



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Planning • 209-966-5151



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2018-503

MEETING: October 16, 2018
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sarah Williams, Planning Director
RE: Ratify a Letter of Support for the Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire Opportunity

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Ratify a Letter of Support for the Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire Opportunity (Chair Smallcombe).

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

A coalition that includes the planning, fire, and administration departments, as well as CAL FIRE, the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, and the Resource Conservation District, are actively engaged in efforts to update and implement portions of the Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire opportunity would facilitate this coalition's efforts, providing outside technical support and expertise to:

- streamline existing wildfire planning efforts across departments and agencies;
- organize related efforts and eliminate redundancies, and;
- analyze current policies and procedures to promote a more efficient countywide approach.

Additionally, this opportunity would enable the coalition to promote a holistic approach to wildfire planning that coordinates risk reduction with other community priorities, including economic development, public health, and environmental conservation.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the ratification of the letter of support and Mariposa County may not benefit from the program.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No financial impact

Resolution - Action Requested 2018-503

ATTACHMENTS:

Board of Supervisors Letter of Support (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

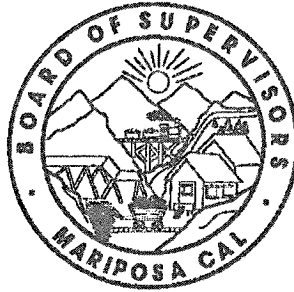
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE
District 2 MERLIN JONES
District 3 MARSHALL LONG
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 MILES MENETREY



DALLIN KIMBLE
County Administrative Officer

RENÉ LAROCHE
Clerk of the Board

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September 27, 2018

Ms. Mowery

Dear Ms. Mowery,

I am writing in behalf of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors to offer our support for Mariposa County's application to the Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) program. This opportunity will significantly advance our community's efforts to develop a coordinated, interdisciplinary approach to wildfire planning, enabling us to align risk reduction efforts with our economic development, public health, and environmental conservation objectives. As an elected representative and chair of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, I am extremely excited to be involved in this project.

Prior to and since my election, I have been involved in and led a number of community fire resiliency initiatives, experiences which introduced me firsthand to the systemic hurdles that prevent organizations like the Mariposa County Planning Department, resource conservation non-profits, and local and state fire agencies from collaborating efficiently on initiatives that reduce risk while building communities. The increased frequency and severity of wildland fires actually kept these and other critical groups in their silos in a time when multi-disciplinary collaboration and synergy was most needed. The onset of the tree mortality disaster further strained our community's collective resources, but emphasized the need for greater collaboration at the local level.

Throughout my four years as District 1 Supervisor, I have witnessed a breaking down of those silos as our community has embraced wildfire planning efforts as a lever for critical conversations around our economy, our environment, and the relationship between the two. This has given rise to a partnership among the Mariposa County Planning and Fire Departments, Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, Mariposa County Resource Conservation District, and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, through which our community has begun to discuss and implement strategies combining risk reduction with priorities like active recreation, creative placemaking, and ecological conservation. By integrating wildfire planning into our larger community planning objectives, we believe that we can make Mariposa County stronger while making it safer.

Our Board is convinced that the CPAW opportunity will contribute to and expand our emergent effort. My hope is that CPAW's wealth of experience from across the country and your range of technical resources will enable the interdisciplinary team to work with our own to develop a holistic and comprehensive wildfire planning strategy. I and other members of the Board of Supervisors endorse this application, and we are committed to participating in all phases of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rosemarie Smallcombe".

Rosemarie Smallcombe, Chair and District I Supervisor
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors