

I understand that the Mendocino County budget is only providing \$25,000 to the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council. This is not sufficient funding to support a vital program aimed at reducing the considerable fire danger in our county and a huge reduction in your \$100,000 grant last year. This program mobilizes local residents to work on fuel reduction and other activities to reduce the impact of wildfires and so funding is greatly multiplied by volunteer hours. Many neighborhoods in the county are just starting to organize fire councils and will need assistance to be effective. In this drought year especially the fire council needs adequate support from the county to help prevent catastrophic wildfires.

Thank you for consideration. I know the county revenues are stretched thin with all the necessary Covid responses and the budget this year will be especially challenging..

With best regards as you ponder your choices, Cathy Monroe