



Eagle Valley Wildland

Hugh Fairfield-Smith Division Chief of Wildland Fire Operations Eagle Valley Wildland

September 11, 2024

Town of Eagle

Subject: Support for the New Eagle Ranch DRB Updates

Dear Members of the Town of Eagle,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed updates to the Eagle Ranch Design Review Board (DRB) guidelines. As the Division Chief of Wildland Fire Operations for Eagle Valley Wildland, I have closely observed the diligent efforts of Eagle Ranch in navigating this process.

Eagle Ranch has demonstrated exceptional commitment and thoroughness in updating the Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow for plantings outside the 16,500 square foot Building Envelope, now referred to as the Limits of Disturbance, on correlating lots. This proactive approach not only enhances the aesthetic and ecological value of the area but also aligns with the national standards for wildfire defensible space.

The proposed changes are crucial in mitigating wildfire risks and ensuring the safety of our community. By adhering to these updated guidelines, Eagle Ranch is setting a commendable example for other developments in the region.

Eagle Valley Wildland, a cooperative program between Eagle River Fire, Greater Eagle Fire, Gypsum Fire, and Eagle County, was established in response to the growing wildfire threat in our area. We fully support these updates and believe they will significantly contribute to our collective efforts in wildfire prevention and safety.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to the successful implementation of these updates.

Sincerely, *Hugh Fairfield-Smith*

Hugh Fairfield-Smith
Division Chief of Wildland Fire Operations
Eagle Valley Wildland