

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOVATO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
RECOGNIZING WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS WEEK MAY 4-10, 2024, ENCOURAGING
RESIDENTS TO TAKE STEPS TO REDUCE THE THREAT OF WILDFIRE TO THEIR HOMES
AND COMMUNITIES, FIRE DEFENSE IS SELF DEFENSE, GET READY, BE PREPARED.**

WHEREAS, in 2020 California experienced 6 of the largest and most destructive fires in the state's history, burning more than 2.6 million acres, and destroying 8600 structures; sadly, resulting in 21 deaths. Included in these fires, was the largest in recorded history, burning more than one million acres and resulting in 4.5 billion dollars in insured loss. In the past 5 years more than 38,000 structures and sadly more than 200 lives have been lost in our state, due to wildfires. The citizens of California must all do their part to help protect our natural resources. The public must work locally to take aggressive action to prepare themselves for wildfires, while May 4th starts the staffing of wildland fire engines throughout Novato, it is critically important that our residents join their local fire agencies in preparing for the 2024 fire season.

WHEREAS, the City of Novato and Unincorporated areas of Novato have experienced several serious wildfires in the past that destroyed homes and threatened lives; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Novato Fire Protection District have taken action to adopt an Enhanced Wildfire Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, wildfire poses a threat to the lives and property of residents and visitors of Novato; and

WHEREAS, wildfire can significantly impact Novato's environmental, economic, and social well-being; and

WHEREAS residents and landowners of the City of Novato and Unincorporated areas of Novato can significantly reduce the threat of wildfire to their homes and communities by advanced preparation of a Wildfire Action Plan – evacuation planning, creating defensible space and hardening homes to keep embers out; and

WHEREAS, reducing the threat of wildfire to homes and communities takes coordinated action and effort between residents, homeowners, land managers and local fire agencies; Communities and Land owners of the City of Novato and Unincorporated areas can request a free in person Wildfire Mitigation Assessment; and


WHEREAS, residents and land owners of the City of Novato and Unincorporated areas of Novato and can apply for Vegetation Management and Home Hardening Matching Grant funds through the Novato Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, Novato Fire Protection District takes every precaution to help protect its residents and their property from wildfire; in the event of a major wildfire, firefighting resources will be stretched. Everyone needs to prepare now, to protect themselves, their family, and their property from a devastating wildfire. Take the time to learn more about how one can prepare by visiting novatofire.org/prevention-resource-center and by scheduling a complimentary in home Wildfire Mitigation Assessment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that The Novato Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, in Novato, California, hereby proclaims May 4-10, 2024, as Wildfire Preparedness Week, and we urge all the people of Novato to heed the important safety messages of Wildfire Preparedness Week, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Marin's fire and emergency services.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Novato Fire Protection District, at a meeting held on this 1st day of May 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: Davis, Francisco, Goines, Hadfield, Silverman
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0



PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ATTEST:


BOARD CLERK