





SANTA CLARA COUNTY

FIRE

EST. 1947

COURTESY & SERVICE

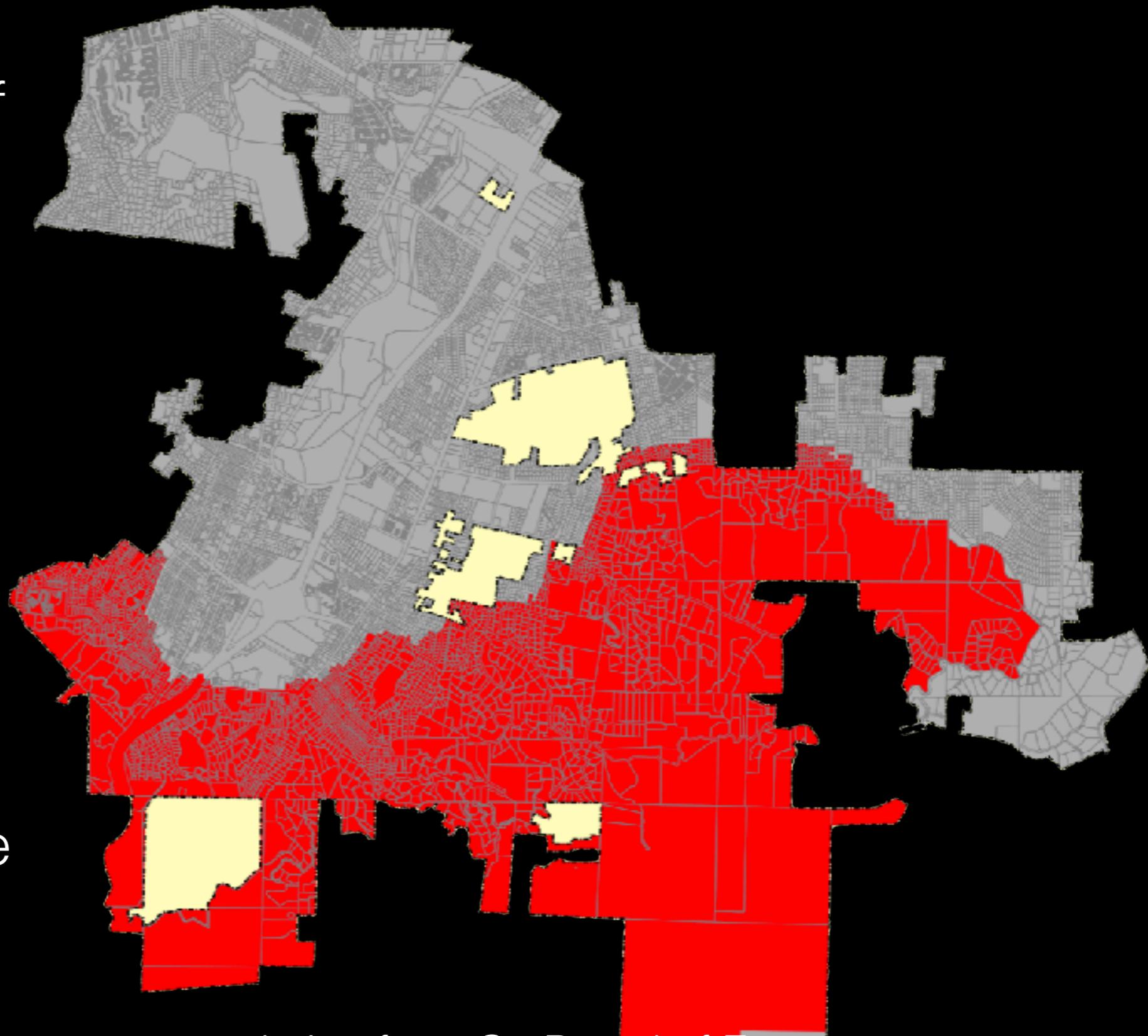
California's Wildfire Reality

- 2017 saw both the most destructive and largest wildfires in State history
 - Santa Rosa / Central LNU Complex = 6957 structures destroyed
 - Ventura Co / Thomas Fire = 281,893 acres burned and 1063 structures destroyed
- More structures built in / adjacent to fire prone areas
- Extreme weather events - drought and wind



Los Gatos

- Large portions of Town reside in Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFSZ)*
- VHFSZ requires more stringent building code
- VHFSZ requires defensible space



*VHFSZ is based on recommendation from Ca Board of Forestry



Impact to homes in the WUI

- Ember zone - do you live within 1-mile of a natural area
- Flame impingement - do you have vegetation or other combustibles adjacent to your home
- Radiant heat - are there large trees or other large combustibles within close proximity to your home



READY, SET, GO

Wildfire Preparedness



Are you READY?



Do you have defensible space?

- ZONE 1 - 0 to 30 ft
- Remove all dead vegetation, trim trees, and relocate other combustible

- ZONE 2 - 30 to 100 ft
- Keep grass cut, create space between large trees and shrubs



Have you hardened your home?

- Roofs
- Vents
- Eaves / Soffits
- Windows
- Walls
- Fences
- Decks
- Gutters
- Access
- Address
- Water Supply
- Fire Safe Landscaping



get SET



3-steps to getting SET

1. Have a Plan that includes the, “Six Ps”
 - People, pets, papers, prescriptions, personal computers, plastic (credit cards/ATM)
 - Create an Evacuation Checklist - inside and outside the house, and animals
2. Assemble Emergency Supply Kit for each person in the house
3. Have a Communications Plan - phone numbers, meeting places and discuss it with your family ahead of time



Evacuation Checklist

- INSIDE

- Shut windows/doors...leave unlocked
- Remove flammable window coverings
- Shut off gas meter / air conditioning
- Leave lights on
- Ember zone - area within 1-mile of natural area during wind driven fire

- OUTSIDE

- Move combustibles away from house, incl BBQs & propane tanks
- Have garden hoses connected / available
- Don't leave sprinklers / water running
- Have a ladder and place it nearby
- Don't wait for evacuation orders. If you feel threatened, **GO!**



GO
Leave Early!



Evacuation terminology

- Evacuation Warning (voluntary) - indicates you may have 1-2 hours before being impacted by the fire
- Evacuation Order - indicates a threat to life is imminent and you should leave NOW!



When do I evacuate?

- Don't wait to be ordered by authorities to leave.
- If you feel threatened, leave.
- Review your plan, load your emergency supplies, wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, goggles/glasses. 100% cotton.
- Evacuate early!



What to do if trapped?

- Stay calm and stay together
- Go to an area clear of vegetation, and/or stay in your house or car
- Close all windows / vents
- Call 911 and advise officials of your location



SCCFD - Wildland Fire Response

- 15 stations - staffed 24x7x365
 - 13 Type 1 fire engines
 - 5 Type 3 wildland fire engines with 6 on order
 - 3 Type 6 wildland fire engines (2017)
 - Tactical water tender



SCCFD - Wildland Fire Response

- Maintain two Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) in Los Gatos & Los Altos
- Fire weather based alarm assignments
 - Brush alarm = 3 fire engines, 1 battalion chief
 - High brush alarm = 6 fire engines, water tender, 2 battalion chiefs, safety officer
- Dual Jurisdiction / MTZ - state response
- Mutual aid resources



Additional Information

- www.sccfd.org
- www.firecenter.berkeley.edu
- <http://ucanr.edu/sites/Wildfire/>
- fire.ca.gov

If you live in an area threatened by wildfires and would like a free inspection of your property, call our Fire Prevention Division at (408) 378-4010.



Questions

