Wildfire Questions

By addressing these questions, the Fire Chief can support the Forum community to develop a more comprehensive understanding of wildfire risks and collaborate to create a safer and more resilient living environment for residents, staff, and neighbors.

1. **Community Involvement and Collaboration**
2. How can we promote broader community involvement in fire prevention efforts to create a more resilient neighborhood?
3. How can the Forum community serve as a model for other neighborhoods in implementing effective wildfire resilience strategies?
4. How can the Forum community effectively collaborate with local fire departments and emergency response teams to improve communication and preparedness during wildfire events?
5. **Landscaping and Defensible Spaces**
6. Are there specific landscaping techniques or plant species that can help reduce fire risk, and how can residents be encouraged to use these plants when planting on their balconies/decks?
7. What role do firebreaks and defensible spaces play in protecting communities like ours, and how can we ensure their proper maintenance?
8. **Building Materials and Construction**
9. How can we better educate our residents and nearby neighbors about the importance of fire-resistant building materials and what resources are available to help them make informed decisions when constructing or renovating homes?
10. How great is the risk of a wildfire’s ember storm igniting the nearly 100 non-fire resistant awnings outside many Forum apartments, which, if ignited, might break the adjacent apartment windows with their heat and ignite the apartment contents?
11. How helpful are tempered glass windows in preventing burning awnings from breaking nearby windows and threatening the ignition of apartment contents?
12. We have ¼’ mesh garage /roof vent screens vs 1/8” mesh currently required by current Bldg. Code for garage/roof air vents. Do they need replacing?
13. **Lessons Learned and Risk Assessment**
14. What lessons have been learned from previous wildfire events in the area and other areas, like LA, and how can we apply those learnings to improve our community's preparedness?
15. How much would the ember storm and smoke if homes burn in Oak Valley, across the street from the Forum property, put Forum residents and staff at risk?
16. **Health Impacts and Air Quality**
17. How does wildfire smoke affect the health of senior residents differently compared to other age groups?
18. What are the specific health risks associated with several days’ exposure to wildfire smoke, and how can the Forum's senior residents minimize these risks?
19. How quickly can protective measures be taken if AQI rises to above 100 during wildfire smoke events to help protect seniors from dangerous smoke inhalation? Local AQI rose to 86 on1/17/25.
20. How can senior residents at the Forum better understand and monitor local air quality reports associated with wildfire events to make informed decisions about outdoor activities and precautions to take - indoors and outdoors?
21. Are there preparations the Forum staff can take besides waiting until notice and directions from County Public Health to respond to smoke levels above 100 AQI?
22. **Preparations and Resources**
23. How can the Forum strategically improve elements of our facilities and procedures to reduce risks of wildfires to property and lives?
24. How important is proper cleaning of indoor surfaces after exposure to wildfire smoke?
25. Advancements in local weather prediction technology provide a valuable resource for anticipating wildfire response needs and planning Cal Fire's equipment, supplies, and staffing for the upcoming year. Based on these prediction tools, what is the expected number of Red Flag Warning days in the vicinity of the Forum during the coming year, and how can this information be used to improve our community's preparedness?
26. How can the Forum community work with healthcare professionals or local agencies to ensure seniors access appropriate medical care and resources during and after wildfire events?
27. Summarize how the Fire Safe organization can be a resource to the Forum for building resilience through proactive preparedness.