

To: Mendocino County Board Of Supervisors

From: Comptche Disaster Preparedness Team and Neighborhood Firesafe Council

June 8, 2020

Wildfires and the need to prepare for them are not going away. Mendocino County residents need help to “survive and thrive in a wildfire-prone environment.” The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council engages in vital fire-safety and educational programs to support that mission. Given the current drought and ever-increasing wildfire risk, sustained funding of their work is needed.

The Comptche Disaster Preparedness Team, under the direction of the Comptche Volunteer Fire Department, is a Neighborhood Fire Safe Council. MCFSC helps us leverage our local work through education, expertise, and affiliation with a network of organizations working and supporting fire-safety projects.

Please consider allocating \$50,000 in the current budget for MCFSC for continuation of their vital wildfire mitigation projects (such as fuel-reduction through major road clearing) and to expand the affiliated network of Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils. This funding represents a reduction from the previous budget of \$100,000, but would allow the council to operate at a baseline level and effectively bring in other grant funding to support more fire-safety work in our communities.

Thank you,

Deena Zarlin

Chair - Comptche Disaster Preparedness Team and Neighborhood Firesafe Council