

June 24, 2022

Attn: Chair Susan Hoek
Board of Supervisors
County of Nevada
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P.O. Box 599002
Nevada City, CA 95959
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RE: Letter of Support for Nevada County's No Parking Ordinance & Increase of Illegal Parking Fines

Honorable Chair Hoek,

As the Supervisor representing Placer County's District 5, I am writing to express support for the proposed Ordinance and Resolution to battle illegal parking at the county's most popular recreation and open space areas that create major hazards to public safety. Specifically, by amending Section G-IV 3.A.8 of Article 3.A of Chapter IV of Title 2 of the Nevada County General Code, Dog Bar Road, Pleasant Valley Road, Soda Springs Road, and the addition of parking prohibitions on Boreal Ridge Road, Coyote Street, Donner Lake Road, Maybert Road, Relief Hill Road and Washington Road will enable law enforcement to deter unsafe parking that can block emergency vehicle access, create traffic obstacles, and cause traffic accidents.

Unfortunately, with the simultaneous increase of devastating fires sweeping through the state and increased demand for open space recreation, illegal parking throughout the county threatens public safety by blocking emergency vehicle access and emergency evacuation routes. The 2020 Jones Fire and the 2021 River Fire made clear that fire in steep terrain, like we have in many areas of the county where recreation occurs, threatens nearby residences and regional communities with frightening speed. The smooth and orderly flow of traffic past rural recreation sites is paramount. Conversely in the winter, illegal parking along snowbanks near recreation sites create major hazards to individuals who are at risk of being struck by oncoming traffic. The very people parking unsafely and then recreating nearby are putting themselves and their fellow outdoor enthusiasts at risk by also blocking emergency vehicle access to these areas.

We are encouraged that Nevada County has made it a top priority to implement policies and programs to reduce the risk of wildfire and its threats to life, property, and the environment. Placer County District 5 supports the Ordinance and Resolution as a sensible precautionary measure to reduce risks of public safety.

The proposed actions take a reasonable approach in an era when the dangers of wildfire are more severe than ever before. Therefore, Placer County District 5 strongly supports the proposed Ordinance and Resolution and encourages the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to adopt the proposed actions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Gustafson".

Cindy Gustafson
Placer County Supervisor - District Five