

Community Protection Team 2013 – 2014 Initiatives: DRAFT Project Outline

Initiative 1: Consistent Communication and Outreach Initiative

Background:

The Community Protection Team has recently completed a planning process to identify potential project areas in which the group can focus over the next 2 – 3 years. Through that process, the following goal was identified as the highest priority for the team to work to address:

Limit the growth of fire risk in the wildland urban interface

Focus Roundtable efforts on working with local governments and leadership to increase wildfire mitigation and community protection initiatives.

Within this goal, the CPT identified several strategies that could accomplish this goal:

- Develop a consistent message around wildfire mitigation, a comprehensive education initiative.
- Work with local governments to adopt land use codes that follow NFPA or WUI building code standards.
- Work to “trickle” county efforts down to FPD.
- Increase funding for FPDs, private landowners
- Partner with private industry – Lowes, NFPA, FAC
- Increase the list of points of contact for private landowners/homeowners who can provide education about wildfire mitigation issues – HBA, mortgage brokers, schools, CAI, CML, CCI, etc.)*
- Engage at the HOA level
- Focus on locally based training using local residents (train the trainer model or other local/grass roots engagement)
- Focus on comprehensive planning at the county level – where development occurs, open spaces, etc.

In addition to these goals identified by the Roundtable CPT, at the December meeting the Roundtable as a whole identified a priority to “Increase the social acceptance of smoke management and prescribed fire.**” The CPT could potential work this issue into the consistent messaging package that will be created.

Goal:

The goal of this project is to limit the growth of fire risk in the wildland urban interface by developing a consistent message around wildfire mitigation issues and a comprehensive outreach and education initiative.

Scope:

The scope of the project is to be determined. The team needs to determine:

- What messaging needs to be made more consistent.
- What is the target audience for the messaging.
- Information that is already available/consistent to target audience.
- Information that is inconsistent to target audience.
- Outlets for the information.
- Identify training and education opportunities.

Deliverables:

Deliverables could include:

- Toolkit compiling information already produced by other entities (CSFS, Insurance info, etc.)
- Summary of available information or links/resources page.
- Webpage on Roundtable website with links to information.
- Canned presentation with up to date, consistent messaging and resources.
- Distribution of materials to target audience.
- Delivery of some number of programs to target audience.

Task phasing and timeline: 2013 CPT work plan

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Project planning:	→									
Refine Goal	→									
Scope project	→									
Determine team roles/Identify additional partners	→									
Establish meeting schedule	→									
Identify deliverables	→									
Project development:			→							
Gather current resources/messaging		→								
Evaluate, analyze existing messaging against best available data and scientific information relevant to Front Range.			→							
Engage Roundtable partners in review of messaging				→						
Develop consistent messaging package						→				
Investigate outreach avenues and strategies – inventory existing opportunities						→				
Develop outreach strategies, possibly including train the trainer						→				
Project Implementation: (through 2014)										
Distribute materials (begin 2014)		→								
Conduct programs (begin 2014)		→								

Project Sponsors/leaders: ??

- Could be different sponsors and leaders for each aspect or phase of the project.
- Aim is to leverage the strengths and recognize the capacity of each organization in participating in project.

Initiative 2: Work with insurance companies to standardize insurance guidelines for defensible space and home initiation zone

The Governor recently established a Wildfire Insurance and Forest Health Task Force, the group may want to reconsider this as a project priority for 2013 – 2014. Here are some possibilities for the CPT group to consider (the group may want to discuss these and any other ideas on the next phone call):

- Work on strategic and coordinated efforts to inform the work of the Governor’s Task Force. For example, work with Roundtable partners to identify the top 5 key priorities for homeowners, counties, state and federal agencies in the WUI around wildfire insurance and work to advance them through the Task Force. Two Roundtable members have been appointed to the committee (representing their individual organizations, not the Roundtable), so we have opportunities to inform the work of the committee.
- Focus only on Initiative 1.
- Elevate the third priority for the CPT group in 2013 – 2014: Work to improve the implementation and effectiveness of WUI building codes – potential partnership with NFPA and NFRF (National Fire Research Foundation) effort currently underway to conduct a workshop on the Front Range around WUI building codes.