



**In Recognition of the Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council
& the Ventura County Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

WHEREAS, the Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council founded in 2009 and established as a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization in 2010 by a group of visionary ranchers, farmers, businesses owners, homeowners, and firefighters to work together to inform and empower Ventura County residents to take actions that will ensure their home and community are protected from the threat of wildfire; and

WHEREAS, 2023 marks six years since the Thomas Fire, and five years since the Woolsey Fire swept through our county, destroying built infrastructure, and had long-term devastating impacts on ecological and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, wildfire seasons have become increasingly more devastating and costly year after year; and

WHEREAS, preventative actions taken by county residents to protect and harden their homes against the threat of wildfire are a critical part of our county's strategy to protect the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council was awarded grants from both the US Forest Service through the California Fire Safe Council and The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) to prepare a countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and seven local Community Wildfire Protection Plans as encouraged by the Federal Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA) to develop these CWPP's in communities to reduce wildfire risk and promote healthier forested ecosystems, and, local, state, regional, federal agencies, community-based organizations and academic institutions, have created a collaborative partnership to plan, collaborate on, and implement projects and programs aimed at reducing the threats of wildfire throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, this joint effort to build a safer Ventura County and a great example of Federal, State, Local, and Non-Governmental Organizations working together to reduce community risk. The members of Fire Safe Councils, including Bell Canyon, Ventu Park, Oak Park, Ojai, and local, state, regional, federal agencies, community-based organizations, and academic institutions, are committed to creating a FireWise Ventura County; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Ventura County Wildfire Collaborative are committed to creating a FireWise Ventura County, where residents are prepared for and have adapted to living with wildfire, rather than fearing it.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in honoring the work of the Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council, Rincon Consultants, County Wildfire Collaborative, Bell Canyon, Ventu Park, Oak Park, Ojai Valley Fire Safe Councils, Piru Neighborhood Council, City of Fillmore, City of Santa Paula, Ventura Land Trust, Rancho Ventura Conservation Trust, the Ventura County Resource Conservation District, and the Ventura County Fire Department for the development and completion of the Ventura County Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan and their continued service to the citizens of Ventura County.

Presented On This 26th Day of September 2023