

*We are a welcoming, active, and business-friendly rural
foothill community built on California's rich gold rush history.*



City Manager's Report
January 27, 2026, City Council Meeting
Prepared by: Dave Warren, City Manager
Item #: 12.1

Subject: Acknowledge and file the El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and authorize the Mayor to execute the same as the final version.

Recommendation:

Acknowledge and file the El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and authorize the Mayor to execute the same as the final version.

Purpose:

To acknowledge and file the attached El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as the final version.

Strategic Plan Strategies:

Health & Public Safety: Provide Public Safety Systems through professionalism, integrity and justice to create a safe City to live, work and play.

1. Strategy – Wildfire Protection, Disaster Preparedness -
 - a. Complete and maintain emergency action plan.
 - b. Develop a webpage that has a public awareness program and resources.
 - c. Develop an annual vegetation management program to address vegetation on City properties.
 - d. Support programs to address vegetation management on private properties.

Background:

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the west slope of El Dorado County (EDC) provides a road map and guiding document to assist agencies, organizations, communities, and the public to better prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from future wildfire threats. This plan is a significant update to the existing Western El Dorado County CWPP dated February 15, 2022. This CWPP update has been developed for specific needs, local context, and scales needed to be effective, manageable, and locally relevant for the various stakeholders in the Planning Area.

Discussion:

In accordance with the 2003 Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA), the CWPP was developed through a collaborative process involving the Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience (OWPR), the EDC Fire Safe Council (EDC FSC) and associate Fire Safe Councils, CAL FIRE Amador-El Dorado Unit, EDC Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (EDSO-OES), USDA Eldorado National Forest, El Dorado & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts (RCD), Fire Chiefs Association and Fire Prevention Officers, surrounding fire agencies, the City of Placerville, county officials, county-, state-, and federal-land management agencies, community

groups, and the general public. In addition, the plan also satisfies, at a minimum, the CWPP requirements set forth in the HFRA, including:

- Identifying and prioritizing areas for fuel reduction
- Collaborating with stakeholders
- Addressing structural ignitability

Wildfires have historically been a major risk to El Dorado County’s natural ecosystem. The climate, rugged topography, seasonal winds, and fire-adapted vegetation create an environment which burns periodically. Wildfires are made more impactful by the abundant risks associated with a population of nearly 200,000, 22 Communities at Risk identified by CAL FIRE, rural settings, limited access/egress routes, increasing effects of changing climate (e.g., increasing frequency and severity of droughts, extreme storms, flooding, and an increasing number of fire danger days). This is further complicated by the presence of not only local, but regional and national assets such as the Eldorado National Forest, recreation areas, ecological services, water resources, and lands that are pivotal to the County’s economy and the well-being of its residents.

To better understand, assess, and develop recommended actions for the unique set of hazards, assets at risk, and vulnerabilities across the west slope of El Dorado County, this CWPP was developed using the latest tools, resources, and best practice guidance on wildfire resiliency planning and preparedness, particularly in the wildland-urban- interface (WUI). This includes science and engineering- based hazard, risk, and vulnerability assessments using high resolution topography, fuels, weather, and values at risk data. The assessment was focused on identifying areas of concern throughout the region and within four sub- regional planning units, and prioritizing areas where wildfire threat and hazard potential pose the greatest risk to communities. Hazard and risk mitigation efforts and other action items were specifically tailored to address the unique issues in the areas of greatest concern (see Chapters 5.0 and 6.0), using a range of strategies, including:

- Pre-fire planning.
- Wildfire resiliency planning using holistic fire safety principles and strategies for protecting life, property, natural resources, and other community assets.
- Public education and outreach to promote and implement fire adapted community practices.
- Vegetation management and fuel reduction at the community level, including the enforcement of defensible space requirements on private lands.
- Reducing structure ignitability by promoting and enforcing building codes, ordinances, and statutes.

This document provides a framework that can be used to identify, prioritize, implement, and monitor hazard and risk reduction activities throughout the region. This document is intended to support the California Fire Plan, the El Dorado County General Plan Safety Element, and the 2024 and 2025 Strategic Fire Plans — CAL FIRE Amador-El Dorado Unit. While this CWPP covers the entire west slope, the plan also supports and encourages wildfire protection actions at community and neighborhood scales.

Tanya Harlow, Acting Program Manager of the El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience will present an overview of the CWPP tonight.

Options:

1. Acknowledge and file the El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and authorize the Mayor to execute the same as the final version.
2. Take no action.

Environmental:

Tonight's action is not applicable.

Cost:

There is no direct cost associated with tonight's action.

Budget Impact:

There is no direct budget impact association with tonight's action.



Dave Warren, City Manager

Attachments:

- A. Community Wildfire Protection Plan