Census of large animals in La Habra Heights will help with emergency evacuation planning

Keeping large animals has always been an important part of the unique rural lifestyle of La Habra Heights. However, because we are now faced with year-round fire danger, an extra level of planning and preparedness is necessary to ensure that animals can be safely evacuated in the event of a wildfire or large-scale disaster.

To facilitate such planning, the City of La Habra Heights will conduct a census of large animals currently being kept in the city. The recently reinstated Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee (see story above) will help coordinate this effort.

Highland Riders has also agreed to assist with determining the size of the horse population in La Habra Heights. Other local organizations and resident groups may be asked to help with the census and subsequent planning.

Large animal census information needed:

1) What types and numbers of large animals—horses, cattle, goats, sheep, llamas, etc.—are currently being kept on your La Habra Heights property?

2) Do you have enough trailer capacity to evacuate all your animals in a single trip? If not, do you have sufficient transportation resources (from friends, neighbors, relatives or groups) available to you on short notice?

Please be prepared to provide this information, which will enable the city to determine what outside resources are needed and to plan evacuation procedures and exit routes to minimize traffic congestion. Large animals take extra time to evacuate, and anything that can be done to save time could be critical, especially during a fast-moving wildfire.

Watch future issues of *Heights Life* and *Guac Talk* (the city's online newsletter) for more information about the census and for procedures for providing the requested information.

Information obtained about the horse population in La Habra Heights will also be useful for future planning related to possible riding trails and other equestrian facilities and activities.