



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PRESBYTERIAN HOMES & SERVICES

May 3, 2018

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010
Ukiah, CA 95482

Mendocino County Department of Transportation
340 Lake Mendocino Drive
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: Mendocino County Property Fire Hazard

Dear Members of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors and the Mendocino County Department of Transportation:

In light of recent devastating fire seasons and predictions of another very bad fire season this year, we are writing to respectfully request that you take the well-being of our senior residents into account in allocating funds to fire preparedness work along the stretch of County property on the South side of Airport Road between the Airport and The Woods.

As President/CEO of Northern California Presbyterian Homes and Services and Park Manager of The Woods, we support the petition signed by over 115 residents of The Woods' Senior Community in Little River. We share our residents' concerns about the dangers posed by the overgrown area. In the event of a major fire in this location, the lives of at least 160 residents, staff, caregivers, vendors, and visitors would be at risk. Due to the proximity of our Park entrances to this area, there is a high likelihood that residents could become trapped within the Park by heat, smoke and flames.

Residents have occasionally observed passersby tossing lit cigarettes from their cars and bikes along this stretch of road. People camping overnight there sometimes leave embers unattended. Every year there are nearby car accidents and downed power lines. When coupled with the existence of large amounts of overgrowth along Airport Road, these types of incidents have the potential to create a significant fire hazard, particularly on the heels of several years of drought. We remind you that this is not a political issue, but rather a public safety issue.

Sincerely,

David Berg, President and CEO
Northern California Presbyterian Homes and Services

Sarah Peters, Park Manager
The Woods