



## November 2019

Dear Belvedere Neighbors,

Welcome to the fall Belvedere Block Captains Newsletter. Belvedere escaped the Big One but the recent outages were a wake-up call. Much remains to be done, and the City is hard at work on many fronts. But the Block Captains program, Neighbors-helping-Neighbors, is our responsibility as citizens. It's also a GREAT way to get to know your neighbors!

We invite you to read below, sign up if you haven't, and join us.

## Emergency Preparedness Manager appointed

Robert Zadnik, Public Works Manager, has a new title, Belvedere's Director of Public Works/Emergency Preparedness Manager. This new executive staff-level position was created to ensure that the community is prepared for emergencies through coordination among staff, citizens, Police, Tiburon Fire and community groups to bolster preparedness. Belvedere is planning significant infrastructure improvements to enhance resiliency of seawalls, levees and utility systems. The City is also building its police staff capacity, studying traffic and safety improvements, and has established Incident Command and Emergency Operations Center capability. Please welcome Robert to this important new role.



## Power Outages

The power outages were a wake-up call. Communications were down, lights were out, and we came to a standstill. Schools were out. Many needed medications refrigerated. Some of us left town; many of us stayed. City leaders were present, walked the streets, and brought food to neighbors, communicated with County leaders.

But it was unacceptable.

After investing to underground 90% of Belvedere, we still lost power. And it will likely happen again. Believe it or not, Belvedere is in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) <https://www.firesafemarin.org/wui> which has a high risk of fire. We must all be prepared.

Belvedere opened the Community Center, the Founders Room on the lower level of City Hall. People of all ages gathered to charge phones, refrigerate medications, update family, share stories, listened to Dr. Ira's comforting piano playing. Chief Wu was a constant presence, updating residents as news came in. He was honored by the Council for his tireless contributions during the power outages.



## The Next One

This outage was good practice. The next time we all must be more prepared. Fortunately, it was not a crisis requiring triggering the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), but it was serious. Block Captains will be absolutely critical to ensuring smooth and efficient communications to both our residents and the EOC. If you'd like to know more about being a Block Captain, come to our [Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 16, 6 - 7 pm, Belvedere City Hall](#).

## What YOU can do

Register your household

<https://www.cityofbelvedere.org/FormCenter/Belvedere-Block-Captains-3/Register-Your-Household-Information-39>

Sign up for a Get Ready class

<http://www.getready94920.org/classes.htm>. Email Laurie Nilson ([lnilsen@tiburonpd.org](mailto:lnilsen@tiburonpd.org)).

Do you know who your block captain is? Look here:

<https://www.cityofbelvedere.org/372/Find-Your-Block-Captain>. Reach out if you are new, or if you have updated information helpful in an emergency.

If you are a Block Captain, NOW is the time to **WALK YOUR BLOCK AGAIN**, meet new neighbors, reconnect with old neighbors and update your contact information, any changes in health or mobility, pets etc. and let them know who YOU are. This is neighbors-helping-neighbors.

If you are not a Block Captain, look here to find out how to become one:

<https://www.cityofbelvedere.org/FormCenter/Belvedere-Block-Captains-3/Volunteer-to-be-a-Block-Captain-38>

**ALERT MARIN** ([alertmarin.org](http://alertmarin.org)) will be the primary means of activating the Block Captains and informing Belvedere residents of important developments. As it is an **opt-in** system **you must log in and add the phone numbers you want alerted**. As alerting systems have been a major problem in the current wildfires and the wine country fires last October, REDUNDANCY is the key to alerts. Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs) will automatically alert your cell phone but you must log in to Alert Marin (<https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services/alert-marin>). Nixle ([nixle.org](http://nixle.org), or text 888777 and enter your zip code) provides alerts from public safety departments, and from local schools.

## Evacuation Routes and Evacuation Gathering Areas



Golden Gate Lane

Belvedere's lanes are ideal evacuation locations. Our newest, Golden Gate Lane, opens soon.

<https://www.cityofbelvedere.org/DocumentCenter/View/265/Belvedere-Map-April-2011?bidId=>

Belvedere also has three specific Evacuation Areas for people to gather. Do you know where they are?

<http://www.cityofbelvedere.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/109>.

## **Vegetation Management - Fire disposal**

Starting next year, Tiburon Fire will have a wood chipper machine at Blackie's on the second Saturday of the month, dates below, for all the yard debris you can bring them. Fill up those black plastic bags with all your dead leaves, overhanging branches, topped hedges - anything organic that can be chipped. Get that fire hazard away from your home.

May 9

June 13

July 11

August 8

Sept. 12

**Block Captains are a vital part of Belvedere's Emergency Preparedness.  
Let us help you by helping us.**

**Join us on January 16, 2020, 6 -7 pm to learn more**

<http://www.cityofbelvedere.org/347/Belvedere-Block-Captains>