



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Sean Thuilliez, Chief of Police
DATE: October 20, 2020
SUBJECT: **Staff Report Regarding the City's Preparation for Rain after the Wildfires**

Background and Analysis:

The purpose of this presentation is to prepare residents living in and around burn areas to be aware of potential threats and take measures to prepare their property for the rainy season. Many properties within and downstream of any burn area are at higher risk for flash floods, rock falls, debris flows, and mud flows.

The City of Beaumont and County of Riverside are working collaboratively with state and federal agencies, to assess and reduce the risk of flooding and to prevent fire-related debris, pollutants and sediment from being carried into storm drains and creeks for the protection of the watershed.

Residents who live in burned areas, or downhill of burned areas, should be aware of the potential for flash floods and mud and debris flows.

Key takeaways from this report for residents:

It is important to remain alert to possible threats and be prepared to go if you receive an emergency alert or warning for your zone.

Pack emergency supply bags and identify what you would want to save in an emergency. Consider the 6 Ps: People and Pets, important Papers, Prescriptions, Pictures, Personal Computers, and Plastic/Paper money.

Flash Flooding: Normally, rainfall is absorbed by vegetation and soils, reducing runoff. However, wildfires remove vegetation and may leave soil unable to absorb water, creating potential flash flood conditions. Flood risk remains significantly higher until vegetation is restored up to 5 years after a wildfire.

Mud and Debris Flows: Debris and ash, along with other sediments, can be picked up in flood waters and form mud and debris flows.

Report flooding or mud and debris flows by calling 911.

Fiscal Impact:

City staff estimates the cost to prepare this staff report to be approximately \$1,755.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file.

Attachments:

A. Presentation