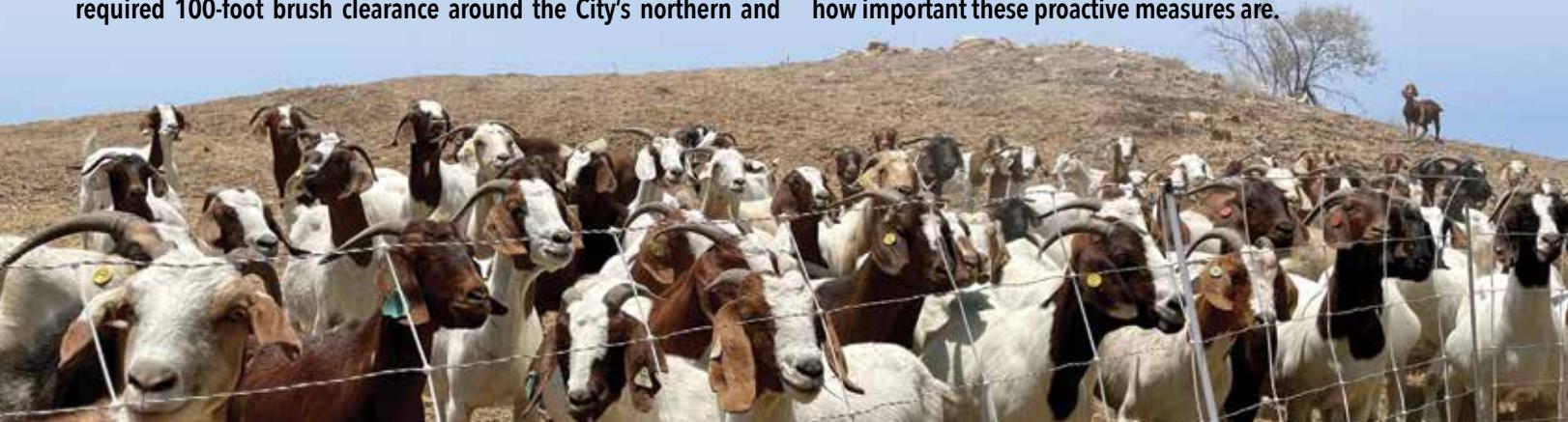
The Essential Role of Brush-Clearing Goats

The value of hiring of goats to perform the City's annual brush-clearing efforts became strikingly clear as the Kenneth Fire and the spot fires it ignited approached within 250 yards of Hidden Hills' perimeter and proved to be a critical line of defense as the Santa Ana winds casted embers in Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve (Ahmanson Ranch).

Each year, the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA) and the Mountain View Estates Homeowners Association perform a required 100-foot brush clearance around the City's northern and

western perimeters. Since 2019, the City has secured approval from both agencies to use goats for additional brush clearance and extend the cleared area by another 100 feet. This expansion effectively removes excess vegetation, further reducing the fire risk to Hidden Hills by eliminating the fuel source.

The approximately 275 ravenous goats managed to clear about 33 acres of vegetation in just two weeks and it makes all the difference when fires erupt. The Kenneth Fire served as a stark reminder of just how important these proactive measures are.



City Council Meetings

2nd Monday of Every Month
5:30 p.m.

City Council

Mayor	Larry G. Weber
Mayor Pro Tem	Joe Loggia
Council Member	Laura McCorkindale
Council Member	Eniko Gold
Council Member	Adam Wasserman

City Staff

Interim City Manager	Gloria Molleda
City Attorney	Lauren Langer
City Clerk	Deana L. Gonzalez, CMC
Accountant	Theresa Hernandez
Administrative Analyst	Aaron Williams
City Engineer	Dirk Lovett
Building Inspector	Steve O'Hara
Public Safety & Emergency Services Manager	Mike Grant