

From: Leigh Fodor, Realtor <findyourparadise719@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 1:24 PM
To: PCD Hearings
Subject: File number: SF2324 Hay Creek Valley
Attachments: WildfireEvacuationChecklist.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the El Paso County technology network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Please call IT Customer Support at 520-6355 if you are unsure of the integrity of this message.

Dear Board of County Commissioners,

My name is Leigh Fodor and I am a newer resident to Hay Creek Valley. I was supposed to try and speak tomorrow at the hearing, but I have a work conflict now and cannot make the meeting. I wanted to write the board to express my concern about our area.

I have been watching the new Hay Creek Valley subdivision development because I do have friends that would love to move to the area, so honestly it was an exciting possibility to me. I thought the developers were doing everything in line with what the valley already has in place, and they seemed to be well aware of the environmental impact they will make. However, it wasn't until I learned more from my neighbors about the danger our valley is in in terms of a route out of the valley in case of any sort of emergency that I started second guessing more houses joining our road. We have one long, two-lane road that narrows in spots, out of our valley. And as you have heard from the Planning Commission meeting, we are well over the limit on houses that should be allowed on a road like this. As mentioned by my neighbors, I'm not sure this burden is the new developments one to bear, but I think this board, along with the planning commission, needs to remain hyper aware of this situation.

Our area gets a wonderful monthly magazine from our electric co-op, Mountain View Electricity. In this month's issue, May 2024, there just happened to be a page titled, Wildlife Evacuation Checklist-Making Leaving Safely Second Nature. On the bottom of this page, it shows that this information comes directly from FEMA and the U.S. Fire Administration. In all 3 sections: Plan, Prepare, and Practice they mention having an alternate route, or 2 ways out, of your neighborhood in case one is blocked. It also mentions that they should be wide enough for emergency vehicles to pass. I just wanted to bring this article to this board's attention because it is not just this neighborhood, this city, this county, or this state that recognize there should be multiple ways out of a neighborhood, this is clearly a national concern since it is listed 3 times on one page. This page is attached to this email for your reference.

Thank you for your time.

Leigh Fodor
719-337-4133

Wildfire Evacuation Checklist

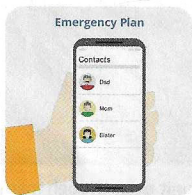
Make leaving safely second nature



Plan, prepare and practice these simple tips that can help make leaving your home quicker, easier and safer in the event of a wildfire and reduce your risk of injury.

Pre-fire: Plan, prepare and practice before a wildfire occurs.

A wildfire may make it necessary for you and your neighbors to evacuate. Plan, prepare and practice wildfire evacuation together and with your local emergency services. This can help save lives!



Emergency Plan

Pre-fire: plan

- ✔ Sign up to receive local emergency alerts and warnings on all home phones, cellphones and other devices.
- ✔ Know what your community's emergency notification and evacuation plans are.
- ✔ Plan an evacuation route away from your home and other alternate routes in case the first route is closed or threatened by wildfire.
- ✔ Make sure your designated contact knows your plan and to communicate with you to know you are safe.
- ✔ Know the evacuation plans for locations where household members regularly are such as workplaces, schools and commuter routes.
- ✔ Plan to evacuate family, friends or neighbors who have disabilities.
- ✔ Maintain roads and bridges on your property and in your community if you are responsible for them. Improve roads to have 2 ways out and make them wide enough for emergency vehicles. Make sure everyone can open gated roads. Post load limits on bridges. Build culverts with materials that won't melt.



Pre-fire: prepare

- ✔ Prepack emergency supply kits.
- ✔ Back vehicles into your garage or park them in an open space facing the direction of escape.
- ✔ Keep the gas tank in vehicles at least half full.



Pre-fire: practice

- ✔ Practice often with everyone in your home, using at least 2 ways out of your neighborhood.
- ✔ Participate in community wildfire drills. If something could keep you from leaving successfully, such as a locked gate, address it immediately.
- ✔ Practice evacuating animals and pets, including how to operate trailers and other vehicles needed to transport them. Know what resources are needed for their care in case of evacuation.



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration
Working for a fire-safe America