



**COUNTY OF LAKE
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December 16, 2025

Coalitions & Collaboratives, Inc.
2432 S. Downing St.
Suite 200
Denver, CO 80210

RE: Letter of Support for the “Advancing Community Wildfire Resilience: Capacity Building & Local Leadership Development, Phase II” Project

To Whom it May Concern:

The County of Lake is pleased to express support for the Lake County Resource Conservation District’s (LCRCD’s) proposal to Coalitions & Collaboratives, Inc. (CoCo)’s Action, Implementation & Mitigation (AIM) Program for the “Advancing Community Wildfire Resilience: Capacity Building & Local Leadership Development, Phase II” project.

Nearly 70% of Lake County’s landscape has burned in wildfires since 2015. Exacerbated by years of underinvestment and limited local capacity, residents continue to face extremely high wildfire risk around their homes and within their communities. The proposed project makes strategic investments in local capacity and leadership development designed to dovetail with ongoing implementation projects and advance community wildfire resilience with a particular emphasis on the City of Clearlake, one of Lake County’s most vulnerable population centers.

LCRCD, as administrator of Lake County Fire Safe Council (LCFSC), will lead the following work: (1) expand LCFSC’s existing Mobile Tool Cache Program to enhance its utilization and build community-level capacity for fuels reduction and maintenance activities across Lake County; (2) collaborate closely with the emergent Redbud Fire Safe Council (RFSC) and the Firewise Communities that comprise it to foster enduring local capacity in Clearlake, including the following activities: work directly with community leaders to form and nurture Firewise Communities, equip those Firewise Communities and RFSC with the basic materials they need to be visible and effective entities, educate Clearlake residents in both English and Spanish, and empower residents to host neighborhood-level work days; and (3) connect the dots between upcoming hazardous fuels reduction work, including federally funded evacuation route clearing led by the Clear Lake Environmental Research Center (CLERC) and (anticipated) state-funded defensible space implementation led by LCRCD, to build community awareness of and engagement with these important initiatives.

LCRCD has administered LCFSC since early 2023. In 2024, LCRCD was awarded CoCo AIM funding for the first time (Agreement #23-CA-11132543-049), which enabled the organization to hire its first-ever Executive Director and lead the development of the “Lake County Fire Safe Council Strategic Plan: 2025-2030”, the organization’s first, among other critical capacity-building activities. The proposed project aligns closely with the goals of that document and will enable LCRCD to build on the critical momentum generated since that initial CoCo AIM award, continuing to grow the capacity of LCFSC as a county-wide organization in partnership with its constituent local Fire Safe Councils to better serve Lake County. LCRCD has a capable team of project managers and technical staff that, alongside LCRCD’s partners in this collaborative project, bring the expertise, resources, and proven track record necessary to ensure this project’s success.

This proposed project aligns with the County of Lake’s Vision 2028 priorities to enhance continue to rebuild and all efforts to recover from our recent disasters, public safety, collaborate with tribes, cities, and community groups to maximize opportunities. Given this alignment, the County fully supports the collaborative project and recognizes its potential to build enduring community wildfire resilience in this vulnerable area of Lake County.

Sincerely,
COUNTY OF LAKE

Chair, Lake County Board of Supervisors