



SARATOGA FIRE DISTRICT

SERVICE SINCE 1923

Trina Whitley, Business Manager
Saratoga Fire Protection District
14380 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga, CA 95070

May 12, 2026

Christopher Lozano, Senior Grant Specialist
California Fire Safe Council
730 I Street, Suite #236
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 26 SFC - Bohlman Road Joint Saratoga Community Evacuation Preparedness Project

To Whom it May Concern:

The Saratoga Fire Protection District commits to participating in the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council's (SCCFSC) 26 State Fire Capacity proposal for the Bohlman Road Joint Saratoga Community Evacuation Preparedness Project. This initiative will advance SCCFSC's collaboration with partners across Santa Clara County to implement projects outlined in the Santa Clara County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and incorporated Annexes.

The Saratoga Fire Protection District commits to partnering with SCCFSC to complete the section of the Bohlman Road Evacuation Route that lies within the Saratoga Fire Protection District's boundaries. The project focuses on fuel reduction efforts, particularly in advancing multi-jurisdictional strategic fuel breaks. The Bohlman Road Fuels Reduction Project has been a priority project for the Saratoga Fire Protection District, its residents, and the FireSafe Council for several years. The project will protect lives and critical infrastructure. It will provide a safer path for residents to evacuate during a wildfire and for emergency responders to better access the communities along the road.

Essential fuel reduction projects will continue to link numerous multi-jurisdictional efforts across Santa Clara County as well as neighboring Santa Cruz County. This work will establish vital evacuation routes for adjacent communities and extend south toward Highway 17 where SCCFSC managed the Highway 17 Strategic Fuel Break in 2020. These evacuation routes will complement and enhance completed, planned, and ongoing projects as well as contribute to a broader multi-jurisdictional strategy aimed at reducing fuels, expanding fuel breaks, and improving roadways to increase the safety and effectiveness of evacuations.

Partners including CAL FIRE, Santa Clara County Fire, Santa Clara County Parks, Midpeninsula Open Space District, San Jose Water, and area residents have collaborated with the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council on numerous hazardous fuel reduction projects which provided enhanced connectivity and fire suppression capabilities as well as on numerous joint community



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outreach and education (COE) projects for our area residents. This includes both past and current efforts related to support of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). This project seeks to continue these efforts and complete work included in the CWPP.

Thank you for your consideration of this critically important project. Please feel free to contact me at 408-867-9001 or twhitley@saratogafire.org.

Respectfully,



Trina Whitley, Business Manager
Saratoga Fire Protection District



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Chief John McCarthy, Wood Products Program Manager
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Dear Chief:

The Saratoga Fire Protection District recognizes the need for a specialized wildfire resilience workforce. To that end, the District supports the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council's (SCCFC) efforts to create a Regional Wildfire And Resilience Workforce Development Program. After working with the SCCFC on other projects, we are confident that they are capable of completing any project they begin. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Trina Whitley, Business Manager
Saratoga Fire Protection District