

Title: **Resilient West Portal Disaster Preparedness**

Project Budget: **\$25,000**

Contact Info:

Name: Libby Noronha  
Organization: Resilient West Portal/Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association  
Address: P.O. Box 27116  
San Francisco, CA 94127  
Phone: 415-627-8040  
Email: libbynoronha@gmail.com

Category: **Disaster Preparedness**

*In the space below ONLY, please describe your project proposal, including your goals and vision for the project. \**

The Resilient West Portal (RWP) Disaster Preparedness Program was launched in 2017 with support of the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association (GWPNA) and Supervisor Yee's participatory budget process. Resilient West Portal has partnered with the Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN) to leverage its expertise in supporting communities to implement the Empowered Communities Program (ECP). The NEN has supported West Portal stakeholders in developing a Resilient Action Plan that will guide our disaster preparedness trainings and activities.

Our vision is:

*West Portal is a community of residents, organizations, businesses and networks that serve our immediate neighbors and western San Francisco. During times of stress, the stakeholders of West Portal come together in a collaborative, well organized manner to protect the health and well-being of the all guests, employees and residents – especially the newborn, children, seniors and people living with access and functional needs. By investing in capacities, resources and relationships essential for a disaster response, West Portal will successfully negotiate future impacts and as a result become a stronger, more cohesive and vibrant community.*

Our goals are to highlight preparedness objectives at the individual, organizational, and community levels:

- **Individual:** Every resident has the capacity to care for him/herself and neighbors during times of stress.
- **Organizational:** The faith-based organizations, businesses, non-profits and community organizations of the West Portal community have the capacity to support both the needs of their existing constituencies and emerging audiences during times of stress.
- **Community:** The West Portal community has the capacity to respond collectively during times of stress in a manner that reflects the goals and priorities of its residents and stakeholder organizations.

*In the space below ONLY, please describe the need in D7 for your project. \**

West Portal residents have grown increasingly concerned about the rise in the number of fires and extreme climate events across our state, region, and city. Recently, fires have affected longtime businesses and community members in our neighborhood. We know the people disproportionately affected in disasters are residents who are older, less mobile and don't have the immediate support of family and friends. **We want our community to be prepared and we want to be proactive.**

In addition to the RWP efforts, we have teamed up with other neighborhoods to host trainings and planning sessions with the Miraloma Park Improvement Club (MPIC) and the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association (METNA).

Working together, we want to increase the capacity of our neighbors, organizations, and local agencies to work as a cohort to support the health and well-being needs of all residents before, during and after a disaster.

*In the space below ONLY, please describe the budget for your project. (Please be as detailed as possible and itemize your budget.) \**

Resilient West Portal is seeking funding to expand the current program and implement the Resilient Action Plan. The funding will be distributed in the following manner:

- Block Champion Program (\$10,000) – A key component of the newly launched West Portal Resilient Action Plan is identifying and training block champions. Block Champions serve as the front line of our disaster response efforts by directly leading their community in preparedness activities and trainings.
- Trainings – First Aid, CPR, etc. (\$5,000) – RWP will partner with organizations such as the American Red Cross, SF Fire Department, SF Department of Public Health, and others to ensure our community has the requisite training to be prepared and help other when a disaster strikes.
- Senior Preparedness (\$2,500) – RWP wants to provide our ever-increasing number of senior residents with access to preparedness training and kits that are customized to the needs of seniors, especially those living alone.
- Neighborfest (\$2,500) – Community festival that will serve as part resource fair and part tabletop exercise. It is a focusing exercise to develop teamwork and proactively practice disaster preparedness skills.
- NERT Equipment (\$5,000) – After a major disaster, such as an earthquake, West Portal can expect to be on its own for at least several days before any professional first responder help arrives. During this period, NERT and the RWP team will need to meet the health and well-being needs of its residents by setting up a staging area for NERT immediately adjacent to a neighborhood emergency operations center (NEOC). This area will most likely be outdoors and away from potentially damaged buildings and the NEOC will need to be functional with limited, if any, access to electricity and standard communications systems (i.e., cell phones and landlines). Our goal is to secure a suite of pop up shelters, solar powered generators and communication devices similar to those that the MPIC secured for its staging area.

*In the space below ONLY, please describe who will benefit from your project (i.e. youth, small businesses, low-income families, English language learners, etc.) \**

The goal of the Resilient West Portal project will be to advance the preparedness of all members of the community. Small businesses, seniors, people with access & functional needs, families of all income levels, local non-profits and faith based organizations will all receive direct, or indirect, benefit from this initiative.

*In the space below ONLY, please outline what outcomes you would use to measure your project's success. \**

Resilient West Portal will measure its success by the following metrics:

1. The number of community members who participate in the preparedness workshops
2. The number of seniors who secure a disaster preparedness kit
3. The number of residents and agencies that participate in the neighborhood table top exercise

*In the space below ONLY, please enter the title of your project as you would like it to appear if selected for the ballot. (10 word limit) \**

Your answer

Resilient West Portal Disaster Preparedness Program

*In the space below ONLY, please include a brief description of your project as you would like it to appear if selected for the ballot (100 words limit) \**

The Resilient West Portal Disaster Preparedness Program focuses on providing the knowledge and the tools so our community is prepared in the event of a disaster. Partnering with the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association (GWPNA), West Portal Merchants, local schools, and community organizations, Resilient West Portal has developed an action plan to ensure our neighborhood is trained and prepared. The participatory budget funding will allow us to expand our neighborhood emergency operations center, procure necessary equipment and provide more trainings such as NERT and First Aid with the American Red Cross. The Resilient West Portal Disaster Preparedness Program will allow our community to be proactive and support the needs of our community for at least 72 hours after a disaster.

Is your proposal a supplement or an addition to an existing project or program? \*

**Yes**

If YES, Please explain.

GWPNA has partnered with the San Francisco Fire Department to ensure our neighbors are NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) trained. The training was held in April-May 2018, and over 50 community members were certified.

*In the space below ONLY, please include any support you currently have for your project (e.g. endorsements from a neighborhood group, small business, school, etc.): \**

GWPNA will work with the West Portal Merchants Association and surrounding schools on this program.

*Matching funds and/or material resources you have already secured: \**

GWPNA will provide the logistical support and coordinate trainings with respective City Agencies.