

Oak Park Fire Safe Council Meeting Report: March 3, 2026

Submitted by: Brian Trushinski, Oak Park MAC Liaison

- The Oak Park Fire Safe Council met on March 3, 2026. Attendees included John Faucher (President), Lori Gunn, Edward Reiner, Robert Convey, Angela Ruiz, Peter Fehler, and Brian Trushinski.
- The Council has a Center for Geospatial Science and Technology (CGST) 'Defensible Space Interactive Map' for Oak Park on its website <https://opfsc.org/> This publicly accessible tool displays the 100-foot defensible space zones and identifies the what landowner is responsible for maintaining the defensible space (homeowners, homeowner associations, Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District: RSRPD). The map also allows users to view acreage of defensible space for a given property, perform measurements (linear and areal), print custom maps, and much more.
- Earlier this year the Council distributed its flyer throughout the Oak Park community to increase awareness of the importance of wildfire hardening of homes and the Council's free-of-charge home wildfire assessments. The California Fair Plan offers insurance discounts by implementing home hardening measures. The Council encourages all Oak Park residents to sign up on their website <https://opfsc.org/> Since the Council's February 3, 2026, meeting, thirteen more Oak Park residents have signed up.
- The Council has been working with RSRPD for a long time advocating to get wildfire mitigation along Medea Creek (removal of dead trees, shrubs and other non-native materials, palm trees, and other highly flammable tree species). The Medea Creek Maintenance Project is now underway. Project funding is from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy through a Wildfire grant.
- Brian Trushinski will work with the Oak Park MAC Chair (Michelle Santucci) and Ventura County Supervisor Gorell's staff (Crystal Stratton) to arrange for a presentation from the Fire Safe Council at the March 26th MAC meeting (note: since the time of writing this report, the next available time is the April 30th meeting).
- Brian Trushinski will coordinate with Supervisor Gorell's office and the Fire Safe Council to explore any available grant funding opportunities to support the Council's community outreach and home assessment programs.
- There will be a get together of area-wide Firewise Captains in Calabasas on May 9th to network ideas and share experiences. May is National Wildfire Prevention month.
- Tesla vehicles and battery walls on homes are extremely dangerous and explosive during wildfire events. Fire departments strongly advise owners to move their Teslas away from their homes during events if owners want fire personnel to provide firefighting services.
- The next Oak Park Fire Safe Council meeting is April 7, 2026.