**Board of Forestry and Fire Protection**

**“2025 Fire Risk Reduction Community List”**

**Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR),**

**Division 1.5, Chapter 7:**

**Subchapter 1, Article 3**

§ 1268.00 Definitions

(a) Board: California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

(b) Fire Risk Reduction Community List (List): A list of local agencies located in a State Responsibility Area or a Local Responsibility Area Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, identified by the Board pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4290.1, which meet fire planning best practices.

(c) Local Agency: Any city, city and county, or county; tribal agency; agency, department, district or other publicly funded entity serving a city or county.

(d) Local Responsibility Area (LRA): Those areas of land not classified by the Board where the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing wildfires is that of the state or federal government, pursuant to PRC § 4125.

(e) Low-income Local Agency: One of the following:

(1) A city with a median household income, as reported in the most recent ~~2019~~ US Census Bureau American Community Survey, equal to or less than 80 percent of the area median income for the county in which it is located, as determined and published by the Department of Housing and Community Development in Title 25, California Code of Regulations, § 6932.

(2) A county with a median household income equal to or less than 80 percent of the area median income for the county, as determined and published by the Department of Housing and Community Development in Title 25, California Code of Regulations, § 6932 ~~$64,352~~.

(3) An agency, department, district or other publicly funded entity serving at least one city or county which qualifies as Low-income under the conditions described in (1) or (2).

(f) State Responsibility Area (SRA): as defined in Public Resources Code § 4102.

(g) Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ): As defined in Government Code § 51177(i).

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 51177 and 51178, Government Code; and Sections 4102, 4125, 4126, 4127 and 4290.1, Public Resources Code.

§ 1268.01. Criteria for Local Agencies that are Cities, City and County, or Counties.

(a) A Local Agency that is a city, city and county, or county shall qualify for placement on the Fire Risk Reduction Community List if it meets all of criteria (1)-(4) and two of criteria (5)-(10). A Low-income Local Agency that is a city, city and county, or county shall qualify for the list if two or more of criteria (5)-(10) have not yet been met but are included in the safety element of the Local Agency's general plan as policy objectives.

(1) The applicant has adopted a local ordinance designating Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) pursuant to Government Code § 51179(a) and submitted it to the Board pursuant to 14 CCR § 1280.02. The applicant shall provide the date the ordinance was submitted to the Board, or submit the ordinance with their application.

(2) Applicants who are counties have submitted the findings for all tentative and parcel maps approved for areas located in SRA or LRA VHFHSZ to the Board pursuant to 14 CCR § 1266.02. The applicant shall provide a list of subdivisions submitted to the Board since January 1, ~~2013~~2019, or since the last time the Local Agency submitted an application for the Fire Risk Reduction Community List, whichever is most recent.

(3) The safety element of the Local Agency's general plan has been submitted to the Board for review pursuant to Government Code § 65302.5(b) within the last eight years, and all recommendations have been adopted. The applicant shall provide the final adopted safety element.

(4) After July 1, 2022, a progress report on implementation of the most recent fire safety recommendations from the Board as presented in the report(s) from the CAL FIRE Subdivision Review Program ~~upon subdivision review in a Fire Safety Survey~~, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1267.01, for each community reviewed within the jurisdiction. This report shall be generated by the Local Agency and submitted to the Board. The applicant shall provide the date this report was submitted to the Board, or attach the report to their application.

(5) The applicant has adopted one or more local requirements which exceed the minimum regulations adopted by the state in the Fire Safe Regulations (14 CCR §§ 1270.00-1276.04). The applicant shall cite the local requirement(s) and which state minimum requirement(s) it exceeds.

(6) The applicant has adopted one or more local defensible space ordinances, rules, or regulations which exceed state minimum regulations in 14 CCR § 1299.03. The applicant shall specify how the local requirements exceed the state minimum requirements.

(7) The applicant has adopted a Wildland Urban Interface code stricter than Chapter 49, Part 9, of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. The applicant shall cite the local requirement(s) and which state minimum requirement(s) it exceeds.

(8) The applicant has adopted a zoning ordinance, special district, or special overlay zone that includes fire hazard mitigation requirements which exceed state minimum requirements. Such requirements may address safe zones or areas of refuge, structure density, ornamental vegetation, subdivision design, structure design features, or other fire safety features. The applicant shall provide the ordinance, district, or overlay zone and cite which state minimum requirements the local requirements exceed.

(9) The applicant has adopted a comprehensive retrofit code or plan for existing homes. The applicant shall provide the adopted code or plan.

(10) The applicant has identified wildfire as a high priority hazard in a Local or Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP or MJHMP) updated within the last five years, or as a low or medium priority hazard with the inclusion of one or more mitigation actions, and has adopted the LHMP or MJHMP into the general plan safety element. The applicant shall provide the adopted LHMP or MJHMP.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4126, 4127 and 4290.1, Public Resources Code.

§ 1268.03. Submission and Review of Applications for List Eligibility.

(a) Local Agencies wishing to be added to the Fire Risk Reduction Community List shall complete the Fire Risk Reduction Community List form, provided on the Board's internet website, and submit the form and any supporting or substantial evidence electronically by July 1 of each odd-numbered year.

(b) This form shall request:

(1) The Local Agency's name and ~~a~~ two points of contact, including address, email, and phone and fax numbers.

(2) Specification of which criteria in 1268.01 or 1268.02 have been met.

(3) Supporting evidence submitted electronically demonstrating compliance with the requirements in §§ 1268.01 or 1268.02.

(4) Additional information or supporting or substantial evidence, as necessary, to support inclusion on the List.

(5) Specification of whether the Local Agency is located in a Local Responsibility Area or State Responsibility Area.

(6) The signature of the Local Agency official who completes the form.

(7) A section for Board evaluation of the application.

(i) Whether the applicant satisfies the mandatory criteria.

(ii) Whether the applicant satisfies the optional criteria.

(iii) Whether the applicant qualifies for placement on the Fire Risk Reduction Community List and why or why not.

(iv) The effective date of the placement of the applicant on the List and the deadline to apply for the list in the future.

(c) The Board shall review applications ~~within 60 days of receipt~~ and determine whether the information provided satisfies the criteria for List eligibility.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code.

§ 1268.04. List Updates.

(a) The Fire Risk Reduction Community List shall be published on the Board's website no later than July 1, 2022.

(b) The List shall be updated every other year, to be effective on July 1 of even-numbered years.

~~(c) Applications shall be submitted by April 1 of even-numbered years for addition to the List on July 1 of that year.~~

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290.1, Public Resources Code.