

6 Fire Safe Council Findings and Recommendations

Humboldt County experiences year-round structural fires and seasonal wildfire. Depending on the location and nature of a fire, local, state, and federal fire fighters and support services are dispatched and respond to the event. Local fire protection services are provided to Humboldt County residents by one of 42 different service providers. The training, equipping and responsiveness of these organizations are critical to community safety and resource protection.

This chapter draws findings and recommendations from the information and analysis provided in previous chapters of the Fire Plan, as well as from the results of two surveys distributed to local, state federal, and tribal fire protection service providers. The findings convey the key fire safety issues facing the County and other agencies and organizations. Findings and recommendations are organized by six topics that are consistent with the Master Fire Protection Plan (MFPP) Goals identified in Chapter 1:

- 6.1 Fire Protection Capability
- 6.2 Fire Safe Education
- 6.3 Risk and Hazard Assessment
- 6.4 Risk Reduction and Management
- 6.5 Community Preparedness and Response
- 6.6 Fiscal Issues

FIRE PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

Many of the findings in this chapter are based on input from local fire service organizations. The two surveys completed for the development of the MFPP provided considerable information on the capabilities, staffing, organization, and service areas of these organizations.

The first survey gathered information about structure, staffing, equipment and training, service gaps, records, dispatching, capabilities and facilities. The second survey yielded written responses as well as mapping of service boundaries, response times and relevant features such as fire halls and hydrants.

The surveys indicated that a group of highly dedicated professionals and volunteers are doing a remarkable job with extremely limited resources. Volunteers with varying degrees of experience, training and equipment are primarily responsible for delivering emergency response services in many areas of the County. There is a growing need for reliable sources of funding, and access to services is relatively more limited in rural areas. A more comprehensive summary of survey results is included in Appendix B.

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRIORITIZATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations contained in this chapter are based on the information and analysis provided in previous chapters of the MFPP as well as the results of two surveys distributed to

local, state, and federal fire protection service providers. During a prioritization exercise conducted on December 15th, 2003 the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC) was asked to indicate which recommendations were their highest priorities. The star (★) inserted next to a numbered recommendation indicates that that recommendation is a priority to one or more of the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council members (Council Member).

Subsequently, some recommendations were added as a result of Council Member feedback following the prioritization exercise. This was done to further balance the recommendations between fire prevention and protection needs (these additional recommendations are distinguished in *italics*). The recommendations focus on actions that should be taken to improve the protection of Humboldt County citizens and resources from wildfire. The implementation measures (outlined in Chapter 8 of the MFPP) will indicate which entity should implement the priority recommendations.

6.1 FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY

Local fire departments in Humboldt County have been created from the desires of local communities to protect themselves. Fire departments have a history of working collaboratively, and have regularly assisted each other to better protect their communities. A good example of such inter-departmental cooperation is the County Fire Chiefs' Association. There are, however, significant disparities existing in the levels of fire protection available to Humboldt County communities. Disparities are due to many factors, including: whether or not the community has a fire related special district; when such a district was formed; the value of the local tax base; and the recruitment and availability of volunteers.

FINDINGS

Compared to other counties in the California of similar size and population, Humboldt County has a relatively high number of local organizations providing fire protection. The establishment and operation of multiple rural fire organizations has occurred in response to the rural, isolated development patterns that have manifested on the landscapes of the unincorporated regions of the county over the last century.

- 6.1A The majority of local fire service providers in Humboldt County have all-volunteer crews (Source: *Surveys One and Two*).
- 6.1B In most districts, only a small portion of volunteer firefighters are available to respond to fires during daytime hours (Source: *Survey Two*).
- 6.1C Not all firefighters have safety equipment essential for protecting themselves from firefighting hazards (Source: *Surveys One and Two*).
- 6.1D Fire departments report that only some firefighters have received training for structure fires, other than on-the-job training (Source: *Survey Two*).
- 6.1E Many fire departments have informal mutual aid arrangements with neighboring fire departments and willingly provide mutual aid. Few fire departments have formal mutual aid agreements of any kind (Source: *Survey One*).

- 6.1F There is no central clearinghouse for local mutual aid agreements or local fire department organizational information (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1G Humboldt County does not have a standard for the level of fire protection service for rural communities (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1H Outside of cities, most Humboldt County residents live beyond the three-minute response area of local fire departments, which is a standard for urban fire response (Source: *Survey Two*)
- 6.1I CDF has a mandate to provide fire protection services in the State Responsibility Area (SRA; Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1J The local CDF Ranger Unit plays an important role in Humboldt County fire protection by providing training, distributing surplus state fire equipment and apparatus, and providing mutual aid to local departments (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1K Local fire departments report that the majority of their calls are medical related, and that most firefighters have received first responder level medical training. (Source: *Surveys One and Two*.)
- 6.1L Humboldt County's road system, which includes a mix of street surfaces, widths, slopes, grades, bridges and curves and a busy State Highway bisecting the most densely populated communities slow emergency vehicle travel times (Source: *Analysis*)
- 6.1M The larger, full time, paid or combined paid/volunteer fire departments maintain effective fire protection coverage by staffing multiple fire station sites, and are effectively supplemented by automatic aid response from close neighboring fire departments/ districts (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1N The edges of some fire protection districts are not adequately covered, and fire protection gaps between "response areas" are apparent (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1O The existing medical aid incident volume impacts emergency fire response coverage and engine company availability (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1P Due to the great distances and travel/response times between rural fire departments, rural mutual/automatic aid does not reliably provide quick response and timely arrival of additional emergency personnel and resources (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1Q The Humboldt County fire protection capability analysis clearly indicates that rural communities do not have as much access to fire/EMS services as the larger communities (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1R Continued growth in the rural areas of Humboldt County increases the level-of-service gap between developed and rural communities (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.1S The County fire protection coverage analysis indicates that approximately 41.4% of Humboldt County is without formal, year round fire protection/emergency services (Source: *Analysis*).

RECOMMENDATIONS

As rural communities grow, distances between them are reduced and the opportunity for sharing services increase. This is evident in the number of mutual aid agreements that exist throughout the county. Consolidating resources is one technique that has been used in other localities to more efficiently provide fire protection capabilities.

Fire protection capability recommendations are:

- 6.1-1 Develop level-of-service standards for the provision of all fire protection services (fire, EMS, HazMat, rescue) in the County, and make such standards public so that landowners and residents understand what is and is not available to them (★ ★ ★).
- 6.1-2 Establish regional fire training facilities in appropriate locations. Facilities should include classrooms, a burn tower, and fire and rescue training props (★ ★).
- 6.1-3 Improve communication and coordination between local fire departments, CDF, and federal agencies during fires and other emergencies (★ ★).
- 6.1-4 Facilitate the consolidation, expansion, or formation of special districts that provide fire protection services (★).
- 6.1-5 Update the Humboldt County General Plan to include policies and standards that encourage new development in areas with adequate fire protection.
- 6.1-6 Establish regular fire training programs/classes at the local level throughout the county to serve different regions: i.e., Southern, north-eastern, and northern Humboldt, Eel River Valley, Humboldt Bay, etc.
- 6.1-7 Collaboratively identify strategies to provide improved training and equipment to local fire departments and develop formal mutual aid agreements between departments providing fire protection in Humboldt County.
- 6.1-8 Ensure that all first responders have adequate training and equipment.
- 6.1-9 *Identify strategies to provide a support network for fire service agencies and organizations via improved communication and coordination.*

6.2 FIRE SAFE EDUCATION

Fire safe education is one of the most effective ways to reduce fire risk and hazard, and minimize loss due to fire. When communities are informed about fire risk and hazard, and trained in risk and hazard reduction and response techniques, the result is often fewer and less severe fires.

Most departments do not have the capacity to deliver comprehensive community fire prevention education programs. As a result, the Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association works to coordinate and facilitate fire prevention programs in Humboldt County. The USDA Forest Service and CDF also have annual fire prevention programs that they deliver to schools and, in concert with local departments, at fairs and other community events.

Rural community residents, who are generally most at-risk for fire hazard, often do not completely understand wildfire risk, and its potentially devastating effects on both economic and natural resource assets. Local fire departments and fire/resource agencies typically do not have adequate funding or resources to provide wildfire risk education. However, emphasis on community fire education and fire safe activities has increased recently, as a result of funding initiatives associated with the *National Fire Plan* as well as the efforts of local Fire Safe Councils (local FSCs).

The findings on fire safe education are:

FINDINGS

- 6.2A There are no countywide standards for school-or community-based fire safety education programs (Source: Analysis).
- 6.2B In-school fire safety education is performed primarily by CDF and larger fire departments (Source: Analysis and Survey Two).
- 6.2C Community fire education programs are not provided consistently throughout the County (Source: Analysis and Survey Two).
- 6.2D The lack of awareness of wildfire risks results in a false sense of security and inadequate preparation by some rural residents (Source: Analysis).
- 6.2E Community preparedness training and workshops that provide fire risk awareness, such as community workshops by local Fire Safe Councils, are essential to reducing fire risk (Source: Analysis).
- 6.2F New emergency preparedness education programs such as the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), being administered locally through the Red Cross, offer up-to-date education materials and instruction.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Up-to-date information about potential fire hazard risks, appropriate risk reduction measures, and emergency response measures, is essential to fire safe education. The County has taken a significant step in providing risk information by developing a countywide GIS database of assets-at-risk, high hazard areas, and fire risk assessments. This data provides site-specific information sources for citizen groups, local fire safe councils, fire protection entities, developers, and County and agency planners within Humboldt County.

- 6.2-1 Provide fire safety education to residents and the homebuilding, insurance, real estate, landscaping, and building supply industries. This would include information about non-combustible roof coverings, fire safe construction for high fire risk/hazard areas, techniques for reducing flammability in home ignition zones, adequate emergency water supplies, visible address and road identification/signage, access road clearances, and emergency evacuation procedures. (★ ★).
- 6.2-2 Expand existing community and school fire prevention education programs countywide, and coordinate dissemination of program materials (★).
- 6.2-3 Expand use of mass media for dispersal of information regarding fire awareness and education and other Firewise programs (★).
- 6.2-4 Make Internet accessible the countywide fire planning maps illustrating data such as fire district boundaries, SRA, and hazard areas. Provide Internet access to other specific fire-hazard related information and to the County Fire Plan.
- 6.2-5 Maintain a web-based contact database for those organizations providing fire safe education and the programs they offer.

- 6.2-6 Provide Countywide community preparedness training (such as Firewise).
- 6.2-7 Support the use of Title III or other grant funds to assist local fire departments and FSCs in implementing these recommendations.
- 6.2-8 *Increase public awareness of fire as a tool for improving community fire safety, forest health, and ecological diversity through a public education program and by working with local Fire Safe Councils.*
- 6.2-9 *Provide education to residents connecting fire safe forests, timber production and ecological restoration efforts*

6.3 RISK AND HAZARD ASSESSMENT

FINDINGS

Humboldt County is affected by structure fires and wildfires that each year, according to CDF officials, result in thousands to millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses, open space, and other resources. Humboldt County geography and development patterns are such that many homes are located within the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and are at risk of wildfire. As a result, many Humboldt County residents live in areas designated by Federal and State agencies as “communities at risk” of wildfire.

The findings for risk and hazard assessment are:

- 6.3A Humboldt County has several rural communities that are at risk to catastrophic wildfire and were not identified in the *National Fire Plan’s Federal Register List of Communities at Risk* (Source: Analysis).
- 6.3B As the trend continues for development in higher-hazard rural/wildland community areas in Humboldt County, the potential for increased loss of protected assets to catastrophic wildfire, especially life and property, will significantly increase over time (Source: Analysis).
- 6.3C Based on population and development trends into more rural, wildland areas of Humboldt County, fire risk to economic and natural resource assets will continue to increase (Source: Analysis).
- 6.3D Analysis of large fire trends, post-fire effects and fire behavior characteristics suggest that the existing levels of Humboldt County’s forest health, increasing fuel loads, and exclusion of normally recurring fires are resulting in wildfires that exhibit:
 - higher fire intensities;
 - larger areas of “stand-replacement” fire activity;
 - higher levels of watershed damage and adverse soil impacts;
 - increased resistance to fire control measures; and
 - higher fire suppression costs (Source: Analysis).
- 6.3E The assessed potential for catastrophic wildfire in Humboldt County was rated between “High” and “Low”, with four out of the eleven fire planning compartments given a “High” potential rating (Source: Analysis).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Risk and hazard assessment addresses the potential for both wildfire and structural fire. Either fire type has the potential to spread and cause loss of life, as well as significant and even catastrophic damage to economic and resource assets. To evaluate and assess fire risk, the following characteristics have been considered: community assets; vegetation and fuel hazards; topography; ignition risk; historical fire and ignition patterns; fire occurrence intervals; catastrophic fire potential; economic and natural resource values; and fire protection capability.

Structural fire risks can be mitigated in part through adequate fire response. Some rural areas are not within any fire response area for structural fire protection, even though they are located in the State Responsibility Area and have wildfire protection. Areas outside of a special district providing fire protection may still receive some level of protection from a volunteer fire department.

The risk and hazard assessment recommendations are:

- 6.3-1 Synthesize landscape level risk and hazard assessment (using GIS-based analysis) with existing local community risk and hazard assessment information (★).
- 6.3-2 Apply risk assessment and mitigation strategies from the Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan to the Humboldt County General Plan and other local General Plans.

6.4 RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

FINDINGS

Measures for reducing fire risk include: creating defensible space around individual homes; creating community fuel breaks at the wildland urban interface; and conducting prescribed burns and other fuel reduction techniques on public resource lands. The reduction measures are most effective when they are tailored to address specific risks.

Homes and other structures continue to be constructed in rural and isolated areas of the county, often adjacent to natural areas with wildland fuel hazards. When constructed in high hazard areas, such structures are individually vulnerable to wildfire and collectively add to the fire risk rating of the County's rural communities.

Many residents living in rural areas within the coastal zone have a common misconception that they are not as susceptible to the risks and impacts of wildland fire associated with drier inland areas. Their perception is often based on temperate climate conditions and the existence of local fire protection organizations. Wildland fuels, however, pose fire risks throughout the county.

The findings on risk reduction and management are:

- 6.4A Wildland fuel loading is increasing on federal lands, on private lands within State Responsibility Areas, and on wildlands within or adjacent to cities and communities throughout Humboldt County (Source: Interviews *and Analysis*).

- 6.4B Fuel reduction efforts are not keeping pace with fuel loading (Source: Interviews and Analysis).
- 6.4C For the most part fuel reduction projects are either implemented by state and federal resource agencies within their jurisdictional areas, or by local non-governmental organizations such as Fire Safe Councils (Source: Interviews and Analysis).
- 6.4D Humboldt County's wildland fuel loading (tons per acre) is exhibiting a sustained increase over time. This is a result of the policy and practices of wildland fire suppression and fire exclusion without the commensurate long-term implementation of a sustained fuels reduction program (Source: Interviews and Analysis).
- 6.4E Without a comprehensive fuels reduction program, wildland fuel hazards within Humboldt County will continue to increase to significantly high levels (Source: Analysis).
- 6.4F Programs to encourage the utilization of biomass fuels have not been implemented in the County (Source: Analysis).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Reducing risk at the source includes reducing hazardous, highly flammable fuel build-ups near rural communities through vegetation management programs. These programs have proven effective in risk reduction by applying appropriate fuel treatment methodologies, including mechanical and biological treatments, prescribed fire, and hand removal.

Countywide fuel management planning is emphasized in this MFPP, and specific strategies for reducing hazardous vegetation are identified. Such strategies include, constructing fuel breaks adjacent to existing, planned, and newly-emerging development areas. Community fuel breaks can also serve as greenbelts or open space, in those cases where it is practical to reduce fuel volume by thinning rather than removing all vegetation..

One of the most important considerations for managing wildfires is having sufficient resources to respond to multiple wildfires when they occur. CDF has the lead role in responding to wildfires in the county's unincorporated area. Another service CDF provides is the LE-38 Fire Safety Inspections Program for informing residents of interagency fire safe regulations and inspecting for compliance with fire hazard clearance standards around structures.

CDF's new Fire Plan Assessment Framework at the Ranger Units can be a mechanism for creating local forums and obtaining local knowledge about community assets. Issues relevant to wildland resource assets and structure protection can be better addressed at the CDF Ranger Unit and community levels than at the State level, in terms of level of service, benefits, and financial responsibilities.

Fire departments and Fire Safe Councils in the Humboldt County are proving effective in coordinating small scale community efforts to link defensible space around individual structures into larger, connected, multi-agency treatments that result in a community or landscape-scale fire defense systems. For instance, the Orleans Fire Safe Council is setting a precedent by constructing a model community fire defense/fuel break system that embodies this concept.

Woody residue from fuel reduction programs is often left at the site, or mulched and trucked to the local transfer station. Thus, a potential for development of biomass-powered cogeneration plants exists. Such a program could provide incentives for private industry to transport fuel/wood residue from local community project sites to a biomass power plant for consumption as biomass fuel.

The risk reduction and management recommendations are:

- 6.4-1 Develop a biomass utilization program to develop commercially-viable markets for fuel reduction project wood byproducts and residue such as slash, small diameter logs, foliage, wood chips, etc. (★★).
- 6.4-2 Implement *California Fire Plan* recommendations regarding biomass fuels marketing and utilization, and the development of pre-fire management data and programs.
- 6.4-3 Establish fire hazard mitigation programs to reduce wildland fire risk and hazard at the wildland/urban interface.
- 6.4-4 Plan, monitor, and modify fuel load arrangements on critical community fuelbreaks and fire defense systems.
- 6.4-5 Promote fuel modification and fuel reduction programs for other vegetation projects or resource management initiatives such as silvicultural practices, habitat enhancement, range improvement, ecosystem restoration, cultural activities, and biomass generation and utilization.
- 6.4-6 Advocate and encourage compliance with Humboldt County Fire Safe Standards and Public Resources Code § 4291 through the use of CDF LE-38 Fire Safety Inspections on structures that reside within unincorporated State Responsibility Area lands.
- 6.4-7 Obtain grant funding to contract and compensate local fire district inspectors to perform LE 38 (Public Resources Code §4291) inspections on homes in communities-at-risk within their respective fire districts.
- 6.4-8 *Emphasize increased Countywide coordination of fuel modification projects by all involved agencies and organizations.*

6.5 COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

FINDINGS

Local Fire Safe Councils are effective in coordinating local residents, businesses, and fire experts to educate homeowners on fire risk and hazard reduction, and in developing plans for making communities fire safe. Proactive, community-based activities are a necessity in the face of growing wildfire danger throughout the rural areas of the County.

The findings on community preparedness and response are:

- 6.5A Local Fire Safe Councils are involving the local communities in prioritizing community assets and values (Source: Analysis).
- 6.5B Local Fire Safe Councils have the ability to accomplish multiple objectives, including community-level organization and participation (Source: Analysis).
- 6.5C The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program is a useful tool to provide community based fire awareness and evacuation planning (Source: Interviews and Analysis).

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is important for the County to support programs that help homeowners and communities act independently to prepare for, and respond to, structure and wildland fire emergencies.

The community preparedness and response recommendations are:

- 6.5-1 Support the efforts of local Fire Safe Councils to protect communities (★).
- 6.5-2 Coordinate with other County Fire Safe Councils, especially Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, and Mendocino Counties (★).
- 6.5-3 Maintain the existence of the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council after the MFPP is completed (★).
- 6.5-4 Support the efforts of the Humboldt County Chapter of the American Red Cross to provide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training.
- 6.5-5 Assist local communities in establishing evacuation plans for natural disasters and wildland fire emergencies.
- 6.5-6 Update the Safety Element of the General Plan to address community preparedness.
- 6.5-7 Work with local Fire Safe Councils, fire protection organizations, and other appropriate entities to incorporate wildland fire safety measures, fire hazard mitigations, accessible roads data, emergency water supply locations, flammable vegetation clearance for defensible space techniques, and other fire safety techniques, into local community planning (★★).
- 6.5-8 Update Humboldt County Fire Safe Standards to identify specific hazard zones, improve fire safe measures for community planning areas and/or other unincorporated rural residential areas in Humboldt County, and to address roads, vegetation setbacks, and enforcement (★★★★).
- 6.5-9 *Provide technical support to local FSCs in their fire protection and prevention planning efforts, including GIS analysis, creation of publications, Internet access, and FSC administration, funding, and business management.*

6.6 FISCAL ISSUES

FINDINGS

Most fire departments indicate that their year-to-year revenue significantly lags behind department needs. Because of the range of fire organization types within Humboldt County,

with each having access to a different range of revenue sources (or none at all), there is no easy “one size fits all” solution to funding shortfalls. Appendix A contains a summary of issues related to local fire organization funding and points to possible funding sources.

The findings on fiscal issues are:

- 6.6A Sixteen all-volunteer fire departments in Humboldt County operate without benefit of property tax or assessments to provide a stable source of ongoing funding (Source: *Analysis and Survey Two*).
- 6.6B Fifty-six percent of fire related districts rely on benefit assessments for a portion of their ongoing revenue. Of those districts that have assessments, the assessment amounts on average to 37 percent of total revenue. (Source: *Analysis and Survey Two*).
- 6.6C Four special districts providing fire protection services do not receive a portion of the one percent ad valorem property tax collected from property within their boundaries, three have assessments, three receive a small “transfer” of Education Revenue Augmentation related funds (ERAF) from other fire districts, and one receives only this small ERAF transfer (Source: *Analysis and Survey Two*).
- 6.6D Costs related to unavoidable fire department expense items (such as workmen’s compensation, liability insurance, and vehicle maintenance) can outstrip department revenues (Source: *interviews and Survey Two*).
- 6.6E Because grants and fundraising are important sources of revenue for local fire protection, year-to-year revenues to fire districts and independent volunteer fire departments are not consistent (Source: *Interviews and Analysis*).
- 6.6F There is no master property tax exchange agreement between Humboldt County and fire districts to help guide the expansion of fire protection services to unserved areas (Source: *Interviews*).
- 6.6G Fourteen of 24 fire departments associated with a local government organization have a plan for the replacement of fire apparatus four of which include the cost of fire apparatus replacement in their normal annual budget (Source: *Survey Two*).
- 6.6H There are no fire-related impact fees imposed on new development that could provide funding towards fire related facilities and equipment (Source: *Analysis and Survey Two*).
- 6.6I Fire departments that perform plan review and inspections related to new construction projects do not recover their costs for this service, even when building permit fees are collected (Source: *Analysis*).
- 6.6J In June 2003, the Board of Supervisors established a County/Fire District Working Group to evaluate and report on fire district funding and to include an analysis of entitlement of Proposition 172 funds, as well as to develop proposals and action plans to deal with various funding alternatives. This group continues to meet and has presented findings to the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. It is anticipated that a decision on this topic will be made before the approval of the FY 2006-07 County budget.

- 6.6K The Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services coordinates the dissemination of Homeland Security Grants to local fire agencies and organizations for first responder equipment and support.
- 6.6L The Humboldt County community Development Services department administers a grant program funded through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, Title III to support fire planning efforts of local fire department and fire safe councils.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Local fire services in the county are financed through a variety of programs and sources. The most stable sources are ongoing assessments and recurring agency programs. One-time funding (such as grants) can be effective for establishing a program or service, but must be replaced by an ongoing source for long-term viability. As mentioned in Chapter 2, two relevant financial information source documents are *Funding Alternatives for Fire and Emergency Services* (FEMA-U.S. Fire Administration¹) and *A Planner's Guide to Financing Public Improvements*, created by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research²).

Fiscal issues recommendations are:

- 6.6-1 Develop reliable sources of ongoing funding for fire protection districts and departments, such as revenue exchange agreements, benefit assessments, mitigation fees, and user fees (★★★★★).
- 6.6-2 Support reallocation of a portion of Proposition 172 funds to local fire agencies (★★★).
- 6.6-3 - Support the allocation of a portion of Title III funds to local FSCs and local fire prevention agencies for coordination and planning (★).
- 6.6-4 - Actively pursue grants to continue funding for the HCFSC coordination following completion of the MFPP (★).
- 6.6-5 Establish funding and resource pools to reduce costs to fire organizations associated with items such as insurance, purchasing, and vehicle maintenance.
- 6.6-6 *Identify a reliable funding source or combination of funding mechanisms that will support the efforts of local Fire Safe Councils.*
- 6.6-7 *Research the establishment of the practice of local fire departments billing for a response to those persons, property owners, vehicle owners, etc. outside of the departments jurisdictional boundary or stated response area.*

¹ US Federal Emergency Management Agency, US Fire Administration. *Funding Alternatives for Fire and Emergency Services*, (1998). <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-141.pdf>.

² State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, *A Planners Guide to Financing Public Improvements*, (June 1997). <http://ceres.ca.gov/planning/financing>.