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10/17/2019 Chair Richard Anderson Board of Supervisors County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200 Nevada City, CA 95959 (p) 530-265-1480 (f) 530-265-9836

RE: Letter of Support for Extending Nevada County Ordinance Banning Open Fire along the South Yuba River Corridor into 2020 Fire Season

Honorable Chair Anderson and Members of the Board,

It has come to our attention that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors shall be considering amending Article 6 of Chapter XVI of the Nevada County Land Use and Development Code to extend the Urgency Ordinance 2454 adopted on September 11, 2018 that banned open fire along the South Yuba River Corridor in Nevada County. On behalf of the Lake Vera/Round Mt. Neighborhood Association, I am submitting this Letter of Support to express our support for the Ordinance as a member of the Yuba River Public Safety Cohort and on behalf of the residents of the Lake Vera/Rock Creek neighborhood. Unfortunately, wildfire is the new normal in California, with devastating fires sweeping through the state. As noted by Governor Newsom on June 21, 2019, "...10 of the most destructive fires have occurred since 2015. Wildfires don't discriminate – they are a rural, suburban and urban danger. We all have an individual responsibility to step up and step in for our communities as we confront new and growing threats."

We are encouraged that Nevada County has continually made it a top priority objective to reduce the risk of local wildfire and the effects of wildfire on life, property and the environment by providing leadership and support to community partners, pursuing State and Federal funding, implementing county policies and programs, and assisting the public to be "wildfire ready." The Lake Vera/Round Mt. Neighborhood Assoc. supports extending the pilot program extending the prohibition of open fire within the South Yuba River corridor until the end of the 2020 fire season as a precautionary measure to mitigate the hazards of human caused wildfire that would have devastating impacts on the County and the community. A prohibition on open fire during fire season as declared by CalFIRE and the United States Forest Service would further align the policies that are already in place on public lands to private property owners which protect the watershed and its resources that contain extraordinary scenic, recreation, fishery, and wildlife values of statewide significance.

The proposed amendment takes a reasonable approach to wildfire prevention and public safety in an era when the dangers of wildfire are more severe than they have ever been. Therefore, the Lake Vera/Round Mt. Neighborhood Association strongly supports

the proposed Ordinance and encourages the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to adopt the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

James Hurley

Chairman, LVRMNA

The 1,230-acre Round Mountain Resilience Project area is entirely within the boundary of the Lake Vera-Round Mountain Firewise Community. Our community has been very concerned about the presence of hazard trees and high fuel loads on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property in our Firewise Community and has made concerted efforts over the past year to engage the BLM on this issue. We are pleased that the BLM has been responsive to our requests and that hazard tree removal along key roads is moving forward. This planning project led by the YWI will enable our community to work with the BLM to develop a longer-term plan to restore the BLM's forest to health. We are pleased that the project design includes the private parcels in the middle of the BLM parcel as well. We appreciate the cost-efficiency and landscape-scale benefits that this collaborative approach provides. We look forward to providing our input into the forest management plan and educating our members about this important work.



## PENN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**Donald Wagner, Fire Chief** 

P.O. Box 180 Penn Valley, CA 95946 (530) 432-2630 www.pennvalleyfire.com eci DES

October 21, 2019

Chair Richard Anderson
Board of Supervisors
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200
Nevada City, CA 95959
(p) 530-265-1480
(f) 530-265-9836

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The proposed amendment takes a reasonable approach to wildfire prevention and public safety in an era when the dangers of wildfire are more severe than they have ever been. Therefore, Penn Valley Fire Protection District strongly supports the proposed Ordinance and encourages the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to adopt the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

Don Wagner

Fire Chief

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## NORTH SAN JUAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Post Office Box 299, North San Juan, CA 95960 (530) 292-9159 ★ Fax: (530) 292-1417 ★ e-mail: info911@nsjfire.org

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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October 24, 2019

Chair Richard Anderson Board of Supervisors County of Nevada 950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200 Nevada City, CA 95959 (p) 530-265-1480 (f) 530-265-9836

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The proposed amendment takes a reasonable approach to wildfire prevention and public safety in an era when the dangers of wildfire are more severe than they have ever been. Therefore, North San Juan Fire strongly supports the proposed Ordinance and encourages the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to adopt the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

Tom Browning, Battalion Chief North San Juan Fire Department