



## South Skyline Community Preparedness Day 2022 a Success

By John DeLong

On August 7, the South Skyline Emergency Preparedness Organization and the South Skyline FireSafe Council co-sponsored the inaugural South Skyline Community Preparedness Day, 2022. The big idea here was to let the community meet and interact with many of the different agencies that respond to emergencies in our area, be they earthquake, wildfire, severe weather or flooding. The weather was very cooperative, high 70's with a light breeze, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and learn something new.

20 agencies participated this year, including four different fire departments (South Skyline Volunteer Fire & Rescue, engine 29; CalFire; Santa Clara County Fire; and La Honda Fire Brigade) that showed off a variety of their different types of fire engines. San Mateo County Sheriff sent three vehicles including their emergency communications van. SSEPO showed off their emergency medical trailer and triage tent as well as their emergency communications trailer. San Mateo Large Animal Evacuation Group showed off one of their trailers. The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management showed off a cool incident command support truck outfitted with everything they would need to manage an emergency. Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District showed a few of their rangers' pick-up trucks outfitted with firefighting hoses and pumps. In addition, we had many other exhibitors including the American Red Cross, Santa Cruz ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) and South Coast ARES, Community Emergency Response Team, South Bay Fire Wise Partners, United Policy Holders, Allstate and State Farm Insurance Companies, The San Mateo Resource Conservation District and others.

More than 100 local residents attended. Having a very engaged and interested set of visitors made the experience worthwhile for agencies and visitors alike. Given our perennial challenges bringing together agencies across three counties, it was also an excellent networking event allowing everyone to meet each other and interact with the residents. SSEPO and SSFSC have determined that due to the success of this event, we

are hoping to hold one of these every year. The next one will likely be in May, 2023. Look for details in a future issue of Skylines.

