EXTENDING INTO COMMUNITY-LED PREPAREDNESS AND PLANNING
(Just enough but not too much?)

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Toolkit

Survey Report

Fire Plans

Video

Fire Watch App

Emergency Planner

Scenario Events

Bunker Tours

Image source: Dick Davies, Be Ready Warrandyte

bnhcrc.com.au
WHAT 'COMMUNITY-BASED' IS AND ISN'T

- Community
  - Participation
  - Ownership
  - Capacity-building
- Sharing responsibility and community resilience in action
- Co-production of public services
- A renegotiated social contract
- Empowering communities

- Working “at”
  - community level
- Risk, cost and responsibility shifting by government
- “Old wine in new bottles”
- Communities “taking greater responsibility”
- Communities working by themselves

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COMMUNITIES ARE PUSHING THIS AHEAD

...and governments aren’t doing too badly either!
WHY DO IT?

• Behaviour change
• Greater community reach
• Local leadership networks
• Translate & reinforce communication
• Innovate and test new ideas
• Is more cost effective
• Influence government policy

Developing good relationships (trust, respect) lets you tackle issues that were previously off the table

Image source: Be Ready Warrandyte
WORKING TOGETHER

- The most successful examples have good government support
- The line between community and government is overstated
- It takes time and commitment
- Awareness of restrictions on public officials
CHALLENGES FOR MAKING IT WORK

• Challenging ‘the system’ while trying to work with it involves trade-offs and tensions
• Shifting power is uncomfortable and resisted by those who have it
• Establishing clear community authority can be difficult
• Governments need internal changes to support it
• Every community and community-based approach is different (to state the obvious!)
ENOUGH BUT NOT TOO MUCH?

"I think the out of the box solutions are critical but thinking about it, Be Ready worked because it did have a fair bit of corporate [CFA] influence. It kind of did its own thing but it did have a corporate influence. [...] I think we got the balance right. I think as a whole the authorities supported what they were doing."

(Be Ready Warrandyte participant)
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Be Ready Warrandyte [http://warrandyte.org.au/fire/]
- Josh Whittaker and John Handmer, RMIT University