



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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August 9, 2023

California Strategic Growth Council
Attn: Community Resilience Centers Program
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Community Resilience Centers Program – Conejo Community Park and Center Improvement Project

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Ventura County Fire Department, I am writing in support of the Conejo Recreation and Park District's (CRPD) subject grant application.

The Ventura County Fire Department believes the Conejo Community Park and Center Improvement Project is vitally important to increase positive community use and expand resiliency within our community. The Ventura County Fire Department supports CRPD's proposed project, will participate in the planning, design, and/or implementation as needed, and is committed to the broad objectives of California Strategic Growth Council goals.

The project proposes to replace the existing 7,000 SF building built in 1965 by local volunteer efforts with a new 19,000 SF building and a variety of community-serving park improvements. The proposed new building will be constructed to current standards and codes and provide expanded recreational improvements as well as the increased ability to serve as an evacuation shelter for the community. These improvements will provide functional and aesthetic value to the greater community and the greater park system. Also, the project addresses a meaningful need within the community for park facilities to evolve and provide for the community they serve. Most critically, the Conejo Community Park and Center Improvement Project will be a significant resource in addressing climate resilience and serving the District's most vulnerable residents.

Thank you for considering this letter and your efforts to support a healthy, thriving, and resilient California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dustin Gardner".

Dustin Gardner
Fire Chief

c: Conejo Recreation & Park District