

Good day, Members of the Board of Supervisors

I have come to find out that one of the budget items under discussion is funding for the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council. Additionally, I understand that there is some thought to reduce funding to this entity.

I don't need to remind you that the efforts of the MCFSC are, short of dragging the hose or swinging an axe, the most direct means by which residents can take fire safety and fire preparation into their hands.

The MCFSC initiated and managed the vegetation clearance efforts along Redemeyer Rd and the neighborhoods both north and south of El Dorado Rd (my neighborhood). Also, it administered the "Chipper Days" both last fall and again this spring by which individual residents reduced the fuel load in our neighborhood. Add to that the coordination with and communications of our concerns to the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority and CDF.

The monies dedicated to this take up a very small portion of the county budget and yet the returns in results gained far exceed the money asked for. We are likely on our own in the case of a major fire, funding of the MCFSC will go a long way toward easing the concerns of those of us who live outside the city limits.

Thank you

Stephen and Lyn Jungwirth