

# Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of REALTORS® Hot Issues: Fire Prevention and Loss of Lives, Resources, and Homes



## WHY CSMAR IS IN FAVOR

CSMAR urges all public agencies, conservancies, and all who manage and control public land and/or open space to prioritize their attention to mitigating the damage caused by wildfires.

- Wildfires destroy everything in their path, including everything that government officials and agencies are working to protect.
- Wildfires result in the loss of human lives, loss of animal lives, loss of resources, loss of homes, the total devastation of open space, and the destruction of many thousands of trees, farms, and ranches.
- Two recent Ventura County fires (the Thomas fire in 2017 and the Woolsey fire in 2018) scorched a combined total of 378,842 acres, representing 27% of the entire acreage of Ventura County, including 2,706 structures destroyed.
- Wildfire damage has caused many insurance companies to leave the state. Fire insurance policies have become both difficult to find and enormously expensive, drastically increasing the cost of housing for every California household.
- In July 2023, the County approved a comprehensive 119-page Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), developed by Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council (VRFSC).
- CSMAR is strongly supporting development of CWPP's by all cities, agencies, government bodies, and homeowner associations to implement wildfire mitigation measures by reducing fuel areas through which fires have historically spread.
- CSMAR supports the measures identified by professionals to harden individual homes against wildfire. We will actively work to advise homeowners how to protect their homes by working with the VRFSC. This includes our financial support to assist that organization as well as utilizing our membership to spread information.

## CSMAR

Conejo Simi Moorpark Association of REALTORS® (CSMAR) boundaries contain five cities: Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Moorpark, Westlake Village, Agoura Hills; in two counties: Ventura and Los Angeles. We also have three Municipal Advisory Councils areas: Oak Park, Santa Rosa Valley, and Casa Conejo. A great deal of coordination is required in dealing with overlapping rules, regulations, and ordinances which may affect real estate and property rights. Our Board of Directors has adopted Position Papers on issues which affect real estate the most. We believe it is important to articulate our positions on these issues to our roughly 2,000 members, citizens, and those in civic leadership positions.

