RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-669

MEETING: November 26, 2019

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor

RE: Letter of Support for Yosemite Sequoia Resource Conservation District Council Fire Prevention Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Letter of Support for Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council’s application, the “Southern Sierra Regional Firewise Coordination Project,” to the California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant Program; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter (Supervisor Menetrey)

This project would work with local partners to spend the next three years establishing a regional Firewise communities program in eastern Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, and Tulare Counties. YSRCDC and local partners will 1) Identify and establish new firewise communities; 2) Support existing Firewise communities through training and implementation resources; 3) Provide training and education to Firewise community leaders and the greater region. Once implemented, Firewise communities create an organizational structure and a risk assessment plan, communities carry out community wide fuel reduction and maintenance on an annual basis and creates opportunities for greater community coordination. This effort supports the stated mission and goals of the CAL FIRE 2019 Strategic Fire Plan for California and the 2019 MMU Unit Strategic Fire Plan.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has approved letters in support of other efforts that will benefit the County or its residents.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the letter. Individual members of the Board may write their own letters of support as desired.

ATTACHMENTS:
YSRCDC_draft_LOS_MariposaCounty  (DOC)
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RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
November 26, 2019

Chief Helge Eng
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244

Letter of Support for the Southern Sierra Regional Firewise Coordination Project

Dear Chief Eng:

Mariposa County is writing this letter to express our strong support for Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council’s application, the “Southern Sierra Regional Firewise Coordination Project,” to the California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant Program. This project will work with local partners to spend the next three years establishing a regional Firewise communities program in eastern Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, and Tulare Counties. YSRCDC and local partners will 1) Identify and establish new Firewise communities; 2) Support existing Firewise communities through training and implementation resources; 3) Provide training and education to Firewise community leaders and the greater region. Once implemented, Firewise communities create an organizational structure and a risk assessment plan, communities carry out community wide fuel reduction and maintenance on an annual basis and creates opportunities for greater community coordination.

This project supports our mission and goals by providing regional assistance to support and establish new and desperately needed Firewise sites in our county and begin to make progress toward reducing fire hazard risk for our residents. Furthermore, this project will complement the activities proposed in the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council’s Fire Prevention Program grant application, “Focused Support for Strategic FireWise Community Project Implementation” (#19-
FP-MMU- 2034), which targets two of our most vulnerable communities for Firewise site implementation and hazard fuel reduction planning. We will support the YSRCDC project with technical assistance in coordination with our Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee, a multi-agency and multi-departmental coordinated group for fire-related planning in our county.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Miles Menetrey, Chair
Mariposa County
Board of Supervisors