

BOS COB #5

RE: BOS 4-7-26 Agenda Item #5

Good morning, members of the Board.

My Name is Bret Preble and I am representing the Bear State Property Owners Association located in Volcanoville.

My comments are in reference to agenda item #5, file # 26-0426 Mosquito Fire Settlement.

A comment letter was sent to each of you, Monday April 6th. I hope you've had a chance to review it. I've also provided a copy of the letter to you today.

I won't read the letter to you today but to paraphrase, Volcanoville has suffered through multiple fires and evacuations for more than 10 years, the worst of which was the Mosquito Fire. We have tried for years through various means, including county DOT, Forest Service grants and private funding to improve our situation with some success yet our forest continues to burn, our roads continue to degrade and our safety continues to decline.

I'm here today to plead with you to help us make real strides towards improving our life and safety by allocating the entire remaining amount of the Mosquito Fire Settlement to the area which was impacted the greatest.

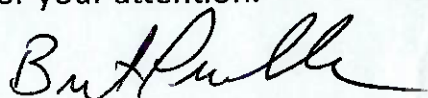
Volcanoville.

Please consider that the work we HAVE accomplished may very well have saved Georgetown by allowing the various fire agencies to stop the Mosquito fire on the Volcanoville ridge.

We will improve and widen our road, increase the amount of fire safe land including removal of hazard trees that remain because of a lack of funding, develop a helipad for life flight and firefighting aircraft, and explore the development of a secondary ingress/egress route.

Thank you for your attention.

Bret Preble



El Dorado County
Board of Supervisors
330 Fair Lane, Building A
Placerville, Ca. 95667

Dear Members of the Board,

Concerning 4-7-26 BOS Agenda Item #5, File #26-0426 Mosquito Fire Settlement:

The Mosquito Fire's impact on the Volcanoville area of District 4 was deep and widespread. Many people lost their homes and our roads and surrounding lands suffered severe damage. While some recovery has occurred, much of the land remains a stark reminder of the devastation and heartbreak our community has endured. The fire serves to remind us how vulnerable we are in Volcanoville and reinforces our need for safer roads, fire safe landscape improvements, and our need for a viable secondary ingress/egress route, as well as a landing area for emergency air assets.

For several years, we have been working with County DOT, Supervisor Parlin, the Georgetown Fire Department, and the Eldorado National Forest to address these issues. We appreciate the repairs DOT has made; however, the lack of available funding has prevented meaningful gains.

Our roads remain in a degraded state, our long-neglected drainages are clogged, and we continue to face the very real risk of losing our only access route to storm damage—as occurred when the road washed out several years ago.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that the remaining Mosquito Fire Settlement funds be fully allocated to Volcanoville, the area most impacted by the Mosquito Fire, for critical road and safety improvements, including:

1. Substantial resurfacing on the entire road.
2. Widening the road where feasible to improve safety and emergency access.
3. Clearing and improving drainages, particularly in areas where no work has been done for many years.
4. Exploring and advancing the development of a secondary ingress/egress route.
5. Developing a helicopter landing area in Donaldson Park (discussions with the national Forest Service are currently underway.)
6. Additional removal of hazard trees left standing after the fire where no funding currently exists.
7. Consideration of special funding for improvements and seasonal staffing of the Georgetown Fire Department's Station 63 in Volcanoville during peak fire season.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these critical needs for our community.

Bear State Property Owners Association
Volcanoville

Chris Gomez-President
Ross Gilliland-Vice President
Michelle Gomez-Secretary
Traci Preble-Treasurer
Craig Davis-Member at Large
Bret Preble-Parliamentarian