



# County of El Dorado

## Chief Administrative Office

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Chief Administrative Officer

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Dear Board Members:

El Dorado County (County) is working diligently to prepare and submit its application for the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's (Board of Forestry) Fire Risk Reduction Community (FRRRC) List in accordance with the criteria specified under 14 CCR 1268.01. To meet 14 CCR 1268.01 (a)(3), the County is submitting its existing General Plan Safety Element, which was recently amended and adopted by the County's Board of Supervisors in 2019, and its draft Safety Element Update.

The County is updating its General Plan Safety Element to comply with California Government Code section 65302(g) and Senate Bills 379, 1035, 99, 1241, and 1000 as well as Assembly Bills 747, 1409, and 2140. The draft Safety Element Update effort has been underway since 2022 with collaboration and assistance from CAL FIRE Land Use Planning staff. Through the Safety Element Update planning process, County staff have held four Safety Element Advisory Committee (SEAC) work sessions, numerous public and stakeholder workshops, as well as a joint informational workshop with the County's Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission. CAL FIRE Land Use Planning staff have been involved with the Safety Element Update from the beginning of the process both as a key member of our SEAC and through individual meetings. They have reviewed previous drafts of the Safety Element Update and showcased our County as the "gold star" example in meeting State law and the Board of Forestry's requirements with respect to its General Plan Safety Element Assessment tool.

As you will see in your review of the draft Safety Element Update, the County has satisfied almost all the requirements. The County, however, is awaiting the finalization of its Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) Update to be complete, which is scheduled to be submitted to the California Office of Emergency Services in the coming months. As part of the MJHMP update, the County will address evacuation routes and their capacity, safety, and viability and evacuation locations under a range of emergency scenarios pursuant to Government Code section 65302.15 in a supplemental study that will complement the MJHMP Update and be incorporated by reference into the Safety Element update. Upon completion and incorporation of the MJHMP into the Safety Element, all requirements will be met.

The El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) is also finalizing the Greater Placerville Wildfire Evacuation Preparedness, Community Safety, and Resiliency Study

(Evacuation Study) which assess evacuation preparedness and identifies critical infrastructure improvements needed to maximize the efficiency and reliability of its existing emergency systems. This Evacuation Study encompasses approximately 87,000 acres and identifies the major transportation routes within the project area. The final Evacuation Study, including recommendations, is scheduled to be presented to the EDCTC Board at its May 2, 2024 meeting.

To support plan alignment, the County will ensure the MJHMP supplemental study on evacuation accessibility builds upon EDCTC's Evacuation Plan and uses the same modeling methodology to evaluate the capacity, safety, and viability of evacuation routes for other wildfire scenarios and selected communities in the County.

Additionally, the County's Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience (OWPR), through collaboration with CAL FIRE and local fire districts, has developed a toolkit in response to the Office of State Fire Marshal's Subdivision Survey Report. This toolkit focuses on education and outreach to the impacted communities as well as pre-fire planning assessment to evaluate wildfire risks, including ingress/egress routes, options to improve those routes (roadside vegetation clearance, street and address signage, turnouts, evacuation maps, evacuation drills, etc.) for each area.

The County appreciates the opportunity to submit our draft Safety Element Update for consideration in the FRRRC list application process.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or if additional clarification is needed.

Sincerely,



Tiffany Schmid  
Chief Administrative Officer