

Dear Supervisors,

I'm one of the Co-Chairs of the Williams Ranch Road Fire Safe Council. We just turned one-year-old in April. If it weren't for the MCFSC and all of the information and connections we've made with different FSCs in the county because of their meetings, we wouldn't be where we are today. We've successfully informed our FSC members in some of the main principles of fire safety and mobilized some to become volunteer members and active parts of their fire safe council.

MCFSC is a clearing house for grants. We've secured three of them through meetings we Co-Chairs have attended where they were announced. Through WRRFSC Community Meetings, members learned about Home Ignition Zones and some, through a grant we heard about at a MCFSC meeting, had an AmeriCorps team help vulnerable members by clearing plants, brush, trees and pathways from around their homes. Through another grant, we're able to do roadside abatement in vulnerable neighborhoods. This is worth thousands of dollars. Because of our own work we've accrued hundreds of hours of in-kind credit for this and other matching grants.

I understand you're in a difficult position having to make decisions that affect many corners of the county. I know you have to juggle more complexities than I can imagine. And I think each of us knows what a raging wildfire brings up within us. I'm asking you to please support the MCFSC by fiscally granting moneys they're requesting. It will help them and therefor help us in our efforts to get the county more fire safe in this ever-changing climate which includes massive, raging wildfires. Their efforts can save lives and property.

We need them to expand their services so more valuable information can be disseminated more widely and more quickly, especially to newly forming FSCs.

Thank you for your time,

Ree Slocum, WRRFSC Co-Chair