



El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

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"Public and Private Partners Working Together to Protect People, Homes, and Natural Resources"

MEMO

July 24, 2019

To: Michael Nihan, EDC Community Development Services
From: Steve Willis, Chairperson EDCFSC

RE: EDC Policy 6.2.2.2 – El Dorado County Fire Safe Council Review & Comment

The EDCFSC is an all-volunteer, 501c3 non-profit and managed by a group of volunteers. While dedicated to the EDCFSC, El Dorado County and fire safety, our volunteers are not professionally trained nor certified in fields of endeavor that we think qualifies us to be an approving body in this governmental document. Additionally, as a volunteer organization, we cannot guarantee the longevity of the EDCFSC sufficiently to recommend inclusion. We are honored to be considered for such inclusion, but believe we should continue our partnership and collaboration with El Dorado County and our other agency partners from an advisory position.

Review did produce some additional thoughts offered here for your consideration:

- A. The policy states “within the vicinity of Federal lands that are a high risk for wildfire” and we understand it is derived from an Executive Order pertaining to federal properties. However, as this is a county ordinance and as EDC county is predominately high fire threat, we think all lands of high fire risk should be included; County, State and private (of which SPI is an example) landowners.
- B. We believe any Fire Safe Plan should also include a mandatory Maintenance Policy and treatment prescription. If possible, requirements for a financing vehicle to fund the maintenance should also be included.
- C. I heard Diamond Springs Fire Chief Ken Earle speak about this today at the EDC Fire Chiefs Association meeting and was glad to hear that a vetting process is being developed in order to identify the “Professionals” who can perform fire safe plan development. We believe to simply list “Professional” without an accompanying definition of qualifications would not be sufficient.

Again, we are honored by your consideration and appreciative of the opportunity to collaborate now and in the future.