

ATTACHMENT A

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Letter of Support

DAS WILLIAMS

First District, Vice Chair

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JOAN HARTMANN

Third District, Chair

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

11/1/2022

Re: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors letter of support to designate the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council as the primary applicant for the 2022 CAL FIRE County Coordinator Statewide Grant Opportunity

Dear California Fire Safe Council:

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, with concurrence from the Santa Barbara County Fire Chief, designates the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council (SBCFSC) as the primary applicant for the 2022 California Fire Safe Council County Coordinators Grant Project and provides this letter in support.

The grant project goals are to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups by supporting the establishment of a full time County Coordinator Position with an 18-month, \$175,000 grant. The grant is currently in place in 35 counties across the state, and this opportunity reopens the program and encouraged the remaining 23 counties to apply, which includes Santa Barbara County.

The mission of SBCFSC is to unify public and private organizations in Santa Barbara County to educate, motivate and coordinate to minimize losses associated with wildfires. SBCFSC has been successful in receiving funding through state and local grants. Recently, the council has focused a large portion of our funds towards the creation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP's). CWPPs represent the best opportunity to address the challenges of the wildland urban interface in a way that brings about comprehensive and locally supported solutions. Through grant funding and leadership, the SBCFSC assisted with the development of the Eastern Goleta Valley/San Marcos Pass CWPP in 2018 and in 2020 received funding for the Gaviota Coast CWPP.

The SBCFSC is aware that, as a recipient of this grant, they will be required to work closely with all active wildfire mitigation groups, including the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to meet the grant objectives of educating, encouraging, and developing county-wide collaboration and coordination.

Sincerely,

Joan Hartmann

Chair

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors