Recommendations to the COG on Fire Evacuation Survey

1) Consider putting public members on your advisory committee to improve transparency and communications.

2) Please identify a complete system of key roads to maintain for evacuation, for firefighter ingress, and for firefighter egress. Where needed and appropriate consider enhancing the protection of these roads with ridgeline fuel breaks.

3) Create an inventory of all needed improvements to that evacuation system, not just the top 5.

4) Consider the need to complete road loops to provide evacuation and fire crew egress options in communities like Murphys on the Highway 4 corridor.

5) Evaluate risks on CSA and CSD maintained roads that link residential areas to the main evacuation roads. These may have the most pressing improvements and the least access to funding.

6) Enhance staff training and community education through fire drills every other year.

7) Consider modifying those County General Plan land use designations that allow residential, commercial, or industrial uses to concentrate population on every parcel of land so designated regardless of how dry, overgrown, windswept, and isolated from firefighting services.

8) Consider placing implementation timelines on the fire safety provisions in the County General Plan that currently have no due date.

9) Consider making the optional fire safety provisions in the County General Plan less optional.

10) Identify the top priority areas for PG&E to underground their lines both to reduce ignitions and to reduce the buildup of roadside fuels their tree contractors leave behind, This large woody debris is building up on slopes above roads that people need to have safe for evacuation and for firefighter ingress and egress. This large debris on properties can interfere with firefighter operations to save structures. Large woody debris takes a long time to burn out, necessitating crews to remain on site longer, rather than moving on to save other structures in other areas of the fire.