CULVER CITY SPEAKER SERIES 5.7.19 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Culver City is hosting a new Speaker Series! Building on the success of last year's GPU Prelude Series, the <u>Speaker Series of 2019</u> has been developed to further inform and educate, as well as to continue the dialogue around issues of importance to the community. Everyone who lives, works, plays, and/or learns in Culver City is invited to join in the discussion!

For the second event in the series, community members gathered at the Senior Center for a discussion on Disaster Preparedness presented by a panel of speakers that included Fire Chief Dave White, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Christine Parra, Assistant Fire Chief Ken Powell, and Fire Marshal Jeremy De Bie. The presentation began with an introduction to the Culver City Fire Department, including its mission, values, and history, in addition to its operations, services, staff, and equipment. Christine Parra discussed the ways in which the City strives to be disaster resilient, touching on the City's Disaster Operations, including the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which can be found on <u>Culver City's Emergency Preparedness page</u>. Fire Chief Dave White discussed the role of volunteer groups such as the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Culver City Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CCARES). Fire Marshal De Bie spoke about Very High Fire Hazard Severity zones and their potential to impact adjacent areas in instances of high winds.

In his closing comments, Fire Chief White stressed the importance of personal responsibility in emergency preparedness. There were many examples provided of steps that we can all take now to ensure the wellbeing of ourselves and our loved ones in the event of a disaster. Fire Marshal De Bie discussed The Wildland Fire Action Guide, which outlines steps that can be taken to prepare your family and property for a wildland fire. Fire Chief White touched on messaging and communication, urging those in attendance to make use of the City's notification system, Everbridge, in addition to the Emergency Alert System, AM Radio 1690 and Fire Department social media. Christine Parra discussed steps everyone should take to be prepared for a disaster, including making a Family Disaster Plan, knowing one's evacuation route and having a family/household communication plan. Below are links to resources discussed at the event.

RESOURCES

<u>Wildland Fire Action Guide</u> <u>Shelter in Place or Evacuate?</u> <u>Family Disaster Plan</u> <u>Family Disaster Plan Template</u>

SMART PHONE APPS

FEMA Emergency Preparedness App Be Ready App - Red Cross WebMD Mobile Everbridge Mobile App

We would like to extend our appreciation to the <u>Culver City Senior Center</u> for hosting and <u>Sprouts</u> for feeding everyone. Make plans now to attend our next event, 'Housing Affordability.' Scheduled for Wednesday, June 19 at Antioch University Los Angeles, this event features San Francisco-based attorney, author and housing activist Randy Shaw. <u>Learn more about it and RSVP here.</u>



Stay informed at culvercity.org/speakerseries