

# News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (6/24/22)

### The Committee's Next Policy Hearing

WHEN: Monday, June 27, 2022, at 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 444

Agenda

### Supreme Court Rules on Second Amendment 'Concealed Carry' Gun Laws in NYSRPA v Bruen

<u>The Daily Beast reports</u> in a majority opinion authored by Justice Clarence Thomas, the Supreme Court has cleared the way for even looser gun laws as the nation continues to reel from near-daily mass shootings that have claimed 312 lives in 2022 alone.

Thomas, a President George H. W. Bush nominee, wrote in <u>the 6-3 decision</u> that the Second Amendment protects the right of individuals to carry a gun outside the home. The court struck down New York's "proper-cause" requirement to obtain a concealed-carry license, saying it "violates the Fourteenth Amendment by preventing law-abiding citizens with ordinary self-defense needs from exercising their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms in public for self-defense."

To read a further summary of the ruling, visit the full article. To view the full decision, <u>click</u> here.

### Read the Decision: Supreme Court Overturns Roe v. Wade, Allowing States to Ban Abortion

<u>The Daily Bulletin reports</u> the Supreme Court has <u>ended constitutional protections for abortion</u> that had been in place nearly 50 years in a decision by its conservative majority to overturn Roe v. Wade. Friday's outcome is expected to lead to abortion bans in roughly half the states.

Click here to read the full decision.

# California Wildfires Caused by Humans are More Dangerous than Fires Sparked by Lightning

<u>The Los Angeles Times reports</u> the sheer acreage consumed by fire in California in recent years is numbing: more than 2.5 million acres last year, and 4.3 million acres the year before that.

Already in 2022, before peak fire season has descended upon this drought-parched state, fire has burned nearly 17,000 acres.

Yet not all fires are equal. New research from UC Irvine shows that fires caused by human activity — be it arson, a neglected campfire, sparking electrical equipment or ill-conceived gender reveal parties — spread faster, burn hotter and destroy more trees than those caused by lightning strikes.

"The physics behind the fire is of course the same, but humans increase the risk of having these kinds of ignitions at really bad times during the year," said Stijn Hantson, the study's lead author. A project scientist in the lab of UCI Earth systems professor James Randerson at the time of the study, Hantson is now an Earth systems scientist at Universidad del Rosario in Bogotá, Colombia.

To read the full summary of this research, <u>visit the full article</u>. To read the study in its entirety, click here.

### Cal FIRE Hits Peak Staffing for Wildfire this Summer

<u>The Office of Governor Newsom reports</u> Cal FIRE has surpassed the goal of treating 100,000 acres by 2025, years ahead of schedule.

In preparation for the upcoming wildfire season, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has completed the transition to peak staffing across California and continues to report progress on key fuels reduction and forest health projects.

Peak staffing ensures all CAL FIRE stations are open and staffed 24 hours per day; response capabilities are enhanced; all aircraft are prepositioned and staffed; and crews are staffed, trained, and working.

According to current estimates, CAL FIRE has achieved 110,925 acres treated in preparation for the upcoming wildfire season, which exceeds its goal of treating 100,000 acres by 2025.

"Although conditions have varied geographically throughout the state, weather conditions, fuel loads, and the number of fire incidents have guided the Department's thorough response and overall preparedness moving into the summer months," said Chief Joe Tyler, CAL FIRE Director/Fire Chief. "Even as we ramp up our preparations for wildfires that are now occurring year-round, we continue to accelerate forest health and fire prevention projects throughout the state, launching more than 603 wildfire resilience projects from last year's budget, ranging from fuel breaks to prescribed burns to fuel reduction."

Meanwhile, the data that has been validated so far show that CAL FIRE and its grant recipients have conducted fuels treatment and fire prevention work on more than 110,900 acres in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, which exceeds its 2025 100,000-acre goal ahead of schedule. Additional data continues to be reported to and validated by CAL FIRE.

CAL FIRE is not alone in this endeavor. It is one of 22 state departments implementing California's \$1.5 billion wildfire resilience program. As of June 2022, within less than a year, the program has already committed \$1.1 billion and has launched more than 833 projects, which includes the CAL FIRE projects and funding. Many of these projects finished within a few months of receiving funding. For more information, refer to the Wildfire Resilience Program.

As CAL FIRE has worked to increase fuels reduction efforts, it has directed significant efforts at increasing defensible space compliance, home hardening and forest health. All of these initiatives are critical components of CAL FIRE's wildfire resilience strategy.

### Fire Rips Through County of San Bernardino Building

<u>The Daily Bulletin reports</u> a three-alarm fire engulfed the fourth floor of a six-story building housing three San Bernardino County agencies on 3rd Street in San Bernardino on Sunday morning.

Firefighters were summoned by an alarm triggered at 172 W. 3rd Street at about 9:30 a.m., San Bernardino County Fire Battalion Chief Dan Wooters told a videographer with OnScene TV. The first crew to arrive saw smoke billowing out the high-rise and summoned backup.

About 110 firefighters from the San Bernardino department, as well as the Colton, Chino, Highland, Redlands and Rialto fire departments battled the blaze, Wooters said.

San Bernardino County Code Enforcement, Public Health and the civil grand jury are housed in the building, said David Wert, spokesman for the county. A sprinkler system is present its basement, but not on any of the above-ground floors, San Bernardino County Fire Battalion Chief Mike McClintock said

Firefighters making their way into the building "found heavy smoke, fire and high heat conditions" as soon as they made it to the fourth floor, fire officials said in a statement. But they were able to hook up their hoses to the building's internal firefighter pipe system and douse the blaze.

By just before 11:30 a.m., officials said the fire was out, but the damage was "extensive." Flames had scorched the fourth floor, hot smoke had blackened the two above it and water used to douse the flames soaked the floor beneath, McClintock said. The building was deemed uninhabitable.

No one was injured. Firefighters searched the smoke-filled building but found no one.

"We're thankful the fire happened on a Sunday, when no one was around," McClintock said.

"County (agencies) will be working throughout the week to secure the items inside the building," Wooters said.

The fire mainly affected the code enforcement offices, however, all offices in the building were "likely affected" by smoke and water, Wert said.

"The county is assessing where to relocate the affected offices and employees," Wert said. "We do not expect any impact on services to the public."

There was no estimate on the extent of the damage, which was being assessed Sunday night. Officials said the cause of the fire is under investigation.

# Kern County Fire Likely Sparked by Lightning Grows to 2,300 Acres, Could Threaten Interstate 5

<u>The Los Angeles Times reports</u> a brush fire likely <u>ignited by lightning</u> in Kern County and burning close to Interstate 5 has grown to 2,300 acres and was 20% contained as of Thursday morning, officials said.

"Our concern today is if it continues to move toward the west, toward I-5," said Kern County Fire Capt. Andrew Freeborn, the agency's public information officer. "Some portions of the fire are within a couple hundred feet of the freeway. ... We're trying to keep it from going to the Grapevine, we don't want travel impacted."

Right now, he said the Thunder fire — located southeast of Interstate 5 and Edmonston Pumping Plant Road — has cast a shroud of smoke around the freeway.

The fire grew by about 500 acres overnight, but crews were able to increase containment by about 10%, according to the Kern County Fire Department.

Emergency crews responded to multiple fires started by lightning Wednesday after <u>extreme</u> <u>weather brought by monsoonal moisture swept across the region</u>, but the Thunder fire appears to be the only one that remains burning.

Lightning on Wednesday also fatally struck a woman and her two dogs in Pico Rivera, where they were out walking when severe storms hit.

Freeborn said officials in Kern County are hopeful Thursday's weather cooperates so firefighters can further increase containment of the fire.

"Yesterday's conditions were not favorable for firefighting in the least," Freeborn said. "Not only did we have all the lightning ... but that storm produced really high winds and we still had really high temperatures."

He said they recorded up to 30 mph sustained winds Wednesday, but forecasts are looking more favorable for Thursday. His team is monitoring another weather system that could affect the area, though.

"Any time you have a weather front that moves through, you're going to have winds that come with that, so we're watching it very carefully," Freeborn said.

He said the terrain around the fire — much of it steep with thick brush — is also making it difficult for firefighters. About 250 firefighters remain in the field.

"It's a lot of hard work and really steep terrain," Freeborn said. "Fire efforts right now are still focused on getting the fire stopped, getting it contained."

It's unlikely the agency will be able to determine the cause of the fire until it's fully contained, he said.

#### Pleasanton Fire Scorches 20 Acres, Evacuations Ordered

<u>Patch reports</u> firefighters were battling a wildfire Thursday afternoon that had charred through 20 acres in the hills between Pleasanton and Sunol, prompting evacuations, CalFIRE reported just after 3 p.m. Thursday.

Containment was at 20 percent Friday morning in the wildfire that ignited Thursday afternoon in the hills between Pleasanton and Sunol, prompting evacuations, <u>Cal Fire</u> reported. As of 6:57 a.m., <u>agency officials said</u> the Canyon Fire was mapped at 71 acres.

The large smoke plume could be seen for miles as the blaze smoldered in the area of Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park near Foothill Road and the Interstate 580/680 split as temperatures climbed above 90 degrees.

Residents of Golden Eagle Estates were asked to evacuate just after 2:45 p.m., according to the Pleasanton police department. Foothill Road was <u>closed</u> from Bernal Avenue to Castlewood Road, police said. <u>Authorities urged</u> residents to expect detours and plan to take alternate routes.

Residents should evacuate at Kilkare Road in Sunol "immediately" amid the rapidly approaching wildfire, the Alameda County Office of Emergency Services tweeted at 3:27 p.m.

Dubbed the "Canyon Fire," firefighters were hiking through treacherous terrain to get to the starting point of the fire, SF Gate reported. Firefighters requested mutual aid as the fast moving blaze grew from 10 acres to a possible 20 acres within a matter of hours.

Initial reports from the California Highway Patrol showed flames inching toward the hills of Sunol. Fire crews were working to douse the flames by both ground and air.

The fire was originally reported at 4549 River Rock Hill Road at 1:33 p.m., according to the PulsePoint app.

Two more wildfires were burning nearby with one reported near Interstate 505 in Vacaville, the "Time Fire," and another near the Bull Valley Staging Area in Port Costa in Contra Costa County.

#### **Vegetation Fire Forces Evacuations North of Vacaville**

<u>KCRA 3 reports</u> the Buena Vista Lane evacuation order has been downgraded to a warning and Buena Vista Lane reopened, Solano County officials said, following a fire.

The Timm Fire burned about 26 acres as of 8:00 p.m. near the area of 4400 block of Buena Vista Lane and Timm Road, Cal Fire, the state's fire management agency, said on Thursday evening. Firefighters remained in the area monitoring hotspots. The agency downgraded the number of acres, officials said, after determining an official perimeter.

When fire officials say they stop the forward progress of a fire, that means they have stopped the flames from spreading in a particular direction(s).

At 3:45 p.m., The Solano County Office of Emergency Services said evacuation orders remain at Buena Vista Lane, which has also been shut down to traffic. All other previous evacuation orders have been downgraded to evacuation warnings.

With evacuation warnings, it is not required to leave your home, but it is highly encouraged to be ready to do so at a moment's notice in case of dangerous wildfire behavior. When an evacuation order is issued, that means there is an immediate threat to livelihood. Evacuation is mandatory in this case.

Cal Fire said at 8 p.m. that the Timm Fire is 80% contained. Containment is not a measure of how much of the fire is extinguished but rather how much of a perimeter around the fire is established to prevent it from spreading. Instead, two other indicators work as a better gauge of if progress is being made on stopping a fire: if forward progress is called, or if the number of acres burnt slows down in increasing or stops increasing completely.

### Bay Area Wildfire Races Over Grasslands Near I-280, Evacuation Warnings in Place

<u>The San Francisco Chronicle reports</u> a fire that sparked at the edge of a nature preserve in unincorporated San Mateo County charred roughly 25 acres by early Tuesday evening, prompting evacuation orders for 1,133 homes during the day, officials said.

People called 911 to report the wildfire — which began as at least two fires — shortly before 2:30 p.m., according to Jonathan Cox, Deputy Chief for Cal Fire's San Mateo Division. Firefighters managed to contain the smaller Colton Fire after it had gnawed through several acres, so that it posed no threat later in the afternoon, Cox said.

The larger <u>Edgewood Fire</u> proved more difficult to quash, and was 5% contained when dusk settled at 8:30 p.m. Shortly after 8 p.m., officials announced that all evacuation orders were downgraded to warnings, and the evacuation warnings issued earlier in the day were lifted.

"This is tight, narrow roads, and a lot of properties intermixed with a lot of vegetation," Cox said, briefing reporters outside Woodside Fire Station.

As plumes of smoke rose during the afternoon over the dry, conifer-studded hillsides, officials from Cal Fire's San Mateo-Santa Cruz division asked motorists and bystanders to avoid the area near Edgewood Road and Crestview Drive, where the blaze had started. For hours, the unwieldy fire spread north through a corner roughly bounded by Woodside, Redwood City and the Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve.

In a tweet, the San Mateo County Sheriff warned of a "fast-moving grass fire," and ordered people during the day to evacuate a zone around Maple Street, bordered by the lake at the northeast side, the golf course at the south and the preserve, which is crisscrossed with hiking trails, to the west. The sheriff also recommended that residents evacuate the area between the Emerald Hills neighborhood and Interstate 280.

An evacuation center was set up at 1455 Madison Street in Redwood City, along with a staging area for large animals in the Cañada College parking lot. By early evening, 1,133 homes had been ordered evacuated, though those orders were lowered to warnings before nightfall.

"We have numerous resources on scene and numerous resources still responding," Cal Fire CZU Battalion Chief Ethan Petersen told reporters late Tuesday afternoon. He noted that helicopters were dousing the flames with retardant.

Persistent heat would likely force firefighters to keep battling the Edgewood Fire throughout the night "until we do get some containment," Cox said. Though no residents reported injuries, one firefighter was injured on the line and transported to a hospital. By late afternoon no structures had been damaged, but many were in danger, including a PG&E substation on Cañada Road.

"We're seeing fire behavior that's weeks ahead of where we typically are" in the middle of June, Cox said, pointing to "unsettled weather" with dry air, offshore breezes and a conspicuous absence of fog.

Smoke shrouding nearby I-280 hindered visibility for motorists. While the freeway remained open, it was choked with traffic and the on-ramps to Edgewood and Jefferson were closed as of 5:30 p.m., San Mateo County Sheriff spokesperson Javier Acosta said.

The <u>Stanford University campus</u> and other parts of San Mateo County lost power; but it was not immediately clear whether the outages were related to the fire. College of San Mateo also lost power on Tuesday, <u>forcing the campus to close</u> and cancel all in-person classes. Officials tweeted that the school would reopen on Wednesday.

The Edgewood Fire came on the first day of what could be a vicious summer, with temperatures soaring into the low hundreds in parts of the Bay Area and forecasts of dry thunderstorms on Wednesday and Thursday. The extreme heat, parched landscape and monsoon moisture whipping in from the southeast prompted multiple advisories from the National Weather Service.

# As Fourth of July Approaches, Sacramento Fire Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Fireworks

<u>The Sacramento Bee reports</u> with less than two weeks left before Independence Day, Sacramento fire authorities say they are once again cracking down on the use of illegal fireworks.

In Sacramento, any firework that goes up in the air or explodes is considered illegal. Legal fireworks — known in California as "safe and sane" fireworks — may not be used or sold outside the sales window, which begins Tuesday and ends after the holiday.

Despite these ordinances, Sacramento Fire Department spokesman Capt. Keith Wade said at a Wednesday news conference that the Fourth of July remains his fire department's busiest day of the year.

This year, authorities hope to curb illegal firework use through a slate of enforcement tools including increased fines, host liability and a system that allows Sacramento residents to report illegal firework use to the fire department.

"I wish we didn't have to resort to neighbors reporting on fellow neighbors," Tahoe Park Neighborhood Association President Isaac Gonzalez said at the news conference. "I wish we could celebrate like responsible adults and leave it like that. But every year, a minority of bad actors choose these devices that fly in the air, explode, and risk igniting structures and vegetation."

"If you're contemplating using illegal fireworks this summer, consider this a fair warning. More residents than ever are prepared to report you," Gonzalez said. Sacramento residents can report illegal fireworks using the non-emergency fire number at 916-808-3473, or use a free smartphone reporting app monitored by the Sacramento Fire Department called Nail 'em.

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Down to 6 Months of Age

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized emergency use of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine and the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 to include use in children down to 6 months of age.

For the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, the FDA amended the emergency use authorization (EUA) to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 17 years of age. The vaccine had been authorized for use in adults 18 years of age and older.

For the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, the FDA amended the EUA to include use of the vaccine in individuals 6 months through 4 years of age. The vaccine had been authorized for use in individuals 5 years of age and older.

For further details, view the full article.

### Kaiser Permanente Begins COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Under 5-Years-Old

<u>KCRA 3 reports</u> beginning this week, Kaiser Permanente is rolling out the COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months old to 5 years old.

The authorization comes after the recent recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Food and Drug Administration recently determined the Pfizer vaccine and the Moderna vaccine both met the criteria for emergency use authorization for children.

The known and potential benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine in individuals under five years of age outweigh the known and potential risks, officials with Kaiser Permanente said.

According to an email sent to those insured with Kaiser regarding child doses:

- Pfizer will include three doses for children 6 months to 4 years old. The second dose should be given three weeks after the first, and the third dose should be given at least eight weeks after the second.
- Moderna will include two doses for children 6 months to 5 years old. The second dose should be given one month after the first.

California pre-ordered nearly 400,000 doses for newly eligible children. More than 2 million children are now eligible to receive the vaccine in the state.

Kaiser said that vaccination of this age group is critical to further protect our community from the effects of the pandemic. Getting eligible children vaccinated can help prevent them from getting really sick even if they do get infected and help prevent serious short- and long-term complications of COVID-19.

Vaccinating children can also give parents greater confidence in their children participating in childcare, school, and other activities, Kaiser said.

# What are the COVID-19 Vaccine Side Effects in Young Kids? Experts Seek to Ease Parents' Concerns

<u>KCRA 3 reports</u> COVID-19 vaccines for children younger than 5 are rolling out this week. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention signed off on the shots' safety and efficacy. Like with any vaccine, though, it's possible kids may experience a few side effects.

The safety data from Moderna and Pfizer, vetted by the FDA and CDC, found potential side effects were mostly mild and short-lived.

For parents and caregivers planning to get their little ones vaccinated, pediatricians say there are a few things to watch out for — generally the same effects adults or older children might have experienced after their shots.

"In general, I think the most common side effects from either of the vaccines are still the most common side effects we see from pretty much any child that gets any vaccine," said <u>Dr. Grant Paulsen</u>, the principal site investigator for the Pfizer and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials for kids 6 months to 11 years old at Cincinnati Children's.

Side effects most commonly included pain at the injection site, and sometimes there was swelling or redness.

"Those are all what I would classify as pretty common side effects that most parents that have taken their children to the doctor to get their various hepatitis and tetanus vaccines and all that kind of stuff were probably pretty used to," Paulsen said.

As far as systemic or body-wide symptoms, the most common was fatigue or sleepiness. Some children had irritability or fussiness, loss of appetite, headache, abdominal pain or discomfort, enlarged lymph nodes, mild diarrhea or vomiting. But everyone got better quickly.

"It's very similar to the side effects we've seen for older kids or for adults. About 24 hours of some kids, you know, they kind of don't feel as well, they feel tired, they don't have the same appetite. But thankfully, there have not been any serious side effects of these vaccines," Dr. Ashish Jha, White House COVID-19 response coordinator said on CBS on Monday. "And again, after giving these vaccines to millions of children, it's really reassuring to know that for young kids these vaccines are exceedingly safe."

Side effects were mild to moderate and were far less frequent with this young age group than with older ages, Paulsen said.

"My big picture for parents is really [that] the side effects should not be alarming," Paulsen said.

Kids were slightly more prone to get a fever with the Moderna vaccine; it happened with about a quarter of the trial participants, versus less than 10% with Pfizer. Most of the fevers were mild. Less than 1% of all participants in the trial had a fever that reached 104 degrees.

"That was rare, but I feel like if we're not honest with parents, when these things come out, that will be concerning," Paulsen said.

Because fevers were not common, Paulsen does not recommend pre-treating a child by giving them a fever-reducing medicine before the shot.

If the child develops a fever, he said, parents can give ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

"The odds are, most children are just going to do fine and have really minimal problems," he said.

The scientists who conducted trials on the youngest children were also watching closely to see if any of the children had problems with myocarditis, inflammation of the heart muscle, because there were a handful of cases among older children and adults. In most of those cases, the symptoms went away quickly.

But myocarditis was not found to be a problem in the trials in young children.

"Of course, we have all the mechanisms in place once we start vaccinating kids next week. If we start seeing it, all those bells and whistles will go off and bring our attention to it," said <u>Dr.</u>

<u>Claudia Hoyen</u>, director of pediatric infection control at UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland. "But we are not expecting to see that. We didn't really see it in kids who were 5 to 11, either."

For further information, visit the full article.

#### **ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon**

- Statewide Asylee Orientation; health & human services
  - o Funded by: Department of Social Services
  - o Deadline: Friday, June 24, 2022
  - o Total Estimated Funding: \$300k
  - o Full Grant Guidelines: linked here
- AB 434 Super NOFA; housing, community and economic development
  - o Funded by: Department of Housing and Community Development
  - o Deadline: Tuesday, June 28, 2022
  - o Total Estimated Funding: \$650 million
  - o Full Grant Guidelines: linked here
- 2022-24 Sexual Assault American Rescue Plan Program RFP; consumer protection; disadvantaged communities; disaster prevention & relief; health & human services
  - o Funded by: Governor's Office of Emergency Services
  - o Deadline: Wednesday, June 29, 2022
  - o Total Estimated Funding: \$3.37 million
  - o Full Grant Guidelines: <u>linked here</u>

# **Funding Opportunities**

### 2022-23 Transitional Housing (XH) Program RFP

<u>The Governor's Office of Emergency Services</u> has created the XH Program to provide victims of crime with transitional/short-term housing assistance and a range of supportive services with the goal of moving victims into safe, permanent housing.

The XH Program is designed after the Housing First model; a form of rapid rehousing adapted to move and rehouse victims of crime who are experiencing homelessness into permanent housing quickly and provide ongoing supportive services. Transitional/short-term housing is a temporary solution – usually a room or apartment – meant to be a safe space in which victims can process their trauma and build a supportive network with the goal of moving into safe, permanent housing.

Since 2017, California has implemented the Housing First Model as defined in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Section 8255 to address the prevalence of homelessness in California. The Housing First Model is an approach to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness quickly and successfully to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as treatment, or sobriety.

Applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (Unique Entity ID) registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM). Applicants who do not currently have a Unique Entity ID will need to register at SAM.gov to obtain one.

See full Request for Proposal for complete requirements.

Applicants may request a partial or full match waiver (match waiver requests are not considered during the Proposal Rating process).

To request a match wavier, Applicants must submit the VOCA Match Waiver Request form (Cal OES Form 2-159) with their proposal. Up to two VOCA fund sources can be entered on one form. All sections of the form must be completed and answers to questions 6 and 7 must be specific and unique to the Applicant and Program.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Tuesday**, **July 5**, **2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$17.15 million. To view the full grant guidelines, <u>click here</u>.

#### 2022 Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG)

The Department of Housing and Community Development has created the ESG Program to provide grant funding to (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street, (2) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, (3) help operate and provide essential services in emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families, and (4) prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless.

ESG funds may be used for four primary activities: Street Outreach, Rapid Re-Housing Assistance, Emergency Shelter, and Homelessness Prevention. In addition, ESG funds may be used for associated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs and administrative activities for some subrecipients.

The funds are distributed in two separate funding pools: the CoC allocation and the Balance of State (BoS) allocation. Funding in the BoS allocation is made available based on recommendations from a CoC in two ways:

- 1. Through regional competitions within three geographic regions (Northern Region, Bay Area Region, Central and Imperial Valley Region) pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 25 CCR 8404 (a) (3); and
- 2. Through a noncompetitive process for Rapid Re-Housing (RR) activities.

Continuum of Care Allocation: CoCs within this allocation have at least one city or county that receives ESG funds directly from HUD. Within the CoC Allocation, Administrative Entities (AEs) are selected by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to administer an allocation of funds provided through a formula for their service area. These AEs must be local governments of ESG Entitlement Areas and must commit to administering ESG funds in collaboration with their CoC throughout their CoC Service Area, including ensuring access to ESG funds by households living in Nonentitlement Areas. A minimum of 40 percent of each AE Allocation must be used for Rapid Rehousing activities.

Eligible Applicants and Eligible Areas to Be Served: The Department subgrants its funding to subrecipients in Continuum of Care (CoC) service areas that have at least one jurisdiction that does not receive ESG funds directly from HUD ("Nonentitlement"). In the CoC Allocation, local governmental entities are eligible subrecipients, who in turn select homeless service providers to receive the funds. In the Balance of State Allocation, private nonprofit organizations or units of general-purpose local government are eligible subrecipients that receive ESG funds directly from the Department.

State ESG funded activities may serve the entire service area of the CoC but must serve Nonentitlement areas within the service area. For a list of CoC Service Areas eligible to participate in the State's ESG program, refer to Appendix A of the current NOFA.

ESG funds eligible units of local governments and non-profit organizations, primarily in non-entitlement areas in California.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Tuesday**, **July 26**, **2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$12.6 million. To view the full grant guidelines, <u>click here</u>.

### Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy has created the Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program with the primary role of planning and implementing forest health projects that promote wildfire recovery and forest resilience and support the goals of California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Watershed Improvement Program.

In response to recent wildfires, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy identified five wildfire recovery strategies for the Sierra Nevada: landscape-scale forest restoration, water supply protection, strategic reforestation, rapid expansion of wood-utilization infrastructure, and support for community-led initiative. This program seeks to create more-resilient forest landscapes, reduce wildfire risk, accelerate recovery from recent wildfires and supports projects that address these strategies.

California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan identifies three goals that are strongly aligned with the WIP: healthy and resilient natural places, safe communities, and sustainable economies. Both plans also stress the importance of climate resiliency, regionally tailored solutions, the linkages between ecological and economic health, the importance of low-intensity fire, and the need to work strategically across land ownership boundaries. This grant program aims to support projects with the following, additional focal areas: multi-benefit projects, landscape-scale projects, high-impact projects, and wildfire recovery.

To be eligible to receive a grant award from the SNC under this program, projects must meet all of the following criteria: be located within or provide services to the Sierra Nevada Region as defined by current SNC governing legislation; be consistent with the SNC mission and program areas as defined in the SNC Strategic Plan; be consistent with the requirements of the funding source and budget provisions, result in a clear, demonstrable, and enduring public benefit; and meet all California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, as applicable.

Consistent with provisions of the program funding and objectives of the proposed project, the SNC may give favorable consideration to projects which: involve California Native American tribes, including grants directly to tribal entities or those to tribal or other entities which provide meaningful engagement with and support to tribal partners; were developed under the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity program; address fire recovery objectives; directly benefit severely disadvantaged or disadvantaged communities; engage a workforce development effort, including but not limited to tribal workforce programs, California Conservation Corps, or other training programs; employ a collaborative, community-led approach in project development or implementation and enable the equitable geographic distribution of SNC resources.

Proposals are developed in conjunction with SNC. To initiate consideration of a project, an applicant must contact the appropriate SNC Area Representative (AR) and the AR will work with the applicant to determine if the project meets SNC criteria. If SNC determines consideration of the project, a concept proposal form will be shared with the applicant. This proposal process involves Concept and Full Proposal phases. Concept Proposals are due July 29. A site visit may be conducted for eligible implementation projects. If invited to submit, Full Proposals are due October 28. Please review the full grant program guidelines <a href="here">here</a>.

# Eligible applicants include:

- Qualifying 501(c)(3) Nonprofits
- Public Agencies: any city, county, special district, joint powers authority, state agency, or federal agency
- Eligible Tribal Entities are one or both of the following: (1) Recognized by the United States and identified within the most current Federal Register; (2) Listed on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission as a California Native American tribe.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday**, **July 29**, **2022**. Total estimated funding is dependent. To view the full grant guidelines, <u>click here</u>.