



Reflections and Moving Forward

My work, my office's work, representing and working for the residents of District 2, ranges from the day to day problem solving (pot holes and planning department headaches) to the longer-term efforts to address the community's most challenging issues: traffic congestion, flood and fire prevention, housing and homelessness, climate change impacts -- to name a few. These issues fall squarely within the focus of what I believe to be the fundamental responsibilities of local government: community health and safety, public infrastructure, providing essential safety net services for our most vulnerable, protection of place and planning for the future per community and environmental sustainability.

On all these fronts, much progress in 2018 on some major heavy lifts, made possible with the involvement, input, and collaboration of many folks at all levels of government and throughout the community. Highlights on several, below.

On traffic and transportation: Completion of environmental review for major traffic flow and pedestrian safety upgrades through the Sir Francis Drake (SFD) corridor from College Avenue in Kentfield to Highway 101 in Greenbrae. The [SFD Project](#) is now in final design phase with construction anticipated to begin in late spring 2020 and will occur over two summer construction seasons.

On flooding: [Projects](#) have been approved for a detention basin in Fairfax and creek capacity improvements in San Anselmo. While neither a complete solution to the Ross Valley's chronic flooding threat, each reduces flood risk for many and mark progress and hope for more widespread relief.

On homelessness: With the County's adoption of a [Housing First](#) model and truly extraordinary collaborative work on the part of housing and service providers, over the past 18 months, 110 Marin county residents are in stable housing and receiving the services they need to maintain their health and housing. Many of these residents have lived on the streets for years, surviving on temporary shelter and daily services and in many cases rotating in and out of jail and/or hospital emergency services,

On Wildfire: Throughout the Ross Valley (and County), the fire agencies and communities have mobilized around fire prevention and disaster preparedness including defensible space, vegetation management, resident evacuation and emergency planning, highlighted by exponential growth of [Firewise neighborhoods](#) in Marin and expansion of fuel reduction projects in public open space lands.

Each of the above mark progress addressing some of our most challenging community issues that I will continue to put my energy and attention towards further gains, with focus in the coming year on wildfire prevention, specifically driving forward a county-wide wildfire prevention and disaster preparedness effort.

Given that wildfire knows no boundaries, while many individual jurisdictions and neighborhoods across the county are making progress at the local level, it is imperative that communities across Marin work together to improve our collective ability to prevent, contain, and if necessary, recover from wildfire or other natural disaster.

Reflecting this imperative, a cross-jurisdictional, multi-agency effort is underway to develop and implement a county-wide, coordinated strategy on wildfire prevention and disaster preparedness. This planning work is being led by city and county management and fire chiefs from across the county, and is being informed by the [“Lesson’s Learned” report](#) prepared by a countywide taskforce following the 2017 North Bay wildfires, and the Marin County [Community Wild Fire Protection Plan](#), a science based assessment of Marin’s wildfire threat that identifies and prioritizes areas for fuel reduction and actions that should be taken across communities to reduce structural ignitability. Both these documents and more information on what you can do as a homeowner and to participate in broader community efforts are available at www.firesafemarin.org. Stay informed. Stay involved.

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