MEMORANDUM REPORT

DATE: November 17, 2026

TO: Board of Commissioners of the Los Altos Hills County Fire District

FROM: Arastradero Maintenance Project Team,
Ryan Cronin, Technical Analyst/Project Manager
A. Harmon, Field Manager
Eugenia Woods, Programs, Planning and Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Arastradero Maintenance Evacuation Route Project Final Reports

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive Arastradero Maintenance Evacuation Route Project Final Reports

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BACKGROUND

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District (District or LAHCFD) 2023-2027 Strategic Plan Goals & Strategies (Attachment 1), Strategic Goal 1 Prevention, Protection, Resiliency, aims to fund, develop, and maintain programs to protect life, property and enhance safety to build a resilient community. Evacuation Route Hardening is an initiative of this goal. Integrated Hazardous Fuel Reduction (IHFR) programs identified in the LAHCFD Chart of Services (Attachment 2) include the Community-Focused Evacuation Route Hardening projects. These IHFR programs are based on fire science, the LAHCFD Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Annex 4, and the expenditures allocated in the annual District budget. IHFR projects are designed to enhance community resiliency, educate District residents, and reduce community fire hazards. In accordance with Goal 1, staff identified high fire risk areas and initiated collaborative solutions with regional partners including the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council and the Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District (County Fire or Fire Department). The projects targeted roadside hazardous vegetation reduction on major transportation corridors. The fundamental goal of these evacuation route and road hardening projects is to provide greater protection for life safety and to reduce property losses in the event of catastrophic wildfire by providing safer egress and ingress for evacuees and emergency responders.

Hazardous fuel reduction is not a one and done endeavor. Prior projects must be revisited to maintain evacuation route viability. Maintenance on Page Mill Road in the

summer of 2023 was the first of these maintenance efforts. The District expresses gratitude to the Town of Los Altos Hills for conducting maintenance on El Monte and Moody Roads in 2023. Maintenance is currently being conducted on a two-year cycle, or when inspections warrant something different. An environmental firm has been secured to study if a more accurate duty cycle can be identified. As maintenance projects are conducted, connecting neighborhood evacuation routes, referred to as tributaries, are being integrated and treated simultaneously. Maintenance projects are also being combined yielding economies of scale. These routes are being extended into lower fire risk areas of the District in order to provide contiguous routes to alternate evacuation route arteries such as Foothill Expressway.

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council (SCCFSC) was the project manager for these projects and provides a final report (Attachment 3.) The Arastradero Maintenance evacuation route project was initially selected as one of the four I-280 underpasses of the 3.3-mile stretch between Page Mill Road and El Monte Road. These critical underpasses grant access to residents of the southwest neighborhoods of Los Altos Hills to Foothill Expressway. If I-280 interchanges at Page Mill Road and El Monte Road become congested, these alternate evacuation routes will be critical to surviving a fast-moving wildfire.

The Caltrans Park-and-Ride lot at Page Mill Road was initially treated as a likely area for ignition. Brush was cleared and trees were limbed to improve visibility, safety and crime deterrence. The Park-and-Ride lot receives maintenance when required.

The District section of Arastradero Road by Alpine Road was included in the previous maintenance and again treated with this effort. The Liddicoat neighborhood was added as a tributary to this year's maintenance.

Information about this project, and other District projects can be found on the Department website at https://www.lahcfd.org/community-projects/.

DISCUSSION

The Arastradero Maintenance Evacuation Route project was successful in attaining the goal of hazardous fuel reduction and providing a safer evacuation route.

QUANTITATIVE RESULTS and EXPENSES

Arastradero Evacuation Route Maintenance 2026			
Date	Cubic Yards Hauled Chips	Distance (Miles)	Area Treated (Acres)
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	25	0.9	2.18
Wednesday, September 9, 2026	15	0.6	1.45
Thursday, September 10, 2026	20	1.3	3.15
Friday, September 11, 2026	18	1.1	2.67
Total	**78**	**3.9**	**9.45**

Arastradero Maintenance data. All chipped biomass was recycled.

Successes

- There were no injuries on this project. Safety is always the highest priority for these projects. Thoughtful measures are being taken to promote a safety mindset. Additional traffic control technicians are standard for LAHCFD projects. Bilingual safety briefings are conducted daily so all may clearly hear the safety message in their native language.

- Effective utilization of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for image telemetry. Air Metrix was contracted to provide aerial photos and to identify treatment areas and quantitatively measure hazardous fuel reduction.

- Preliminary numbers indicate 1 to 5 m vegetation, brush and lower limbs, is 19% and 18% below the 2020 baseline in Parts 1 and 2 of 3 for this project. This is a positive reduction of ladder fuels and a primary goal of fuel reduction.

- The tree canopy makes up 76% of mapped vegetation. This is a desirable condition for a shaded fuel break that retains ground moisture.

- Part 3 is the Liddicoat neighborhood. It was treated for the first time as an added tributary to the project. Fuel mitigation effectiveness will be measured after future treatments.

The Air Metrix POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT, Parts 1, 2, 3 and Summary are provided (Attachment 4.)

- With assistance of County Counsel, the existing CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) including the Alpine Road section and the Liddicoat neighborhood tributary was filed with the Office of the Santa Clara County Clerk and CEQAnet, the CA state clearinghouse.

- Recognition that the insurance industry is now incentivizing the high value of hazardous vegetation management programs to reduce the threat of wildfire and property losses. LAHCFD efforts strongly support the Office of the Insurance Commissioner's Initiative for the insurance industry to recognize wildfire mitigation efforts as a benefit to the insured.

- Appreciation is expressed for the dedicated support of the LAHCFD Board of Commissioners, the Santa Clara County Fire Department, the Town of Los Altos Hills, the City of Palo Alto, the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, Caltrans, County Roads & Airports, and the contractor, crews and traffic control involved in the success of the project.

Community Outreach
LAHCFD staff promoted this project, and the other programs of the District, through several outreach activities.

- A-frame message boards were strategically placed at entry points along the project route. These signs include a link to the District website project page.
- Postcards followed by letters were mailed to all property owners along the project. They were offered the opportunity to make inquiries, and have their property participate in the vegetation management efforts.
- LAHCFD staff walked the project route, door knocking, made ROE requests, and promoted other District programs.

Through door knocking efforts, residents from the Liddicoat Drive neighborhood were contacted. They showed great interest and appreciation for the evacuation route project. The Liddicoat neighborhood had thirteen homes destroyed by an arson ignited wildfire on July 1, 1985. The IHFR team is leveraging this interaction as a great opportunity to promote the other District services including the Defensible Space Brush Chipping program and NFPA® Home Ignition Zone assessments. The District is hopeful that this contact is likely to develop into a NFPA® Firewise USA® community.

Insights/Lessons Learned

- This project saw the District's first interaction with autonomous vehicles. There were five events involving autonomous vehicles during this project; two that constituted traffic violations and potentially could have endangered crewmembers.



Three incidents simply involve confused vehicles. One was able to continue on its own after multiple attempts to adjust. Two vehicles required a remote operator to take control of the vehicle and remove it from the area.

The two other autonomous vehicles ignored traffic control signs, a cone pattern as well as a traffic control technician with a stop sign, and entered the work area, known as the Cone Zone. The vehicles did avoid striking the workers within the Cone Zone. The vehicles were contained until a safe path out was provided or a remote operator was able to take control.



Both near misses were reported to law enforcement and to the autonomous vehicle operator in accordance with California Vehicle Code § 38752.

- Maintenance projects progress quickly because treatment is mostly of new growth. Adding tributaries adds complexity, fuel volume and slows the pace. To plan accordingly, tributaries are added incrementally.
- From previous experience, the District has established a best practice of contacting all selected vendors prior to the start of the project. Most important for safety, the District project manager reviews the project and anticipated traffic control concerns with the traffic control field crew supervisor. The District's relationship with our traffic control vendors has benefited from this practice. Even so, project managers from the District and SCCFSC must come prepared with resources such as the traffic plan when the project begins.

Attachment(s):

1. LAHCFD 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, Goal 1
   (https://www.lahcfd.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/LAHCFD-2023-27-Strategic-Plan.pdf)
2. LAHCFD Chart of Services, V20, 01/07/2026
   (https://www.lahcfd.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/ChartOfServices-SP2023-27_V20_01072026.pdf)
3. Santa Clara County FireSafe Council Final Report: Arastradero Maintenance Evacuation Route project
4. Air Metrix POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT

LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT





LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT
STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2027

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2027
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STRATEGIC PLAN

2023 - 2027

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District's Strategic Plan 2023-2027 is presented in this document, with the prior Strategic Plan 2021-2022 included as Appendix A. This new successor Plan builds upon the progress made in the prior two years, and is structured around four Strategic Goals and 18 Initiatives. These Strategic Goals reflect broad long-term efforts in support of educating and increasing protection of the community and residents from disasters. The Initiatives represent key functions and describe the path the District will take to achieve its Strategic Goals and help inform the allocation of resources. While performing this work, two key themes are consistent drivers and are critical to the success of the District:

Long-Term Resilience

All of the efforts described herein identify short- and long-term strategies to build and strengthen community resilience. Whether that means training and educational materials or on-site chipping at residences to reduce hazardous vegetation, District resources support a community that can withstand and recover from disasters.

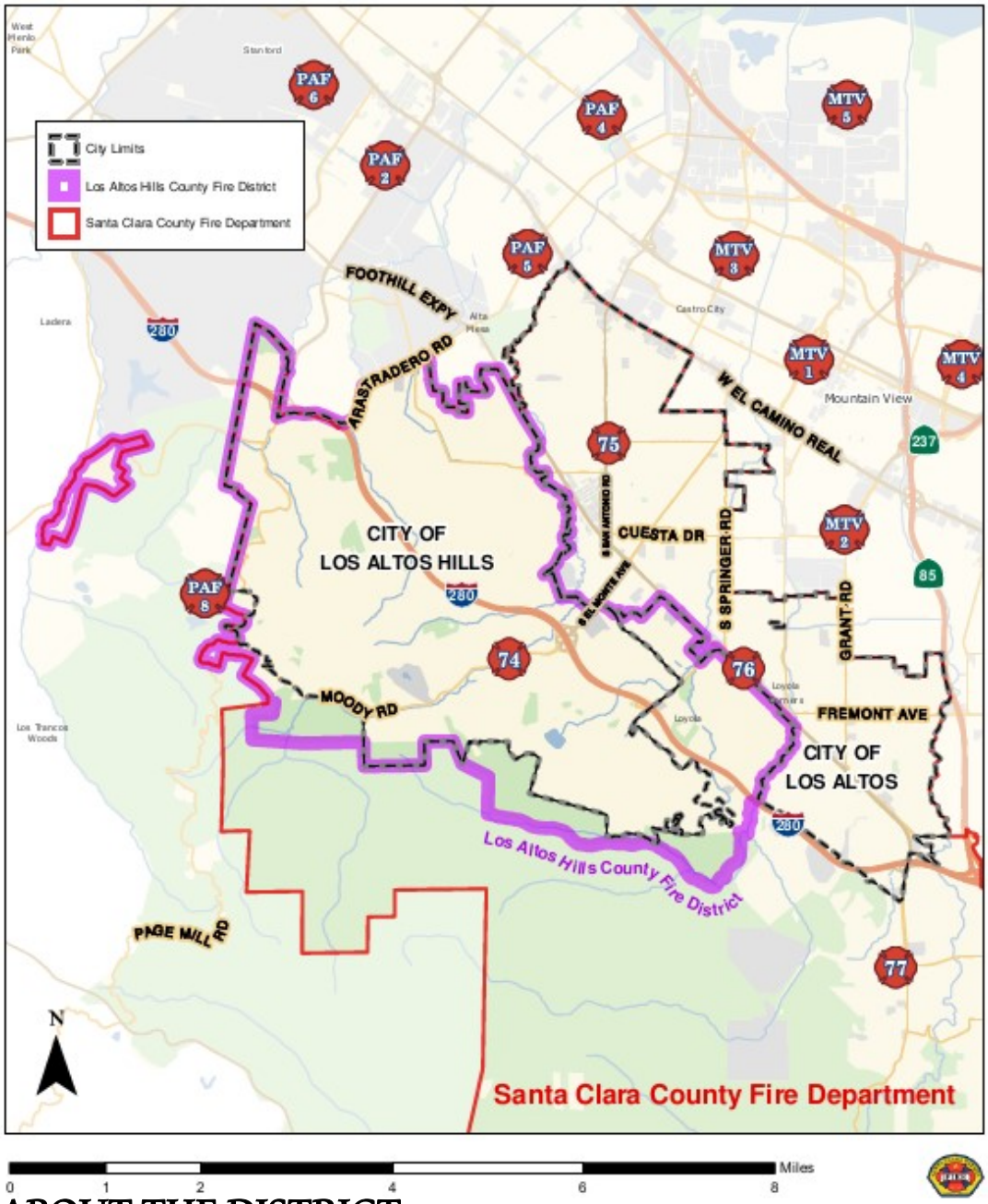
Strengthening Regional Entity Relationships

The District relies on partnerships with a variety of regional entities with aligned interests to achieve short- and long-term goals. The District is grateful for the commitment of staff in these entities and looks forward to continued partnership in our joint efforts.



Overview Map

Los Altos Hills County Fire District



ABOUT THE DISTRICT

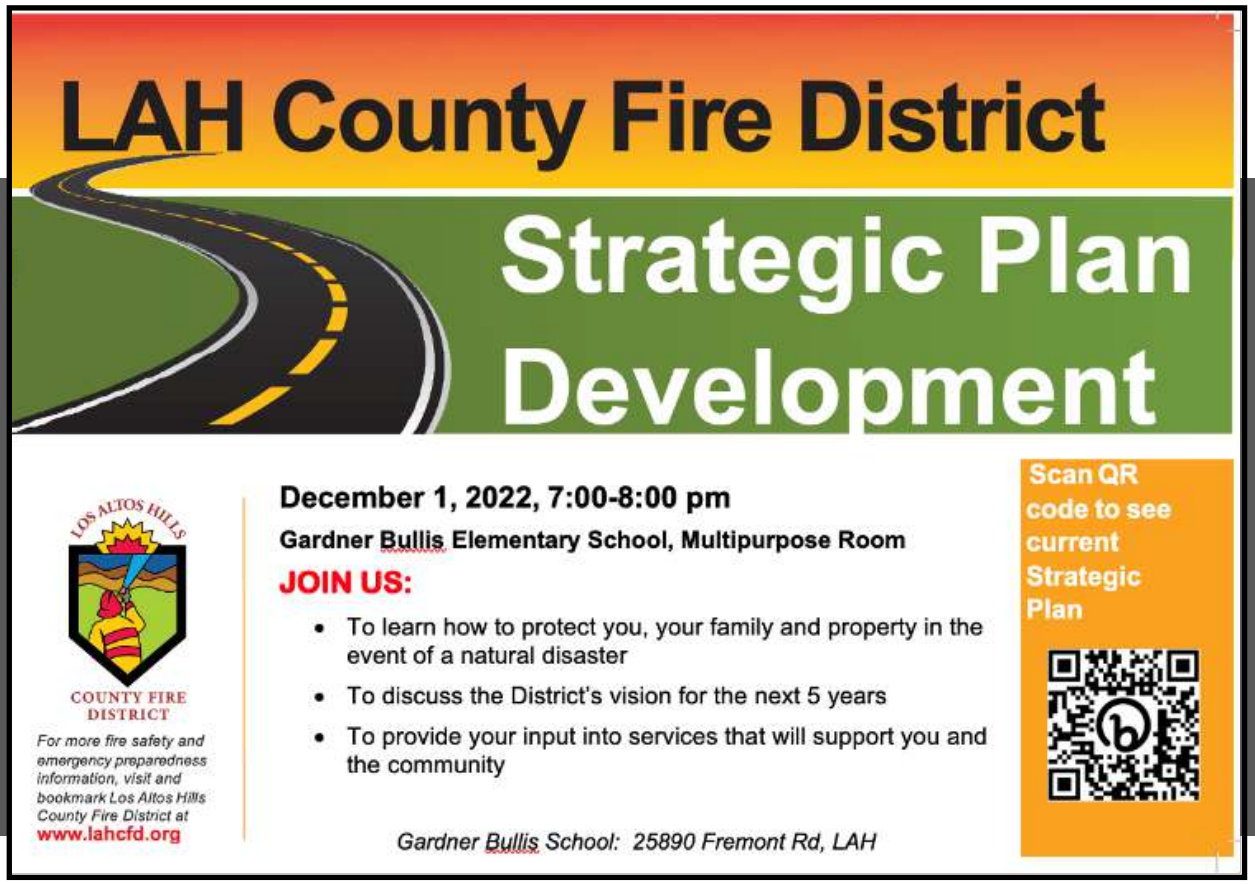
The **Los Altos Hills County Fire District** ("District"), established in 1939, is a dependent district of the County of Santa Clara with delegated authority from the County Board of Supervisors to the LAHCFD Board of Commissioners to manage the affairs of the District. Seven Commissioners are appointed by the County Board of Supervisors to serve alternating four-year terms.

As a Special Fire District, tax revenues fund District-managed programs to protect lives and property within an approximate 12 square mile area of incorporated and unincorporated communities.

The District, along with the City of Los Altos, contracts with the Santa Clara County Central Fire Department ("Central Fire Department") to provide emergency medical response and fire prevention and suppression to the residents of Los Altos Hills and Los Altos.

METHODOLOGY

This successor Strategic Plan was guided by an Ad Hoc Commission Successor Strategic Plan Subcommittee appointed in the Fall of 2022. Chaired by Commissioner Mark Warren, along with Board Vice President Joan Sherlock and Commissioner Jim Basiji, the Ad Hoc Subcommittee held 6 meetings and reported back each month to the full Commission. Updating the SWOT analysis, describing the District's strategic alignment with regional partners, discussing new strategic goals and initiatives, and hosting a Community input meeting occurred between September and December 2022. Approximately 20 people attended the Community meeting, including members of CERT and Teen CERT. Participants learned about the District's vision for the next five years, shared their knowledge of and use of District services, asked a variety of questions and provided positive feedback for the District's past work and future plans. Discussion and input from these meetings have informed this successor Strategic Plan for Calendar Years 2023 through 2027.









At the December 1, 2022 Community Meeting, participants listened to presentations, reviewed maps and took part in a priority setting exercise.



SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

Many factors influence the District and its ability to act in support of its Mission. The Ad Hoc Subcommittee reviewed and updated the District's status with regard to **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats. These modifications result from learning as the District takes on more substantive fuel reduction projects and partner with other regional agencies, and as fire science advances.

	HELPFUL
INTERNAL	**S** **STRENGTHS:** **Local Decision making** **Stable Funding to provide prevention programs** **Skilled Commissioners and Staff with relevant expertise** **Engaged community, CERT, Volunteers, amateur radio groups** **Partnerships with Regional Organizations** **Central fire delivery of EMS, Suppression services** **Identified vulnerable areas within District** **Communications Team efforts** **Utilizing cutting-edge technology**
EXTERNAL	**O** **OPPORTUNITITES:** **Nimble, small organization able to adapt, pivot** **Expanding communication through social, tech capability** **Leverage best practices from fire events** **Personnel to operate tech capability (GIS, UAS*)** **Staff constantly updating to stay current** **Generating plans for District parcel** **Town Fire roads being surveyed, maintained** **Developing work plans for vulnerable areas**

*Unmanned Aircraft System



HARMFUL

INTERNAL

W WEAKNESSES:

- Challenge to keep attention of residents
- Confusion between the District and Central Fire
- Limited employment pool
- Lack of dedicated District facilities
- Lack of incentives for long term retention of staff
- Organizational infrastructure in development

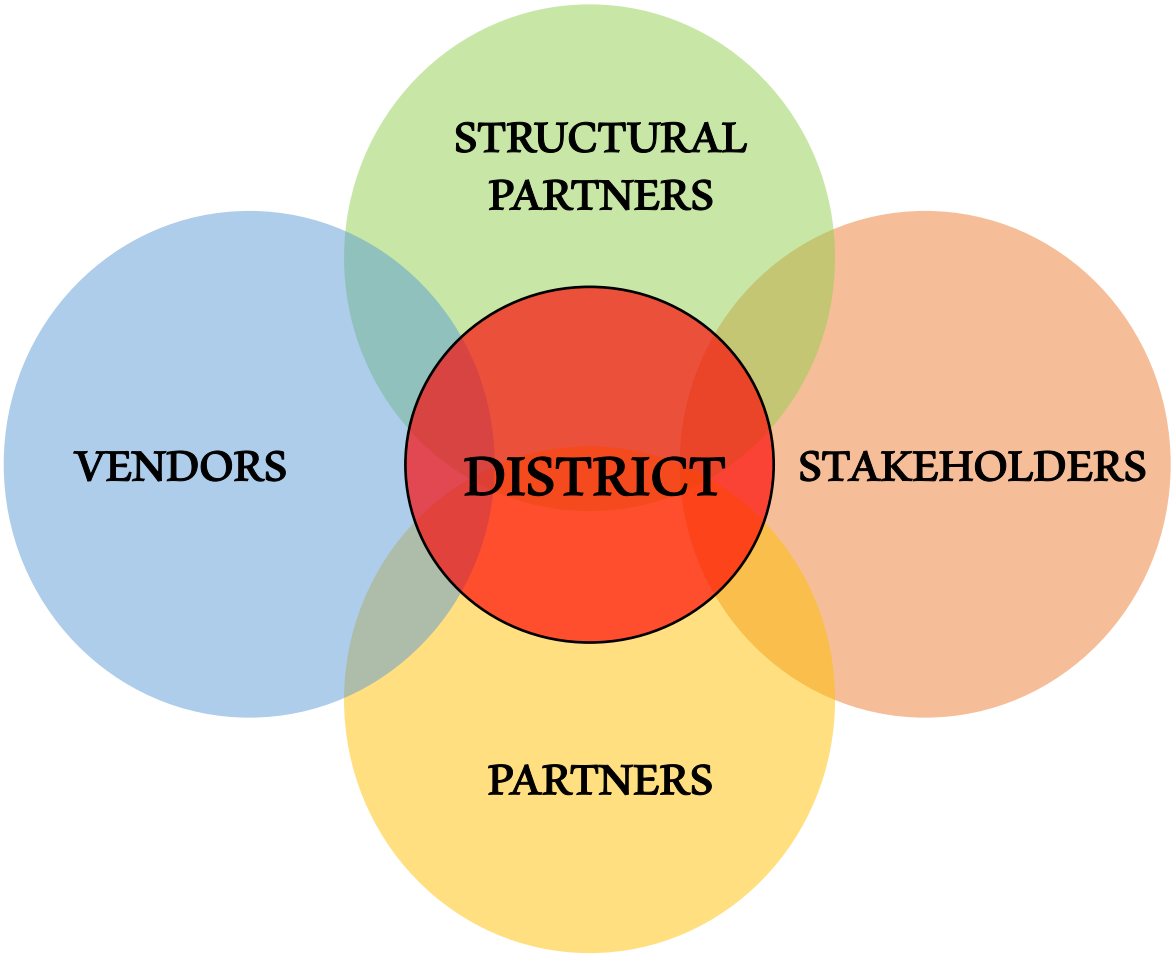
EXTERNAL

T THREATS:

- Increasingly severe weather and drought influenced by climate change
- Difficulty purchasing technology & equipment due to supply chain issues
- Restricted by limited evacuation routes due to network of private emergency access roads, mix of private and public land
- Increasing fuel load in District
- Increasing risk of fire hazards from more congestions, construction, and increased use of pathways & roads

Alignment with Regional Partners

Many different entities, whether public or private sector, partner with the District to support the mission and daily work. As a part of this strategic plan development process, the Ad Hoc Subcommittee reviewed the strategic alignment of entities as described in the visual below:



Regional Entities include:

Structural Partners: Aligned through authority structure and infrastructure
[*County of Santa Clara, Central Fire, Purissima Hills Water District*]

Partners: Add value to projects; regional partners
[*LAH Town, MidPen, City of Palo Alto, Cal Trans, Cal OES/FEMA, Cal Water Service. Stanford University, Santa Clara County Roads & Airports Department, Palo Alto Fire Department, Cal Fire, Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department, Hidden Villa*]

Vendors: Provide specialized expertise, operational support
[*FireSafe Council, Dudek Environmental, Freyer & Laureta, Lynx Technologies, Jackson Ricketts*]

Stakeholders: Impacted by outcomes from District; have interests in District projects
[*Residents, LAH Town and local governments*]

These are groups that contribute resources and expertise as we work together to reduce risk from wildfire and other disasters. The District values these relationships and the wide variety of contributions made by our partners. Together with these regional entities, the following Chart of Services illustrates programs and projects delivered locally to support community resiliency.

Organizations that partner with the District on projects and programs to build community resilience.































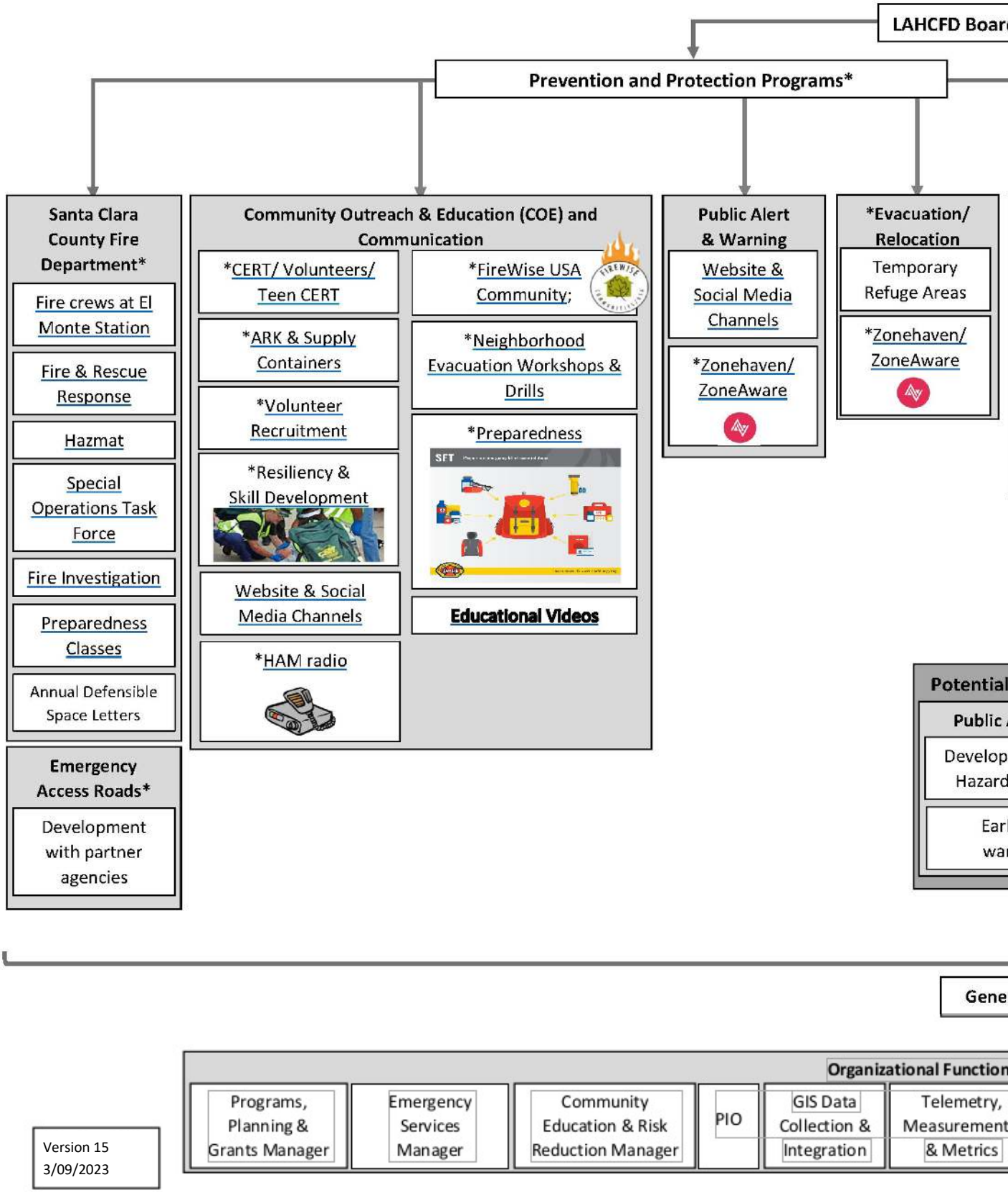








LAHCFD CHART OF SERVICES



Version 15
3/09/2023

For more information on LAHCFD Programs and how to participate, please visit: www.LAHCFD.org
An interactive version of this chart can be viewed here: www.lahcfd.org/goverance/ForwardLookingCommunityResiliency

d of Commissioners

Integrated Hazardous Fuel Reduction Program (IHFR)
Supporting Community Resiliency & Wildfire Risk Reduction

***Water Systems (Hydrants, Valves, & Laterals)**
- Hydrant Repair, Maintenance, and Management
- Improvements to District-owned hydrant water system

***Staffing / Resources**
- Station 8 Fire Crew Staffing
- 24/7 Battalion Chief
- High Fire Season Staffing
- District Parcel
- New & upgraded equipment
- Water Tender Apparatus
- Fire Truck Apparatus

Future Programs
- **Alert & Warning**
- ment of Local All-
- l Mitigation Plan
- ly detection /
- rning devices

Residential-Focused Programs

Wildfire Risk Reduction

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) & Rebate Program*





Defensible Space Brush Chipping & Debris Removal

Defensible Space Fuel Reduction Monthly Drop-off

greenwaste
a brighter shade of green

Resources for Property and Structure Hardening
- Creating Defensible Space
- Home Hardening Techniques
- Property & Structure Hardening
- Vegetation Management & Hazardous Fuel Reduction
- Right of Entry (ROE) to participate in Evacuation Route Projects

Community-Focused Programs

Wildfire Risk Reduction Road Hardening / Evacuation Routes

Page Mill Road Project
- Phase 1
- Phase 2 → Maintenance

El Monte & Moody Roads Project → Maintenance

Altamont Road Project → Maintenance

Arastradero Road Project

Ravensbury Avenue / Mora Drive Project

Cal OES / FEMA I-280 Grant

Community Strategic Fuel Break

Annual Weed Abatement

Annual Goat Grazing



ral Manager

s to Support District Programs

s,	District Clerk	Finance	Technical Analyst / Project Manager	Legal	Risk Management	Hydrant Systems Engineering	Consultants & Seasonal P/T

2023—2027 LAHCFD Strategic Plan

Mission	Protect the lives, property and environment within the District it serves fr prevention, protection and emergency response services, and t			
Strategic Goals	**1. Prevention, Protection, Resiliency**			
Objectives	Fund, develop and maintain programs to protect life, property and enhance safety to build a resilient community. Current Programs described in the District's Chart of Services.			
Initiatives	Harden Evacuation Routes and Emergency Access Roads	Support reduction of hazardous fuels by residents	Update CWPP, Annex 4	Contribute resources to support and enhance operations at SCC Cen-tral Fire
Strategies	Complete planning and preparations for additional evacuation routes	Continue targeted Chipping Program	Participate in County-wide regional committee on CWPP	Maintain contract for fire suppression and EMS services with County Fire
	Maintain completed evacuation routes	Provide monthly vegetation drop off		Fund additional seasonal fire crews (high risk event extra staffing)
	Implement vegetation mgmt services on emergency access roads in collaboration with Central Fire and Fire Safe Council	Continue Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) inspections and implement rebate program		Fund Station 8 to provide additional support and response
	Support and advance I280 vegetation mgmt project	Support Central Fire fuels crew work		Apply for grants in a manner consistent with Commission discussion 6/21/22 to leverage tax dollars and maximize community benefit

om fires, disasters and medical emergencies or other incidents through education,
o be responsible for the financial stewardship of District taxpayer funds.

2. Preparedness

Deliver community services that support emergency response & build programs of outreach, communication, education and regional benefits; Collaborate with regional partners to strengthen community resilience, transparency & effectiveness of local government programs. Continue to identify opportunities to use District resources to benefit a broader regional area in support of common interests.

Increase knowledge in community around preparedness	Support continuing education for community members	Provide & maintain supplies to be used by community in event of natural disaster	Utilize and increase emergency communication connectivity technology
Continue and expand District newsletter and other publications	Continue and expand CERT Program	Maintain and replace as needed ARK supplies	Develop capabilities through Starlink satellite internet service provider
Continue and expand social media outreach	Continue and expand Teen CERT Program	Maintain and properly equip emergency trailers	
Continue and expand informational and training videos	Offer training and workshops		
Expand capability and accessibility of District website, including portals for access to legacy documents	Plan and host evacuation drills		
Support and develop Firewise communities	Continue emergency preparation community events		

2023—2027 LAHCFD Strategic Plan (continued)

Mission	Protect the lives, property and environment within the District it serves prevention, protection and emergency response services, and				
Strategic Goals	**3. Infrastructure**				
Objectives	Preserve and develop physical and digital assets that support life, safety and property, and District operations				
Initiatives	Maintain and manage District-owned hydrant system	Identify best use of District-owned parcel to support fire and EMS services	Expand District-funded facilitites, apparatus and equipment; consider regional uses	Increase use of technology to improve District programs	Identify sources for District meeting space & storage
Strategies	Develop hydrant mapping system	Develop a timeline for consideration of options	Fund improvements at El Monte Fire Station	Increase GIS capability	Contact potential sources for meeting space
	Evaluate pipeline resiliency when opportunities occur	Plan highest use of District-owned parcel to support ongoing administration, programs and prevention tasks	Purchase new apparatus for SCC Central Fire		
			Purchase District vehicles & equipment in support of administration, programs and prevention tasks		

from fires, disasters and medical emergencies or other incidents through education,
to be responsible for the financial stewardship of District taxpayer funds.

4. Sustainability

Adapt organization and allocate resources to maintain a position of fiscal strength and promote stability and sustainability of the District to continue its operations as a valued local Special District. Optimize organizational structure to align with the District's Mission and Goals; utilize available resources and adapt to a regional approach for community resiliency.

Support staffing retention	Develop strategic financial plan	Continue & expand support of regional collaboration & partnerships	Maximize best practices in programs & projects	Respond to findings from County-wide fire services studies
Develop compensation philosophy and effective & competitive compensation plan	Create 5-year capital plan that aligns with the annual budget process	Continue efforts to partner with Stanford University on mutually beneficial projects	Develop comprehensive records retention program	Evaluate findings from studies and determine impact to District
Support professional development	Enhance financial transparency thru website portal improvements			

RECOGNITION

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District's Strategic Plan 2023-2027 defines strategies for growth for District programs, services and projects based on fire science and long-term community resiliency. It is reflective of, and builds upon, the progress made in the prior Strategic Plan 2021-2022. This progress would not be possible without the commitment, strong leadership and financial stewardship demonstrated by the Board of Commissioners who participated in the development of this successor Strategic Plan:

Board President Roger Spreen

Board Vice President Joan Sherlock

Commissioner Jim Basiji

Commissioner Kavita Tankha

Commissioner George Tyson

Commissioner Melvin Vaughn

Commissioner Mark Warren

Special thanks to the Commission's Ad Hoc Successor Strategic Plan Subcommittee Members for their time and thoughtful development of these goals & initiatives:

Commissioner Jim Basiji

Board Vice President Joan Sherlock

Subcommittee Chair Commissioner Mark Warren

We also thank the community members, including CERT and Teen CERT members, who have provided input and feedback on the District's path forward in its continuing efforts to meet its mission and build a strong, resilient community.

Lastly, this strategic vision would not be possible without District staff who provide the technical expertise, detailed planning, development and execution plans necessary to achieve short- and long-term objectives. We recognize their dedication to the District, its mission and the community.

J. Logan, General Manager

Denise Gluhan, Community Ed & Risk Reduction Manager

Victoria Bebee, Emergency Services Manager

Eugenia Rendler, Programs, Planning & Grants Manager

Russell Morreale, Budget Manager

Cori Vargas, District Clerk and Financial Consultant

Sarah Henricks, Special Project Services Consultant

Ryan Cronin, Technical Analyst/Project Manager

Marjorie Kline, Events Coordinator/Firewise Coach





Front Cover pictures, clockwise: Maintaining a viable evacuation route by removing overhanging vegetation, Cert training participants learn how to safely free pinned victims.







Pictured this page, clockwise:
Volunteers train with a mobile cell tower that can be brought in when existing infrastructure is damaged. Teen CERT participants hand out flyers at a community event. At the Strategic Plan Community Meeting, residents listen to commissioners explain the District goals. Previous page, left—Volunteers insure that the "Ark" supplies are refreshed and viable.. Far left, The District sponsors events throughout the year to keep residents engaged and mindful of safe practices.

Back Cover pictures, clockwise:
Hazardous vegetation removal along evacuation route; Teen Cert training; District Information Booth at a community event; Working together as a community -- Creation of another Firewise Community in the District.









LOS ALTOS HILLS
COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT

Los Altos Hills County Fire District Chart of Services

Built on fire science & LAHCFD CWPP Annex 4

Guided by Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027 - Resourced by FY Budget

LAHCFD Board of Commissioners

Prevention and Protection Programs

Suppression & Emergency Medical Services

Santa Clara County Fire Department

24/7 Services

- Fire & Rescue Response
- Engine companies at El Monte Fire Station
- Special Operations Task Force (Hazmat)
- Fire Investigation
- Fire prevention & Building Construction codes
- Preparedness Classes
- Annual Defensible Space Letters

Additional Staffing / Resources / Assets

- Station 8 Personnel staffing during High Fire Season
- 24/7 Battalion Chief
- Water tender, Fire Truck, 2 Type-1 Apparatuses
- Conduct fire facility feasibility study for District parcel

Emergency & Disaster Preparedness

Disaster Coordination

- Coordination with Operational Area Team
- Emergency notifications on website & social media channels
- AlertSCC
- LAH Nixle

Evacuation

- Genasys Protect
- Partnership with LAH Emergency Preparedness & Response Committee (EPRC)
- County OEM Regional Emergency Preparedness
- Fire Access Roads: Development with partner agencies

Water Systems – Hydrants, Valves, & Laterals

- Hydrant Repair, Maintenance, and Management
- Improvements to District-owned hydrant water system

Community Outreach, Education, and Involvement

Community Outreach & Education (COE)

- Resiliency & Skill Development
- Website & Social Media Channels
- Educational Videos
- ARK & Supply Containers
- Neighborhood Evacuation Workshops & Drills
- Preparedness
- District Services Guide
- Annual Preparedness Guide

Community Involvement & Volunteerism

- CERT / Volunteers
- Firewise USA Community

Emergency Notifications

- HAM Radio

Supporting Community Resiliency & Wildfire Risk Reduction

Property Level Services

Resident Focused Programs

- Defensible Space Brush Chipping & Debris Removal
- Defensible Space Fuel Reduction Monthly Drop-off
- Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) & Rebate Program

Resources for Property & Structure Hardening

- Creating Defensible Space
- Home Hardening Techniques
- Right of Entry (ROE) to participate in Evacuation Route Projects

District / Community Level Programs

- Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) - Annex 4
- Evacuation Routes
- I-280 Fuel Break
- Annual Goat Grazing
- Community Strategic Fuel Break
- Regional Collaboration: Evacuation Route connectivity to larger Evacuation Routes in County
- Annual Weed Abatement
- Flashy Fuels

Potential Future Programs

Public Alert & Warnings	Evacuation / Relocation
Early detection / warning devices	Temporary Refuge Areas

General Manager

Organizational Functions to Support District Programs

Programs, Planning, & Grants	Emergency Services & Outreach	Community Education & Risk Reduction	Finance / IT	District Clerk Services	Operations Management, Public Works	Public Information Services	Telemetry, Measurements & Metrics	GIS Data Collection & Integration	Legal / Risk Management	Hydrant Systems Engineering	Consultants & Seasonal P/T

V20
01/07/2026

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

FINAL REPORT

Arastradero Evacuation Route

September 2026

Introduction:

Arastradero Road, Los Altos Hills, California, serves as a significant thoroughfare in the northern portion of the Los Altos Hills Community. This route is a primary means of ingress and egress in case of an emergency evacuation. To maintain the integrity of this evacuation route, Santa Clara County FireSafe Council and the Los Altos Hills County Fire District proposed a joint roadside treatment of fuels.

Cooperators:

Multiple agencies, contractors, and organizations contributed to the project: Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, Los Altos Hills County Fire District, Santa Clara County Roads and Airports, the Town of Los Altos Hills, Swingline Tree Service, AWP Statewide Traffic Safety, and Dudek.

Goals For This Project:

- Trim woody vegetation and clear grasses and weeds along the roadside to enhance safety and visibility.
- Remove dead or dying woody debris to reduce fire risk and improve overall roadway conditions. Remove all downed woody vegetation, brush, tree branches, dry weeds, and deep accumulations of leaves.
- Reduce ladder fuels around larger trees.
- Remove dead, diseased, or damaged trees smaller than 8 inches DBH posing a hazard.
- Vegetation clearance will extend fourteen feet vertically above the pavement and up to fifty feet horizontally from the centerline of the road within the public right-of-way managed by the County of Santa Clara, the Town of Los Altos Hills, or Caltrans.
- Clear any eucalyptus bark on the ground, in the tree forks, or hanging loose from trees.

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

Project Site:

The Arastradero Evacuation Route Project provided hazardous fuels reduction and defensible space treatments along three (3) roads within a critical evacuation corridor in the Los Altos Hills County Fire District. Treatment areas included Arastradero Road, Liddicoat Drive, and Liddicoat Circle.

The eastern extent of the project was located on Arastradero Road at Old Adobe Road (37.3957367, -122.1409110), while the western extent was located on Arastradero Road at Alpine Road (37.3829916, -122.1929207).

Vegetation treatment operations were completed across three designated project sections. Section 1 treated Arastradero Road from Old Adobe Road to Page Mill Road. Section 2 continued along Arastradero Road from Page Mill Road to Tracy Court and included the adjoining evacuation route segments along Liddicoat Drive, extending from Arastradero Road to Liddicoat Circle, as well as the complete Liddicoat Circle loop. Section 3 treated the western portion of Arastradero Road from Caballo Lane to Alpine Road, completing all designated roadside vegetation treatments within the project area.

The project encompassed approximately 2.8 linear miles of roadway, equating to approximately 5.6 treated miles when accounting for treatment on both sides of the roadway where applicable. Completed treatments reduced hazardous roadside vegetation, improved defensible space along this critical evacuation corridor, and enhanced emergency ingress and egress for residents and emergency responders utilizing these routes.

Permissions:

One of the biggest challenges in these types of projects is getting permission to treat the properties. During planning of the project, we conducted a public outreach effort to get the permissions needed. It included mailers, newspaper articles, door-to-door visits, and a social media campaign. We were able to include eleven (11) of the 58 parcels involved. Prior to the project, LAHCFD staff conducted a survey of the area to identify key parcels within the project scope. SCCFSC's timeframe for ROE forms to be returned was approximately two (2) weeks with a due date of Friday August 21, 2026. LAHCFD Staff went out to conduct door knocking 2 weeks prior to project start date.

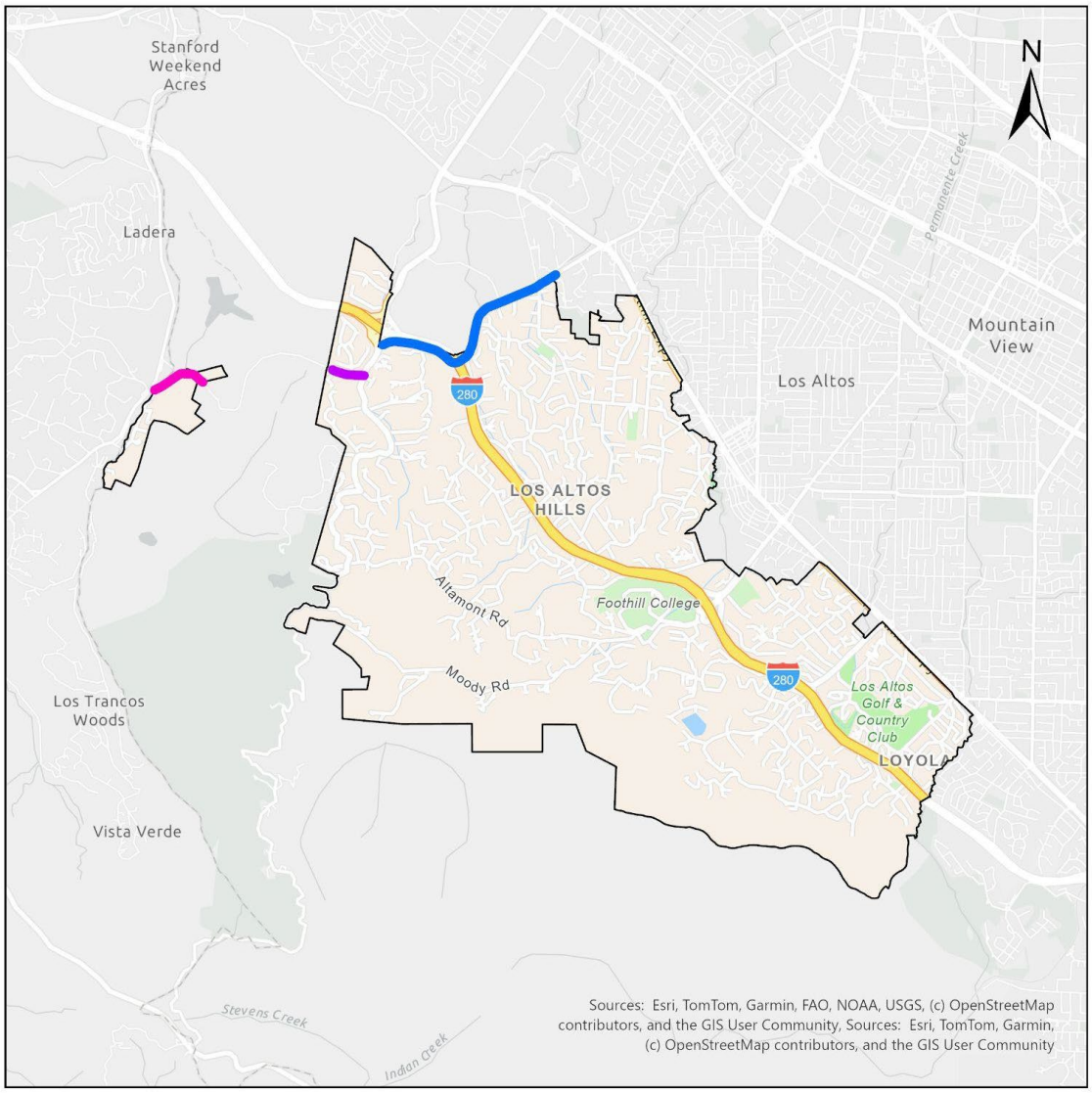
Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

Arastradero Evacuation Route Project Map

Arastradero Project Location Map

2026



ARASTRADERO RD, Phase 1
ARASTRADERO RD, Phase 2
ARASTRADERO RD, Phase 3

LAHCFD Boundary

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

Biological Precautions:

As with all our projects, protecting the biodiversity of the area is a high priority. A Biological Survey was conducted on Thursday September 3rd, by Dudek, five (5) days before the project started. The biologist identified and flagged thirty (30) woodrat middens, one (1) sensitive natural community, and flagged all habitats within the treatable area. The biological review was completed within the nesting season. Heritage trees were not identified during the field verification stage and were not included in the work plan. Finally, a buffer of 25 feet was implemented along stream beds and seasonal waterways. The biological monitor was on site and provided daily assessments alongside the vegetation crews but prior to any work commencing to further ensure the protection of habitats.

Project Duration:

The project started on Tuesday September 8, 2026, and was completed on Friday, September 11, 2026. A total of 4 Days. We encountered 0 red flag days.

Jurisdictions And Funders Involved:

Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council, Los Altos Hills County Fire District, Santa Clara County, and Town of Los Altos Hills.

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

Contractors Selected:

Dudek was the biological team selected for this project due to availability and competitiveness of the bid. Swingline Tree Service was selected for this project due to availability and competitiveness of the bid. AWP Statewide Safety was selected to provide six flaggers and traffic control for project duration.

Project Photos



Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.













Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.





By The Numbers:

- Area treated - 3.76 miles
- Acres treated - 9.11 acres.
- Four (4) days of treatment on the project itself was carried out by Swingline Tree Service.
- No poison oak was treated during this project.

We successfully completed the vegetation treatment maintenance along the evacuation route, and tributaries. This project also supports goals in the LAHCFD CWPP Annex 4 as well as the overall Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Swingline Tree Service, Dudek, and AWP Statewide Safety. All entities were committed to assisting Santa Clara County FireSafe Council with the project from start to finish.

AWP Statewide Safety provided four traffic control personnel on the first day of the project. The second day until the end of the project, six traffic control personnel were assigned to ensure that the work could be done in an efficient and safe manner. All roads worked on are commuter roads with high bike and foot traffic routes, and driveways. The traffic control personnel were necessary for the safety of the tree crews, SCCFSC staff, LAHCFD staff, general traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists in the Los Altos Hills area. I'm happy to report, with AWP Statewide Safety traffic control coverage and the safe working practices of Swingline Tree Service, we were able to finish the project with no reported injuries or incident reports. In addition to that, Los Altos Hills County Fire District granted permission for the project crew to use their parcel for a staging area.

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.

Safety briefings were held by the safety officers Barbara Gonzalez, and Ryan Cronin each morning before start of work to discuss traffic control, personal protective equipment (PPE), local emergency services, environmental hazards, and weather conditions. We would like to thank all the cooperators and property owners for all their support. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to direct them to:

Barbara Gonzalez
Project Manager
e-mail: bgonzalez@sccfiresafe.org
Phone: (650)605-3459

Nestor Valle
Senior Project Manager
e-mail: nvalle@sccfiresafe.org

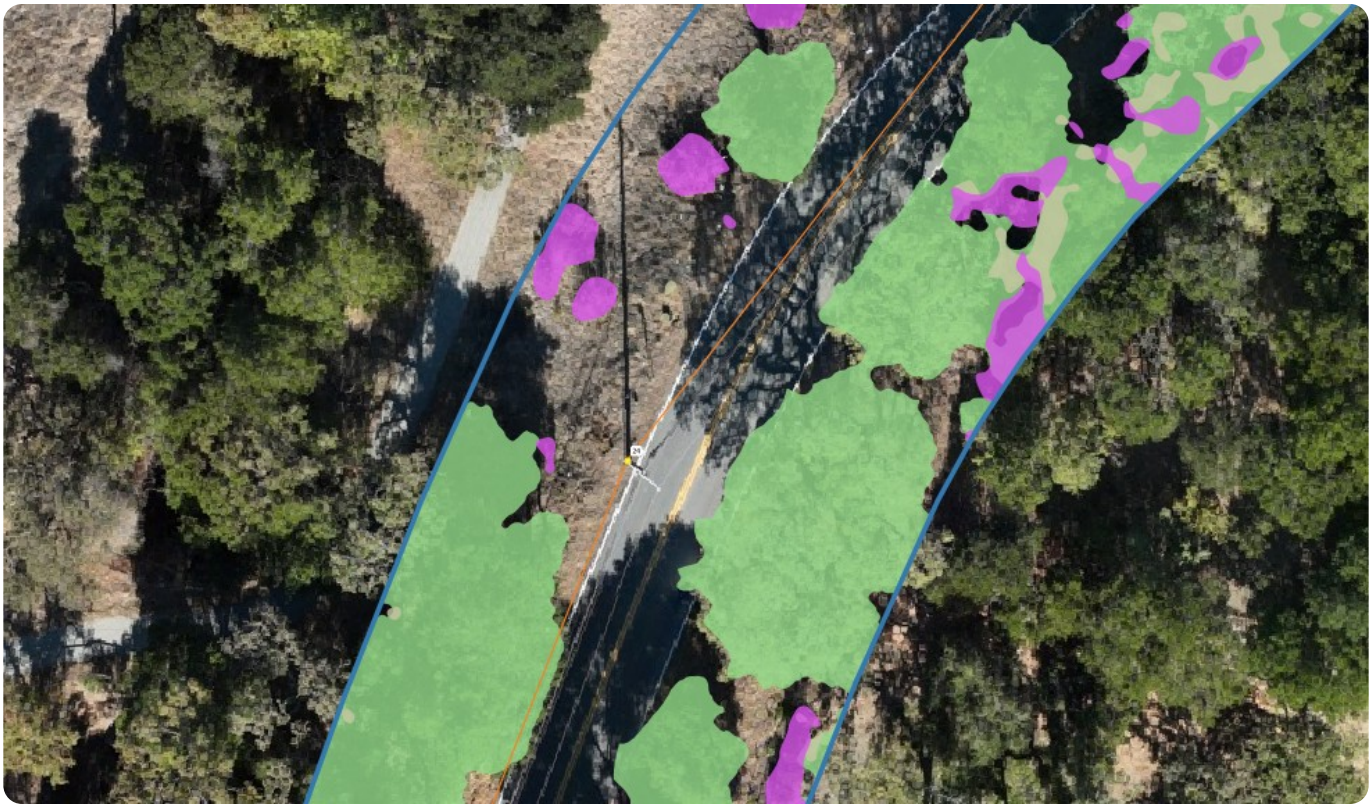
AIR METRIX

PRELIMINARY

POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT

Arastradero Road Part 1

Evacuation route · 21.5 acres · 1.83 mi · Preliminary results



PREPARED FOR

Los Altos Hills County Fire District

PREPARED BY

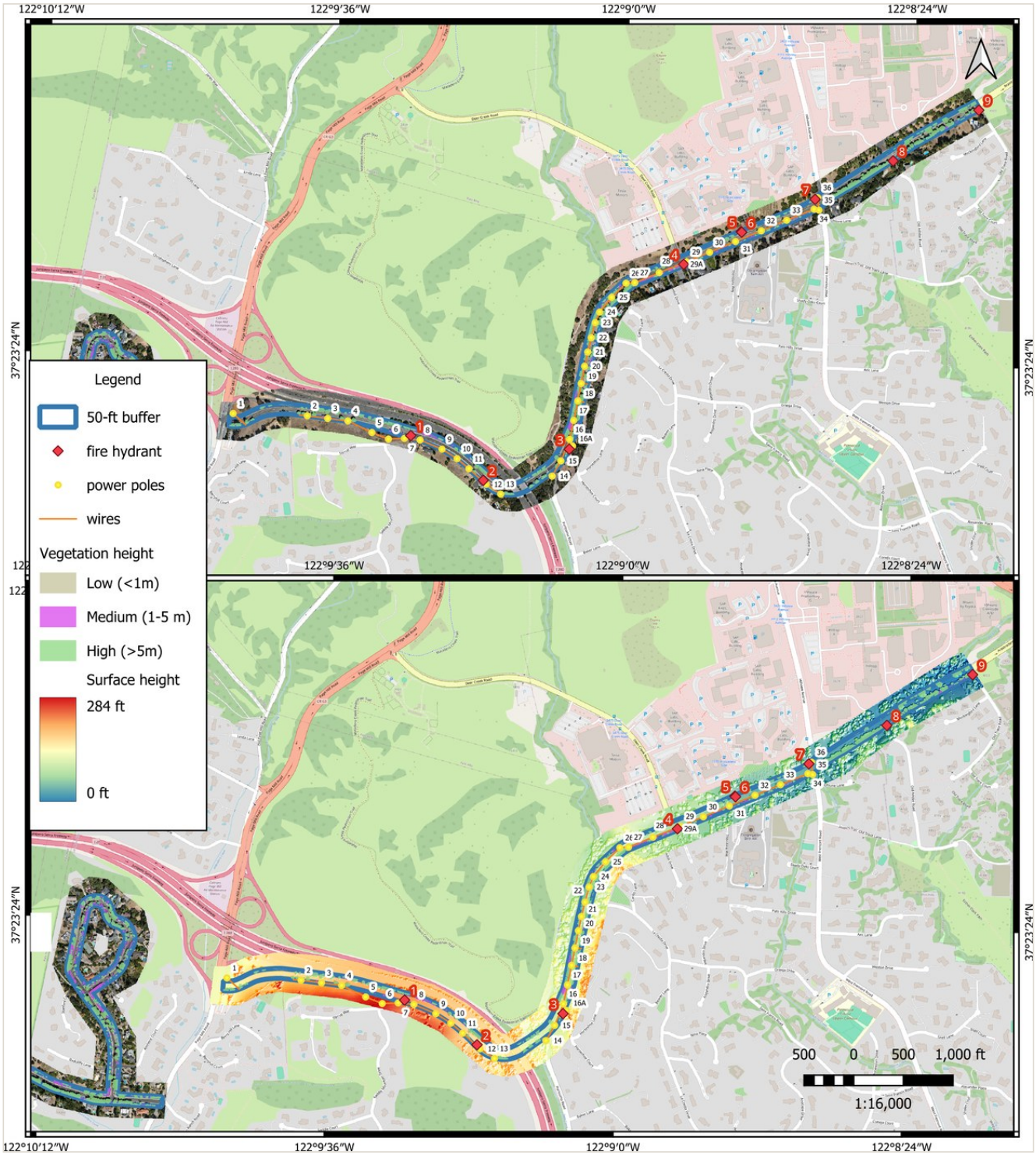
AirMetrix

REPORT DATE

November 2026

Part 1: overview

21.5 ac	1.83 mi	7.35 ac	38
Survey area	Route length	Vegetation mapped in buffer	Power poles mapped



Top: vegetation height classes within the 50 ft buffer, over the 2026 orthomosaic. Bottom: surface height. Hydrants and utility features are shown as mapped.

Part 1: vegetation profile

2026 VEGETATION PROFILE

Current conditions

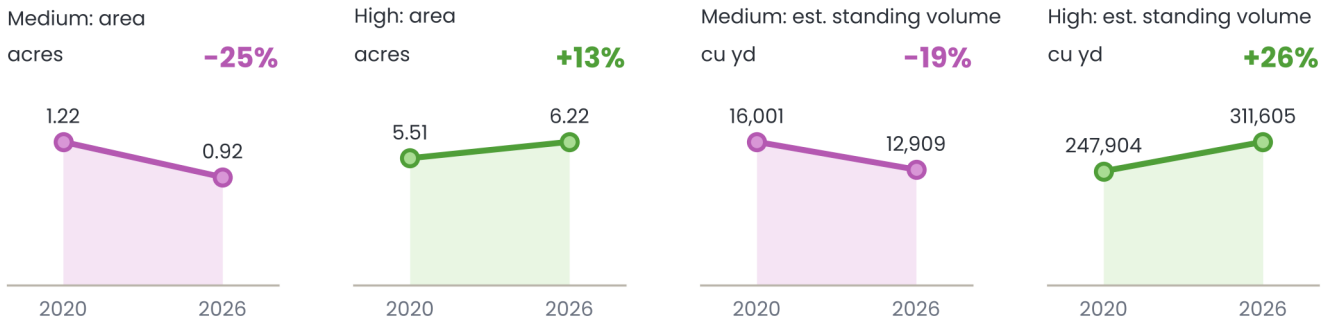
Height class	Area	Share of area	Estimated standing volume	Share of estimated standing volume
Low (up to 1 m)	0.21 ac	2.8%	294 cu yd	0.1%
Medium (1 to 5 m)	0.92 ac	12.5%	12,909 cu yd	4%
High (over 5 m)	6.22 ac	84.7%	311,605 cu yd	95.9%
Total	**7.35 ac**		**324,808 cu yd**	

PRELIMINARY CHANGE ESTIMATE, 2020 TO 2026

Preliminary

Height class	Area 2020	Area 2026	Change	Est. standing volume 2020	Est. standing volume 2026	Change
Low	0.07 ac	0.21 ac	n/c*	77	294	n/c*
Medium	1.22 ac	0.92 ac	**-25%**	16,001	12,909	**-19%**
High	5.51 ac	6.22 ac	**+13%**	247,904	311,605	**+26%**

Estimated standing volume in cubic yards. *n/c: not comparable. Vegetation under 1 m is below reliable detection in the 2020 data. Change figures are estimates against the 2020 aerial lidar baseline. The summary report explains the method and its limits.



Observed against the 2020 baseline

1 to 5 m vegetation is 25% below the 2020 baseline in area and 19% below in estimated standing volume. Vegetation over 5 m is 13% above in area and 26% above in estimated standing volume.

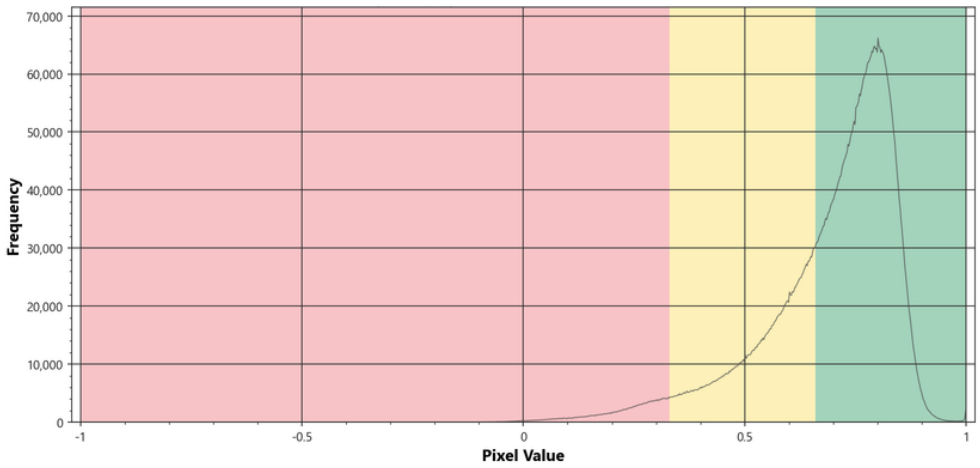
Part 1: vegetation condition

VEGETATION HEALTH (NDVI) 2026 imagery

4% Very stressed below 0.33

28% Moderately stressed 0.33 to 0.66

68% Low stress above 0.66



NDVI = (NIR - Red) / (NIR + Red). Values near +1 indicate dense, healthy vegetation. Shown: 2026 vegetation pixels inside the 50 ft buffer. This is November imagery, so some lower values reflect seasonal leaf drop and cured grass.

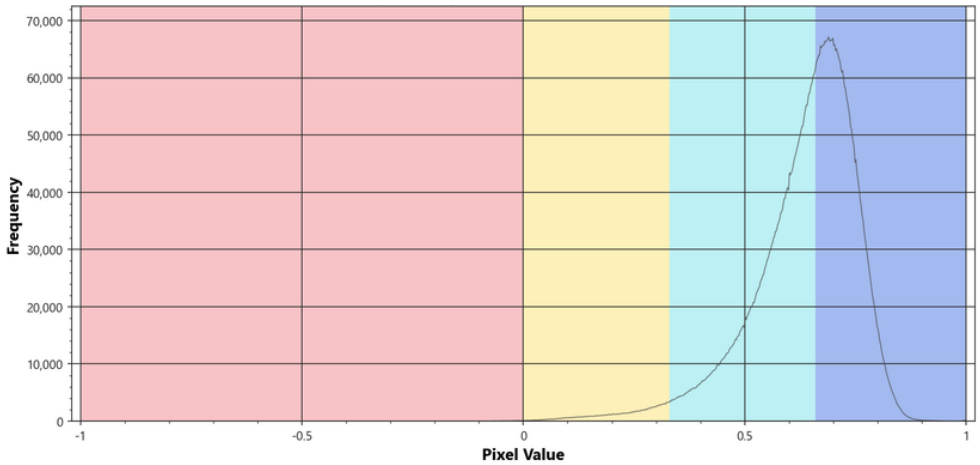
CANOPY VIGOR (GNDVI) 2026 imagery

<1% Very low below 0

3% Low 0 to 0.33

48% Moderate 0.33 to 0.66

49% High above 0.66



GNDVI = (NIR - Green) / (NIR + Green). It responds to leaf chlorophyll and is used here as a proxy for plant vigor. It is not a direct measurement of fuel moisture.

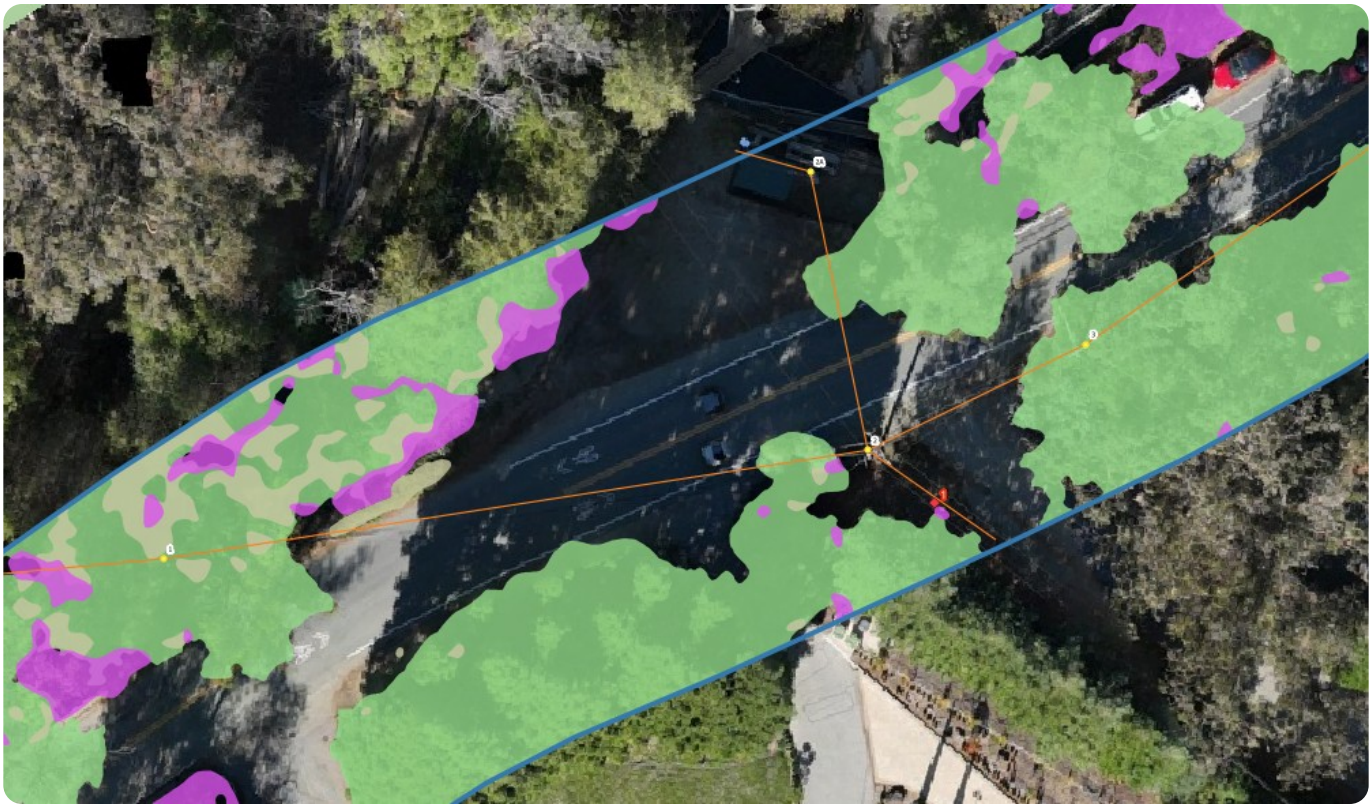
AIR METRIX

PRELIMINARY

POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT

Arastradero Road Part 2

Evacuation route · 5.4 acres · 0.47 mi · Preliminary results



PREPARED FOR

Los Altos Hills County Fire District

PREPARED BY

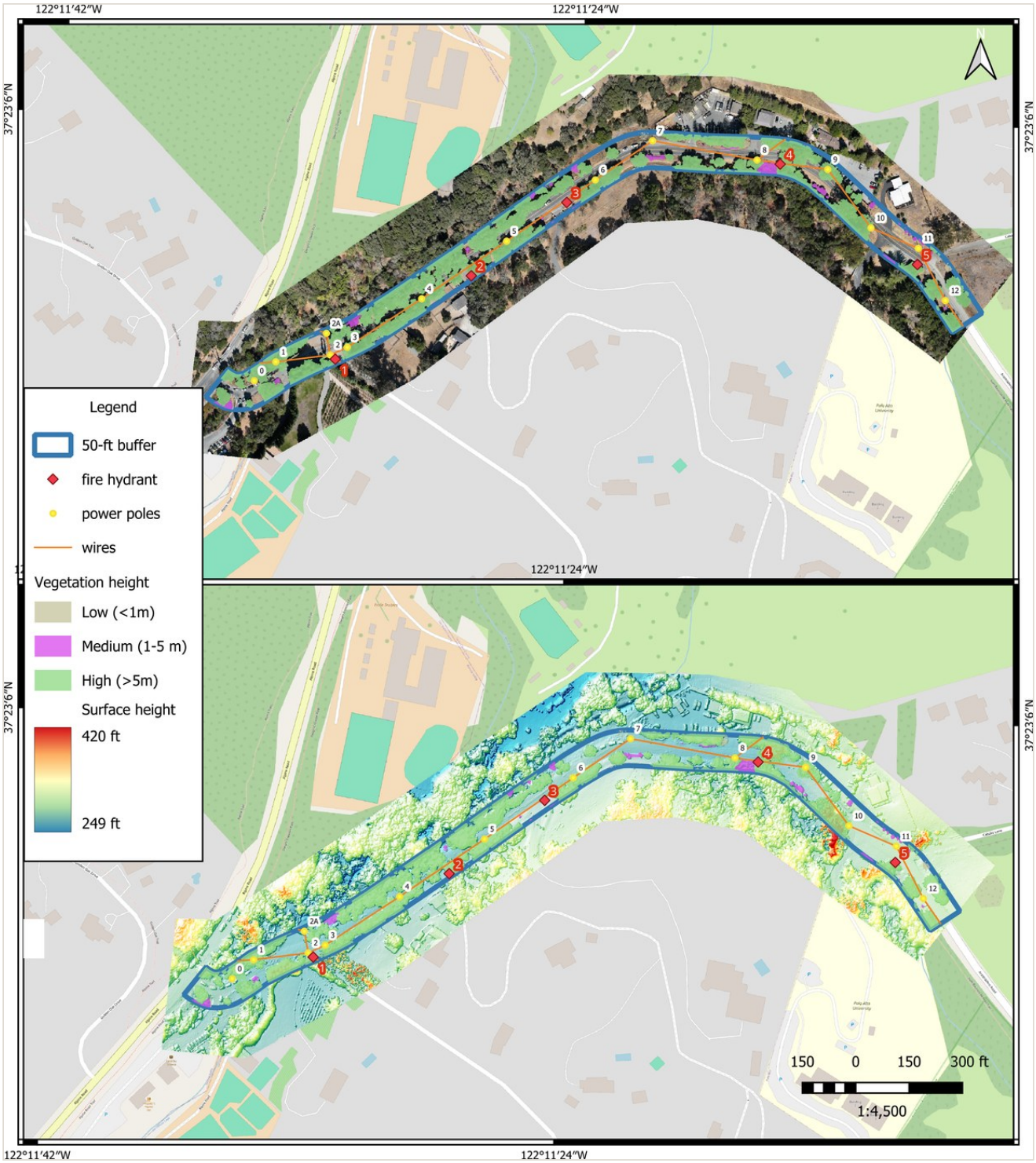
AirMetrix

REPORT DATE

November 2026

Part 2: overview

5.4 ac	0.47 mi	3.33 ac	14
Survey area	Route length	Vegetation mapped in buffer	Power poles mapped



Top: vegetation height classes within the 50 ft buffer, over the 2026 orthomosaic. Bottom: surface height. Hydrants and utility features are shown as mapped.

Part 2: vegetation profile

2026 VEGETATION PROFILE

Current conditions

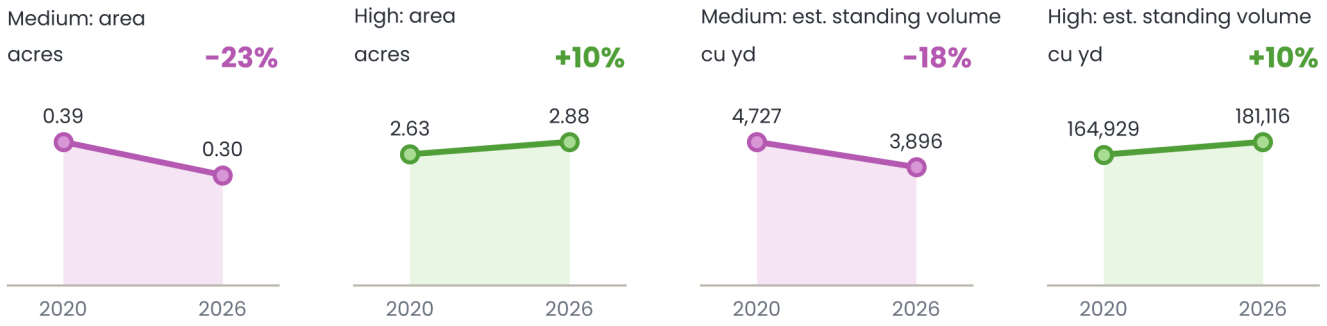
Height class	Area	Share of area	Estimated standing volume	Share of estimated standing volume
Low (up to 1 m)	0.15 ac	4.5%	194 cu yd	0.1%
Medium (1 to 5 m)	0.30 ac	9%	3,896 cu yd	2.1%
High (over 5 m)	2.88 ac	86.5%	181,116 cu yd	97.8%
Total	**3.33 ac**		**185,206 cu yd**	

PRELIMINARY CHANGE ESTIMATE, 2020 TO 2026

Preliminary

Height class	Area 2020	Area 2026	Change	Est. standing volume 2020	Est. standing volume 2026	Change
Low	0.03 ac	0.15 ac	n/c*	31	194	n/c*
Medium	0.39 ac	0.30 ac	**-23%**	4,727	3,896	**-18%**
High	2.63 ac	2.88 ac	**+10%**	164,929	181,116	**+10%**

Estimated standing volume in cubic yards. *n/c: not comparable. Vegetation under 1 m is below reliable detection in the 2020 data. Change figures are estimates against the 2020 aerial lidar baseline. The summary report explains the method and its limits.



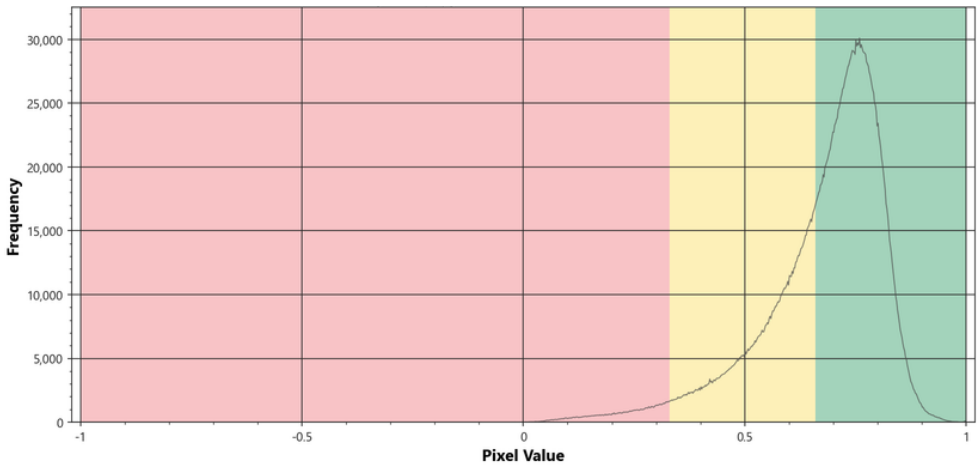
Observed against the 2020 baseline

1 to 5 m vegetation is 23% below the 2020 baseline in area and 18% below in estimated standing volume. Vegetation over 5 m is 10% above in area and 10% above in estimated standing volume.

Part 2: vegetation condition

VEGETATION HEALTH (NDVI) 2026 imagery

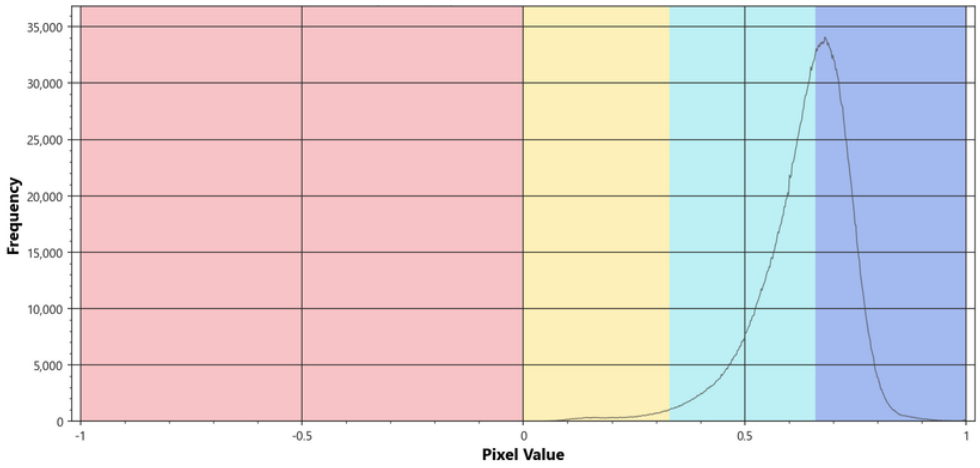
3%	Very stressed below 0.33
32%	Moderately stressed 0.33 to 0.66
65%	Low stress above 0.66



NDVI = (NIR - Red) / (NIR + Red). Values near +1 indicate dense, healthy vegetation. Shown: 2026 vegetation pixels inside the 50 ft buffer. This is November imagery, so some lower values reflect seasonal leaf drop and cured grass.

CANOPY VIGOR (GNDVI) 2026 imagery

<1%	Very low below 0
1%	Low 0 to 0.33
52%	Moderate 0.33 to 0.66
47%	High above 0.66



GNDVI = (NIR - Green) / (NIR + Green). It responds to leaf chlorophyll and is used here as a proxy for plant vigor. It is not a direct measurement of fuel moisture.

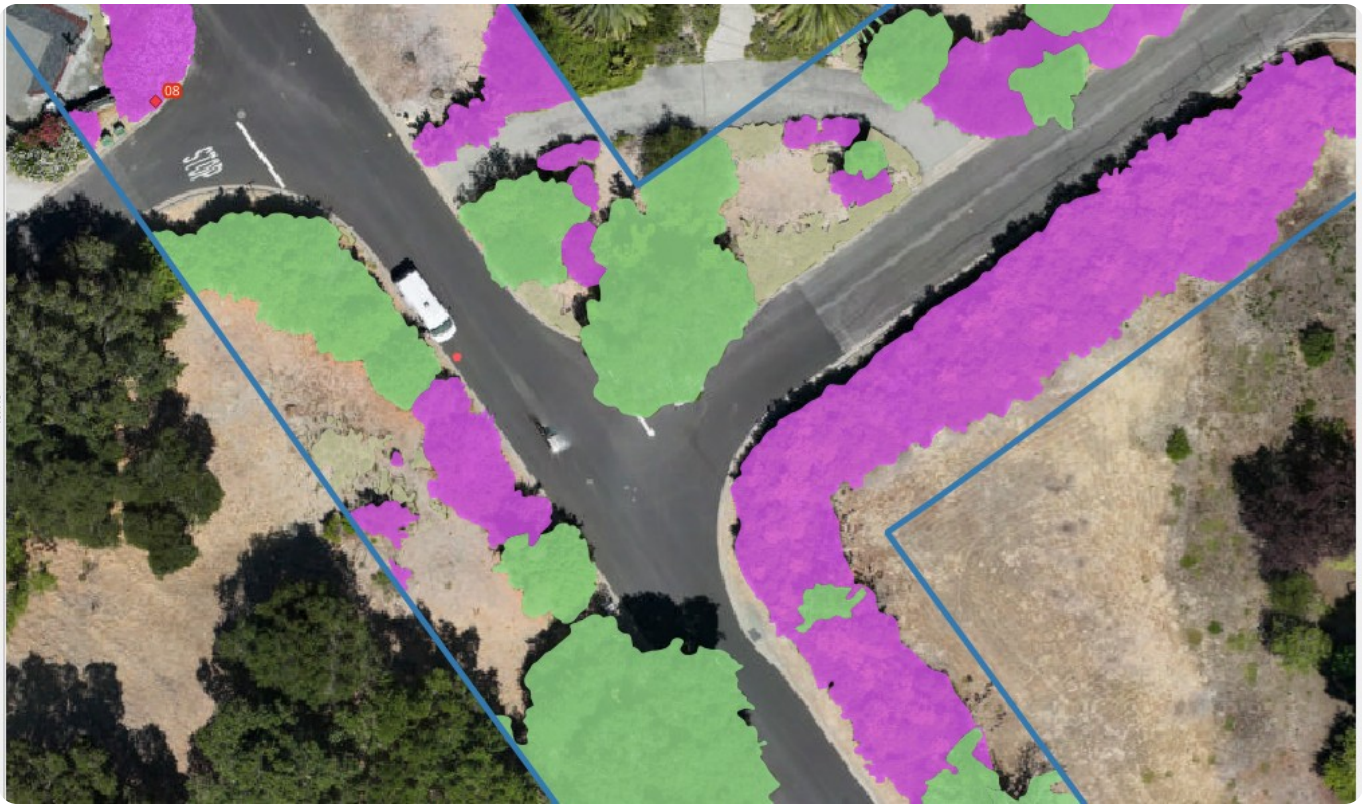
AIR METRIX

PRELIMINARY

POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT

Arastradero Road Part 3

Evacuation route · 11.1 acres · 0.94 mi · Preliminary results



PREPARED FOR

Los Altos Hills County Fire District

PREPARED BY

AirMetrix

REPORT DATE

November 2026

Part 3: overview

11.1 ac	0.94 mi	6.11 ac	None
Survey area	Route length	Vegetation mapped in buffer	Power poles in this section



Top: vegetation height classes within the 50 ft buffer, over the 2026 orthomosaic. Bottom: surface height. Hydrants and utility features are shown as mapped.

Part 3: vegetation profile

2026 VEGETATION PROFILE

Current conditions

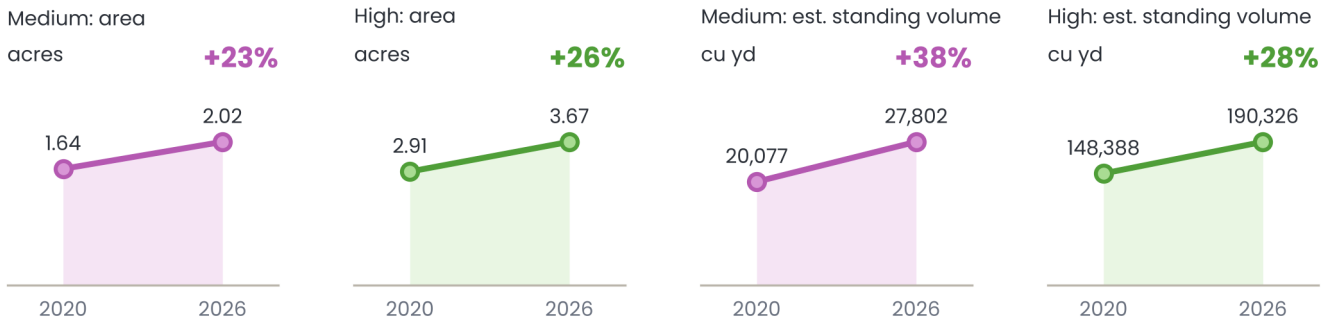
Height class	Area	Share of area	Estimated standing volume	Share of estimated standing volume
Low (up to 1 m)	0.42 ac	6.9%	576 cu yd	0.3%
Medium (1 to 5 m)	2.02 ac	33.1%	27,802 cu yd	12.7%
High (over 5 m)	3.67 ac	60.1%	190,326 cu yd	87%
Total	**6.11 ac**		**218,704 cu yd**	

PRELIMINARY CHANGE ESTIMATE, 2020 TO 2026

Preliminary

Height class	Area 2020	Area 2026	Change	Est. standing volume 2020	Est. standing volume 2026	Change
Low	0.07 ac	0.42 ac	n/c*	138	576	n/c*
Medium	1.64 ac	2.02 ac	**+23%**	20,077	27,802	**+38%**
High	2.91 ac	3.67 ac	**+26%**	148,388	190,326	**+28%**

Estimated standing volume in cubic yards. *n/c: not comparable. Vegetation under 1 m is below reliable detection in the 2020 data. Change figures are estimates against the 2020 aerial lidar baseline. The summary report explains the method and its limits.



Observed against the 2020 baseline

1 to 5 m vegetation is 23% above the 2020 baseline in area and 38% above in estimated standing volume. Vegetation over 5 m is 26% above in area and 28% above in estimated standing volume. Part 3 was treated for the first time in this cycle. We assume vegetation grew substantially between 2020 and the treatment, and the 2020 baseline does not capture that growth. The 2026 figures are therefore what remained after treatment, measured against 2020. They are not a measure of what the treatment removed. We will update Part 3 with a more accurate picture once we can compare it against the 2022 and 2023 lidar, and later lidar scans, when we are able to get access to them.

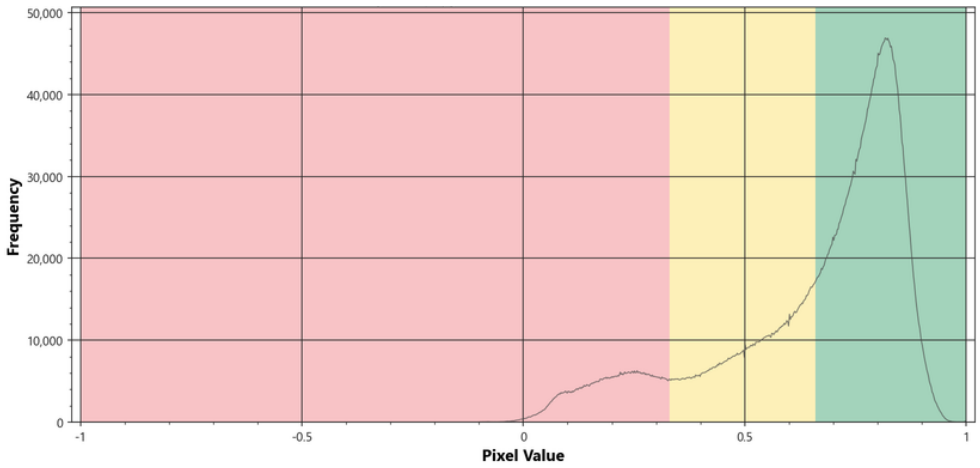
Part 3: vegetation condition

VEGETATION HEALTH (NDVI) 2026 imagery

12% Very stressed
below 0.33

25% Moderately stressed
0.33 to 0.66

63% Low stress
above 0.66



NDVI = (NIR - Red) / (NIR + Red). Values near +1 indicate dense, healthy vegetation. Shown: 2026 vegetation pixels inside the 50 ft buffer. This is November imagery, so some lower values reflect seasonal leaf drop and cured grass.

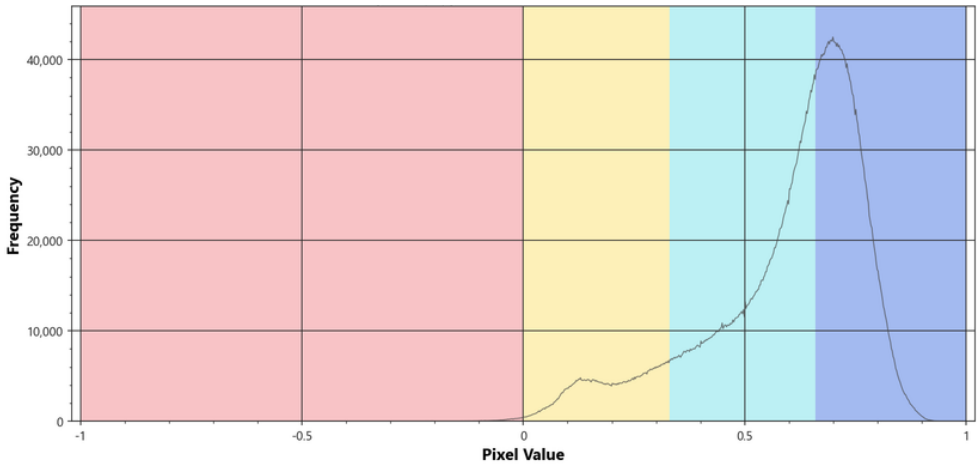
CANOPY VIGOR (GNDVI) 2026 imagery

<1% Very low
below 0

11% Low
0 to 0.33

43% Moderate
0.33 to 0.66

46% High
above 0.66



GNDVI = (NIR - Green) / (NIR + Green). It responds to leaf chlorophyll and is used here as a proxy for plant vigor. It is not a direct measurement of fuel moisture.

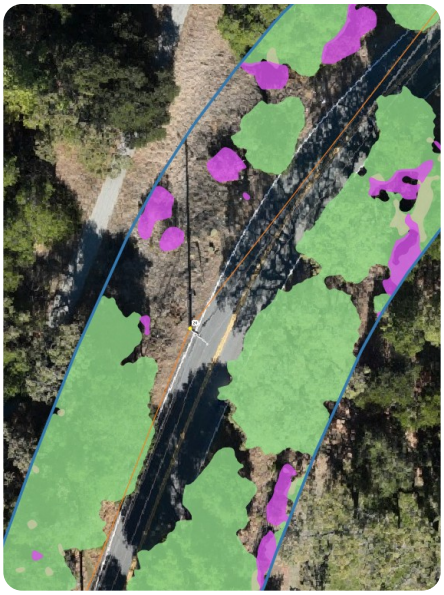
AIR METRIX

PRELIMINARY

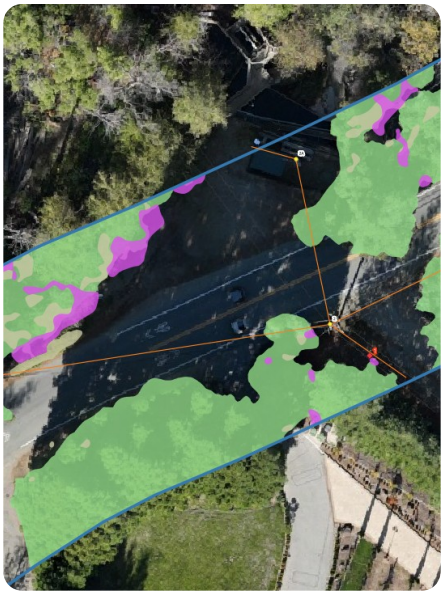
POST-TREATMENT VEGETATION REPORT

Arastradero Road Evacuation Route

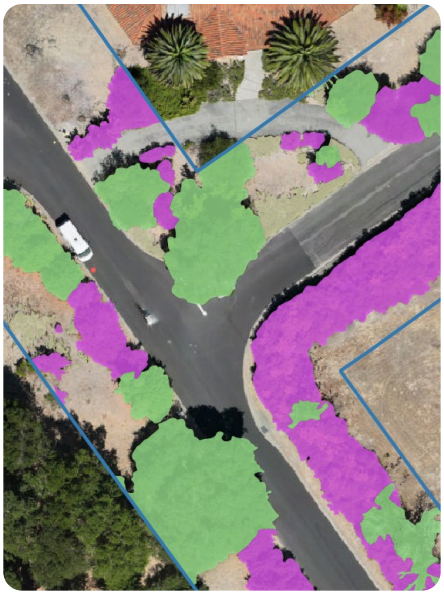
Summary of Parts 1, 2 and 3 · Preliminary results



Part 1
21.5 acres · 1.83 mi



Part 2
5.4 acres · 0.47 mi



Part 3
11.1 acres · 0.94 mi

PREPARED FOR
Los Altos Hills County Fire District

PREPARED BY
AirMetrix

REPORT DATE
November 2026

Executive summary

This preliminary report covers three sections of the Arastradero Road evacuation route, scanned by drone lidar and multispectral imaging in November 2026. It reports vegetation inside the 50 ft roadside buffer and a first estimate of change from the 2020 aerial lidar baseline.

38.0 ac	3.24 mi	16.8 ac	52
Surveyed across three parts	Route length	Vegetation mapped in buffer	Power poles mapped

KEY OBSERVATIONS

1. **Tree canopy is 76% of mapped vegetation.**
   Vegetation over 5 m covers 12.8 of the 16.8 acres mapped in the buffer.

2. **In Parts 1 and 2, treated over multiple years, 1 to 5 m vegetation is below the 2020 baseline.**
   Estimated standing volume is 19% below 2020 in Part 1 (16,001 to 12,909 cu yd) and 18% below in Part 2 (4,727 to 3,896 cu yd).

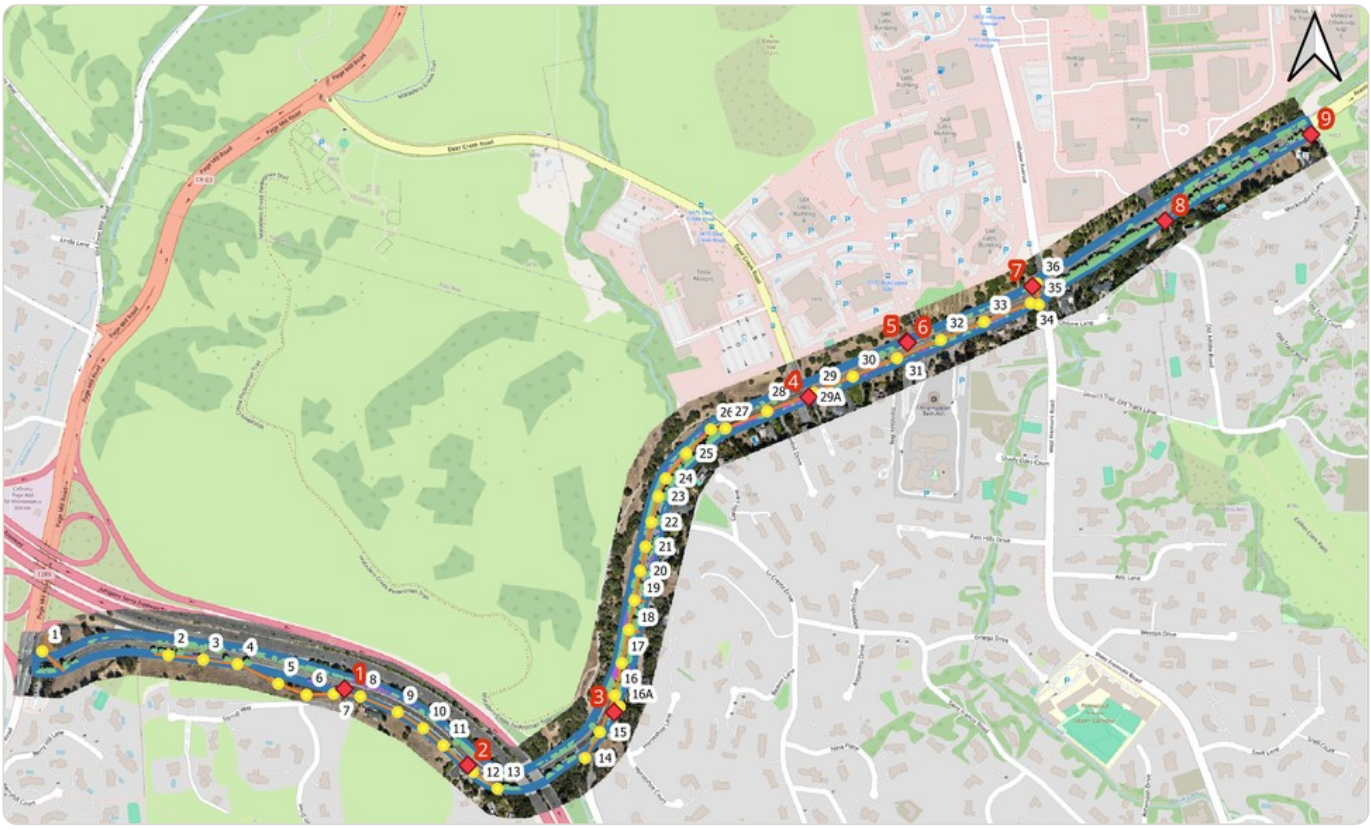
3. **In Part 3, treated for the first time this cycle, 1 to 5 m vegetation is above the 2020 baseline.**
   Estimated standing volume is 38% above 2020 (20,077 to 27,802 cu yd). This reflects growth since 2020 less what treatment removed, so it does not measure the treatment itself. We will update Part 3 once we can compare it against the 2022 and 2023 lidar, and later lidar scans.

How to read the change figures

Each percentage is the 2026 value measured against the 2020 value for the same height class and section. The 2020 baseline is aerial lidar and the 2026 survey is drone lidar, which is many times denser. That difference puts error bars on every change figure. They will be calculated for the follow-up report, so the figures here are estimates. Vegetation under 1 m is not compared, because the 2020 data is too sparse to measure it.

Project area

Part 1 21.5 acres · 1.83 mi



Part 2 5.4 acres · 0.47 mi



Part 3 11.1 acres · 0.94 mi



- Low vegetation (up to 1 m)
- Medium vegetation (1 to 5 m)
- High vegetation (over 5 m)
- 50 ft buffer
- Fire hydrant
- Power pole

2026 vegetation height classes inside the 50 ft buffer. Maps are north-up, at different scales. Part 3 adjoins the west end of Part 1. Part 2 lies about a mile further west.

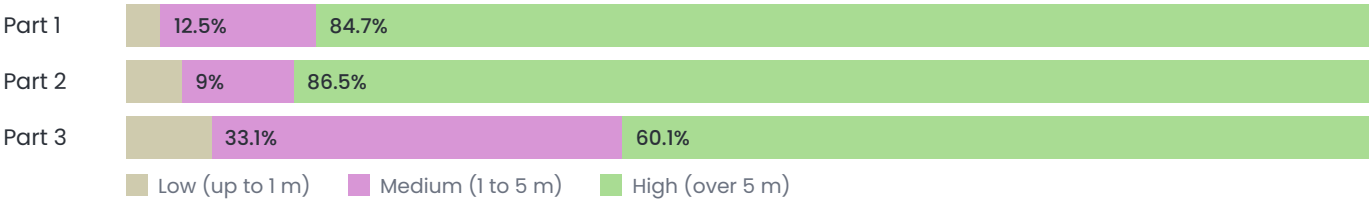
Corridor at a glance

2026 VEGETATION BY SECTION

Current conditions

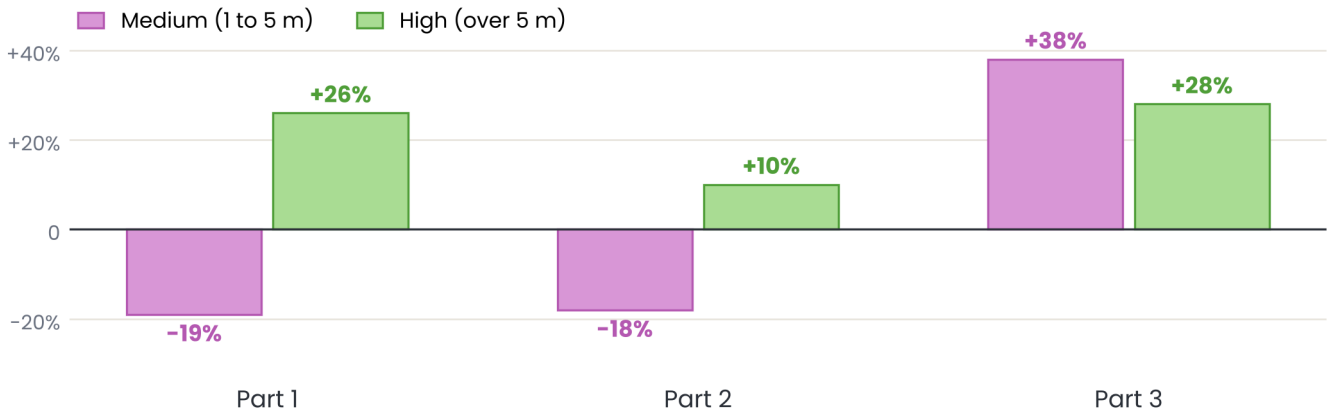
Section	Survey area	Route	Low up to 1 m	Medium 1 to 5 m	High over 5 m	Vegetation mapped	Estimated standing volume, cu yd
Part 1	21.5 ac	1.83 mi	0.21 ac	0.92 ac	6.22 ac	7.35 ac	324,808
Part 2	5.4 ac	0.47 mi	0.15 ac	0.30 ac	2.88 ac	3.33 ac	185,206
Part 3	11.1 ac	0.94 mi	0.42 ac	2.02 ac	3.67 ac	6.11 ac	218,704
All parts	**38.0 ac**	**3.24 mi**	**0.78 ac**	**3.24 ac**	**12.77 ac**	**16.79 ac**	**728,718**

Share of mapped vegetation area by height class



PRELIMINARY CHANGE IN ESTIMATED STANDING VOLUME, 2020 TO 2026

Preliminary



Across all three parts, 1 to 5 m vegetation is level in area (3.25 to 3.24 acres) and 9% above 2020 in estimated standing volume (40,805 to 44,607 cu yd). Vegetation over 5 m is 22% above 2020. Each bar is the 2026 estimated standing volume measured against the 2020 figure for that class and section.

Estimated standing volume is the volume beneath the vegetation surface, from the ground to the top of the canopy, estimated by the canopy height model.

An evacuation route treatment aims to reduce grasses and 1 to 5 m shrubs and saplings, which act as ladder fuels, while keeping a healthy tree canopy for shade and cooler ground conditions.

About the comparison

WHY THIS REPORT COMPARES AGAINST 2020

Earlier treatment cycles were measured with photogrammetry. During this cycle that approach reached its limit, so AirMetrix moved the measurement to lidar. The route has been scanned and the results are delivered in the same canopy height model format as previous reports. The 2022 to 2023 aerial lidar and the aerial lidar collected in 2026 were not available in time, so the 2020 aerial lidar is the baseline.

	2020 baseline	2026 survey
Source	Aerial lidar (USGS)	AirMetrix drone lidar and multispectral imagery
Point density	Lower	Many times higher
Role in this report	Baseline for the preliminary change estimate	Current conditions, and the baseline for future drone surveys

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE RESULTS

- **Denser data finds more vegetation.** The drone survey resolves small shrubs, crown edges and vegetation under 1 m that the 2020 data largely misses, so part of any increase comes from detection.
- **Height classes are measured from above.** Each location is assigned to its tallest vegetation. A shrub that grows past 5 m, or is covered by a spreading crown, moves into the high class.
- **Under-canopy work is not measured.** The canopy height model counts each tree as a solid column from the ground to the top of the crown. Shrubs removed and limbs raised beneath the canopy do not change these figures, so treatment carried out under the canopy is not reflected in the estimated standing volumes reported here.
- **Figures are net change over six years.** Removal and regrowth cannot be separated with one survey at each end.

PLANNED FOR THE FOLLOW-UP REPORT

- Error bars for each height class, from a density-matched comparison of the two datasets.
- Comparison against the 2022 to 2023 and 2026 aerial lidar once access is obtained.
- Vertical alignment check between the datasets on the road surface.

Data validation and QC

QC item	Parameters	Status
Drone and lidar data quality	• Survey area: 21.5 acres (Part 1), 5.4 acres (Part 2), 11.1 acres (Part 3) • Sensors: drone lidar, RGB camera and multispectral camera • Image overlap and coverage: complete • Point cloud coverage: complete across the 50 ft buffer	**Verified**
Geospatial accuracy	• RTK and PPK positioning (accuracy under 0.07 m) • Orthomosaic and surface model at centimetre-level resolution	**Verified**
Vegetation classification validation	• Manual QC • QC against previous data (Parts 1 and 2) • Classification accuracy: over 95%	**Verified**
Change detection QC	• Horizontal alignment between 2020 and 2026 data: complete • Cross-sensor density calibration: pending • Vertical check on stable surfaces: pending	**In progress**
Spectral and index validation	• Spectral bands: Green, Red, RedEdge, NIR • Alignment accuracy: high • Aligned to RGB • NDVI calculated from NIR and Red • GNDVI calculated from NIR and Green	**Verified**

Acquisition parameters apply to the November 2026 drone survey.