



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee  
of the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council  
(DC3) Committee Meeting**

**PDE&P Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2021**

*Approved at PDEP Meeting 4-5-2021*

Members Present:

Catherine Way	CoChair, DC3 City of Larkspur Councilmember, MCCMC
Adriana Rabkin	CoChair, DC3 Member, Director Marin VOAD
Jay Hubert	ACS/RACES / OES / Firewise Community / Red Cross
Quinn Gardner	San Rafael FD Emergency Manager
Maggie Lang	Mill Valley Fire, Emergency Prep Coordinator
Tom Cromwell, MD	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Peter Mendoza	DC3 / AFN representative, Vice Chair Marin VOAD
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum
Vincent Valenzuela	Red Cross Marin / Solano Disaster Program Manager

Members Excused or Absent:

Anne Carta	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Amber Davis	HHS Public Health Preparedness Manager

Members Public Present

Laura Trippi	Tomales Emergency Response group
Tricia Ossa	Mill Valley Council & Emerg Prep Comm <a href="mailto:taaossa@gmail.com">taaossa@gmail.com</a>
Lorenzo Cordova	Supervisor Rodoni's Aide, <a href="mailto:lcordova@marincounty.org">lcordova@marincounty.org</a>
Jody Timms	Marin Commission on Aging <a href="mailto:jodytimms@comcast.net">jodytimms@comcast.net</a>
Lori Schifrin	CERT, MMRC <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>
Sara Robinson	Marin Aging & Adult Services, <a href="mailto:SRobinson@marincounty.org">SRobinson@marincounty.org</a>
Michael Bergman	VERG (Valley Emerg Readiness Grp) <a href="mailto:michaelb.verg@gmail.com">michaelb.verg@gmail.com</a>
Amy Glenn	Central Marin NRG Advisory Comm, <a href="mailto:aglennstyle@gmail.com">aglennstyle@gmail.com</a>
Cindy Swift	Fairfax Disaster Council, <a href="mailto:cindyswift@sbcglobal.net">cindyswift@sbcglobal.net</a>
Paula Doubleday	Ready Marin WebMaster, <a href="mailto:paula.double@gmail.com">paula.double@gmail.com</a>

The following documents were emailed to PDEP in advance:

**PDEP\_Agenda 2020-3-1a.pdf**

**PDEP\_Minutes 2020-2-1a\_AR.pdf (Draft to be approved)**

**I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Minutes**

- Catherine Way welcomed attendees and provided a recap over the last couple of months. PDEPs focus is on how we can best serve the DC3 (Disaster Citizens Corps Council). We narrowed down our expectations and developed a deeper dive into several specific topics. The first topic was how are we doing in the County with disaster preparedness communication. This is different from disaster communications and what is shared during a disaster. We heard from Laine Hendricks, County Public Information Officer (PIO) last month about what the County is doing.
- Catherine Way and Adriana Rabkin met with Supervisor Rodoni last month. He is the chair of DC3, which is an advisory group to the Board of Supervisors. We plan to meet with him once a quarter. We learned a lot about how real-time information is communicated. We filled him in on what we are focusing on in PDEP and he is on board. We told him we want to share preparedness communications at the next DC3 meeting. We are hoping this approach will get some traction. Supervisor Rodoni was meeting with OES after meeting with us.
- We developed a framework on PDEPs focus and strategy that we will share with you now.
- Draft PDEP Minutes 2/1/2021 were reviewed. Minutes were approved.



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### II. Strategy & Focus

- See Powerpoint slides shared with PDEP.
- DC3s bylaws were updated in 2010. The two that are most relevant to us are “promote disaster preparedness through communication and education” and “harness the power of every resident...to make their families, homes and communities safer from...disaster”.
- PDEP will focus on action items and specifically one or two that the DC3 members can take responsibility for. Strategic areas are 1. Disaster Preparedness Communication; 2. Neighborhood Programs like the NRGs (Neighborhood Response Groups) and FireWise communities and their outreach; and 3. Vulnerable Residents. We will ensure an equity lens on each of these 3 focus areas.
- Sara Robinson: How does DC3 review and evaluate programs? Is this included in PDEP’s work? Catherine Way: Good question. We can discuss how this fits in our focus.

#### Focus 1: Marin’s Most Vulnerable Residents

- We will take a high-level view and look at the different efforts that exist to help vulnerable residents prepare and respond to disaster and emergencies.
- We want to understand the government and non-profit efforts that exist. What is the coordination among various groups? Is there a common focus that can be shared across all programs and for all residents?
- We want to understand and identify the people who are not connected to any services, for example older adults and people with access and functional needs (AFN) who live independently. Include lower socioeconomic residents as well.

#### Focus 2: Neighborhood Organizations and Outreach

- We have talked a lot about NRGs, CERT, and community preparedness. PDEP will support the County Disaster Coordinator and regional NRG coordinators. These positions have support by the Fire Department.
- PDEP also encourages regional collaboration among fire, police, city councils, etc. The Southern Marin Disaster Council (SMDC) is the gold standard for this regional collaboration.
- The big question we have is where does disaster preparation fit in each jurisdiction and who leads it?
- To ensure equity and access for all Marin’s neighborhoods, we will use the 2017 Marin County Equity Action Plan as a framework<sup>1</sup>.
- Laura Trippi: The Disaster Councils (DCs) are West Marin’s version of NRGs. Some have paid coordinators like VERG (Valley Emergency Readiness Group) and Point Reyes. Laura wants more clarity on the role of DCs, especially because of Covid-19. She wants coordination and communication among them out in West Marin.
- It is very difficult to get a list of all of the disaster councils. All are constituted differently. Some are appointed by local government or brought together by City Council, some are all volunteer, and some are hybrids of the two. Some jurisdictions have nothing.
- Maggie Lang: Steve Marcotte manages the West Marin Disaster Council (WMDC). They are a great example representation across the entire region. The SMDC is a model meant to replicate something like the WMDC. We need a definition of disaster councils, emergency preparedness councils, and their roles.
- Jodi Timms shared a couple of links to Disaster Council lists:

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/hr/eo/marin\\_racial\\_equity\\_action\\_plan2017.pdf?la=en](https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/hr/eo/marin_racial_equity_action_plan2017.pdf?la=en)



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### County DC3

- DC3: [MarinCounty/Bos/BoardsCommissions/DC3](https://www.marincounty.org/Bos/BoardsCommissions/DC3)

### Regional Groups:

- West Marin Disaster Council
- Southern Marin Disaster Council

### Municipalities/Communities:

- Pt. San Pedro Road Coalition: <https://sprcoalition.org>
  - <https://www.cityofmillvalley.org/gov/commissions/emergencycomm.htm>
  - <https://www.townofcortemadera.org/228/Disaster-Council>
  - <https://www.sausalito.gov/city-government/boards-and-commissions/community-safety-disaster-preparedness-committee>
  - <https://www.townoffairfax.org/citizens-disaster-council/>
  - <https://www.pointreyesdisastercouncil.org>
  - <https://tomalesemergencyresponse.org>
  - <https://sgverg.org>
- Jay Hubert: we need to know who we are coordinated with. This is a great start. We need to understand who is doing what and then review and evaluate the different programs.

### Focus 3: Communication Programs and Tools

- We want to identify what programs already exist and what they each provide in terms of disaster preparedness. For example, Marin Villages speaker series.
- Next we want to understand the tools and methods for distributing preparedness information. There is FireSafe Marin, PG&E PSPS information, Council-led campaigns, and plenty more. Some sites have a narrow focus, like [FireSafeMarin.org](https://www.fire-safemarin.org) is just for wildfire disasters. We believe the best way to get people thinking about disaster preparation is to think about all hazards. We need an all-hazards approach.
- There needs to be consistent messaging that is accessible in multiple languages.
- It needs to be distributed via multiple channels: such as websites, libraries, schools, neighborhoods, etc.
- Quinn Gardner: Is the idea that PDEP is doing this work or making the recommendation?
- Sara Robinson: We will need to do some mapping and identify connections to other groups. Map impact and effectiveness.
- Catherine Way: This is bigger than our group of volunteers here at PDEP. We need someone who has a high-level view to lead this. This is why we need a paid coordinator. We can help by providing some suggestions of what is missing, but the focus of PDEP is to make recommendations. Maybe the County could contract to hire a vendor to do the plan.
- Quinn Gardner: There would need to be both grants and support to hire a contractor. The County is taking the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to the Board of Supervisors tomorrow.
- Jay Hubert: Some tasks are within the capabilities of PDEP members, like advising the DC3. But we also recognize the role is bigger than one person. We can also ask DC3 for permission to do some of these tasks.
- Lorenzo Cordova: There is a partnership between PDEP and Supervisor Rodoni and PDEP has an open line of communication with him. We are listening and want to hear from PDEP. It is important to know what residents need. Sup Rodoni's area includes West Marin (no stranger to emergencies), Canal and their Latinex residents, and Corte Madera and their older adults. The appropriate emergency communication varies by zip code.



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### Next Steps

- It is important to find answers to the following questions: Who is responsible for disaster preparedness in various jurisdictions? Who owns the messaging? Who distributes information to residents?
- PDEP will pick one focus area at a time and will spend 2 months on the topic in order to gather information, identify gaps, and present recommendations to DC3. We will ensure that equity and access is a part of each focus area discussed at PDEP.
- We want to present PDEPs 2021 road map at the March DC3 meeting. We will present it to Supervisor Rodoni first. We then want to reach out to other DC3 members and work with them to get input from community members.

### Comments/Questions

- Quinn Gardner: PDEPs focus does not replace the need for a County wide coordinator. This needs to be made clear to DC3. The work outlined in this presentation is not within PDEPs scope.
- Lori Schiffrin: I don't fit into any of the categories you have listed. There are renters, homeowners. Everyone needs the opportunity to participate. Catherine Way: The most vulnerable are missing from these conversations. We need to narrow down the scope of work to those with the greatest needs.
- Jay Hubert: If we do the right thing for the most vulnerable, it will improve the situation for everyone else. Focus on the AFN community and it will strengthen the tools for all others. Catherine Way: The Fire Chief wanted to focus on Get Ready because it had the most impact for the greatest number of people.
- Maggie Lang: How is OES involved and connected? they should come to PDEP meetings. Adriana Rabkin: Supervisor Rodoni was planning to meet with Chris Reilly from OES following our meeting with him. PDEP will also encourage more OES participation in these meetings through the new OES Coordinator, David Valera.
- Peter Mendoza: from MarinCILs point of view, people with disabilities are important, including youth. Catherine Way: The list could be very expansive. Quinn Gardner: AFN incorporates all of that: age, disability, unhoused, non-English speakers etc; Perhaps just include the language. Peter: language is part of the statewide focus on disaster prep and the work we are doing with Aging & Adult Services at the County.
- Adriana Rabkin: We know there are lots of services, but where are the gaps?. NRGs don't cover all of Marin, nor do FireWise communities. How do we increase coverage to unconnected groups? Peter Mendoza: MarinCIL works with other agencies to be sure they cover the disabled. He wants MarinCIL to have input on this conversation.
- Catherine Way: The County issued a proposal to increase Spanish outreach: <https://www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/press-releases/2021/cao-spanish-022621>

### III. Updates from PDEP members

#### MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers

- Catherine Way: We met by Zoom all year and heard from speakers on Covid-19 and Marin Recovers. We spoke with Mary Jane Burke (Marin County Office of Education, MCOE) about the plan for opening schools. Many schools are managed by school boards and the plan is not applicable to all cities.

#### Marin VOAD

- Adriana Rabkin: We are continuing with our Covid-19 disaster response. We hold weekly public health updates with Dr. Lisa Santora for Community Based Organizations (CBOs)



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to hear from Marin Health & Human Services and to ask questions. These meetings provide detailed information for many groups. We are trying to get faith organizations involved as well as they have influence in their communities.

### West Marin

- Stephen Marcotte: was not present. Laura Trippi provided the following update: The West Marin Disaster Council meeting is being scheduled. Steve Marcotte is organizing CERT training, partly remote and partly outreach to the villages. There is a new group called West Marin Covid Recovery that is separate from the WMDC. West Marin needs testing information; it is not well advertised.

### Red Cross

- Vincent Valenzuela shared the status of Red Cross' programs: Sound the Alarm program is active in a virtual format. This program installs smoke alarms in people's homes and provides education. The installation is on hold, but virtual education is continuing. We will reach out to individuals and will walk them through the preparedness information. We can do one-on-one or in a group setting of 10-15 people.
- Red Cross also has the Pillowcase Project for 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade and Prepare with Pedro for K-1. These are not a top priority for schools right now and are not active programs.
- Be Red Cross Ready is a virtual 45 min. personal preparedness presentation. This is available for groups and teaches you how to put together a go bag among other things.
- CPR and tabling events are on hold.

### Southern Marin / Business Community

- Garry Lion: Marin Economic Briefings continue and the Annual Marin Economic Update is coming up on Wednesday and we will have an Economic update and forecast. Garry sent out a link last week that included a video. This is a free event, bring your own breakfast (all on Zoom). The lead speaker is the CEO from the Bay Area Council and will talk about the exodus of Bay Area businesses. The event will be recorded.

### Mill Valley Preparedness, community efforts

- Maggie Lang: We are moving along with NRGs, finding new Block Captains, and going into new parts of town. The [NRGMillValley.org](http://NRGMillValley.org) website has a series of videos of continuing education for block captains.
- On March 14 we are holding our semi-annual drill. Hoping new block captains will participate.
- The Southern Marin NRG Coordinator position was approved. The position will reside in the Fire Dept. and will report to the Chief or Deputy Chief. The Chief reports to the City Manager.
- The Southern Marin CERT steering committee is for all of Southern Marin. Online courses are offered (FEMA or other). There is a push on recertifying CERT as the State approved doing this via Zoom. We are moving ahead with hybrid CERT training; a planning group will be started.
- Emergency Preparedness: Get Ready living room chats continue on Zoom. Flood and winter storms are the focus now.
- Southern Marin Disaster Council meets in a couple of weeks.

### Public Health Preparedness and related programs

- Amber Davis was not present. No update.



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### Access & Functional Needs (AFN) communities:

- Peter Mendoza: There is a new phone number for people with AFN and disabilities, older adults, people with limited access to computers or people who need assistance to get vaccines. 833-641-1988 between 8am-5pm. Callers will get assistance booking appointments through the County for Covid-19 vaccines. This week people age 75+ are eligible. Starting on 3/15 people with disabilities will also be eligible for the vaccine. The Governor opened the tier for people with disabilities for mid-March. Share the number.
- The AFN Covid-19 taskforce meets 3x/week and includes GGRC (Golden Gate Regional Center). The focus is to ensure that vaccines are accessible and equitable. Thanks to Laine Hendricks and Suzanne Levine for help with this.
- MarinCIL has a blog called the PM Morning report. To check it out and share information with your communities go to [MarinCIL.org](http://MarinCIL.org).

### Public Safety / Emergency Management

- Quinn Gardner: The County updated their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). There is a template that can be used by cities and towns so all have some investment in this plan.
- Regarding the missing San Rafael older adult, CERT activation was considered by Search and Rescue. This was a great consideration of CERT.

### Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC)

- Tom Cromwell: Both MMRC and CalMat (Cal Medical Assistance Team, a State effort) have doubled membership to 500 volunteers each. Both are involved in vaccination efforts. MMRC provides 30 volunteers/day at the Civic Center vaccination pod. We expect to use more volunteers when more vaccine is available; the major chokepoint is the supply of vaccine. The J&J vaccine will be coming on board and will help with this.
- Belvedere block captains have all new radios and were tested in a recent exercise (50 of 90 volunteers participated). Our trailer has been rewired for 220 volts and can accommodate a large generator for exterior lighting. We are gathering operating room and ER physicians and nurses to familiarize them with the trailer.
- AFN population: A significant number of block captains are not comfortable contacting these residents.

### Public Preparedness Coordinator / Get Ready Marin

- There is currently no coordinator. No update.

### OES RACES Chief Radio officer, San Rafael CERT steering and Firewise

- Jay Hubert: RACES / ACS<sup>2</sup>: County Dept. of Public Works has a new hire: Andrew LeBlanc from Canada. He manages the Radio Telecom Team. He organized radio communications for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver and Whistler. He is very supportive of using radio to communicate with the public, working with amateur radio operators and facilitating access to potential repeater sites. He is located in Marin. He is interested in broader communications and is rolling out the new MERA system (radio system for first responder).

### Public Comment/Questions:

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<sup>2</sup> Marin County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS) are volunteers working under the authority of the Marin County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES). <https://www.marinraces.org/wp/>



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- Jody Timms: Marin NRGs are meeting tomorrow. Ross Valley is hiring a new Disaster Coordinator who will work with local city NRG coordinators, working under Ross Valley Fire Dept.

### IV. Closing Items

- We will start work on focus area #1: vulnerable residents.
- The current list of DC3 members is on the OES website and is provided here. There are 3 open positions to be approved by the Board of Supervisors tomorrow:  
<https://apps.marincounty.org/BosBoardsCommissions/mbrlistpublic.aspx?BrdID=29&return=default.aspx>.

**Closure: 2:42 pm end of meeting**

**Next Meetings: 1-3pm:**

**Dates may be flexible as circumstances require**

**PDEP Meetings Year 2021: 4/5, 5/3, 6/7, 7/12, 8/2, 9/13, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6/2021**

Site: PDEP conducts meetings online using ZOOM.COM during the Pandemic. We hope to return to meetings at the Central Marin Police Community Room soon.

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**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm:**

**DC3 Year 2021: 3/11/2021, 6/10/2021, 9/9/2021, 12/9/2021**

DC3 Meetings are currently remote and are broadcast on Zoom and Facebook Live. They hope to return to Board Chambers, Civic Center, soon. Dates may be flexible.

**Online:** <https://www.marinsheriff.org/about-us/field-service-bureau/office-of-emergency-services>

**Email:** [pdepcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:pdepcommittee@gmail.com)

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