

## EL DORADO COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

4040 Carson Road Camino, CA 95709

March 18, 2025

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors 330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

Board of Supervisors,

The El Dorado County Fire Chiefs' Association would like to express our support for the Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience (OWPR). Our County and State have seen the devastating effects of wildfires on communities, towns, and cities over the past years. These fires have had a major financial impact on our County budget, and the recovery efforts take many years to resolve.

Many efforts have been made to educate residents and develop mitigation strategies to reduce the risk of these devastating fires. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors had great vision when they boldly took the position of developing a team to coordinate these efforts to maximize the benefits of a coordinated wildfire risk reduction effort. OWPR was developed on the heels of the Caldor Fire and has made a major difference on wildfire risk reduction efforts.

OWPR has created an opportunity for all those involved in reducing the risk of wildfire within the County to join efforts via cooperation and collaboration, acting as a force multiplier for the work being done. While multiple agencies have a hand in various aspects of wildfire risk reduction, what has been lacking is the coordination piece – which brings all the players to one common table, working towards common goals.

Reducing the risk of the next devastating fire within our County does not lie solely with one agency or organization, as they say, "it takes a community" and strong leadership. The Board of Supervisors took the leadership role and provided clear directions as to what needed to be done to reduce our risks locally and protect our citizens and County. The leadership within OWPR is clearly identified as the critical piece required to bring all the representative agencies together to maximize efforts.

We understand the challenges facing the County currently, however, we would be remiss to not encourage you, as the elected representatives for the County to continue your recognition of the work being done and support the OWPR group.

Respectfully

Tim Cordero, Chair

El Dorado County Fire Chiefs Association