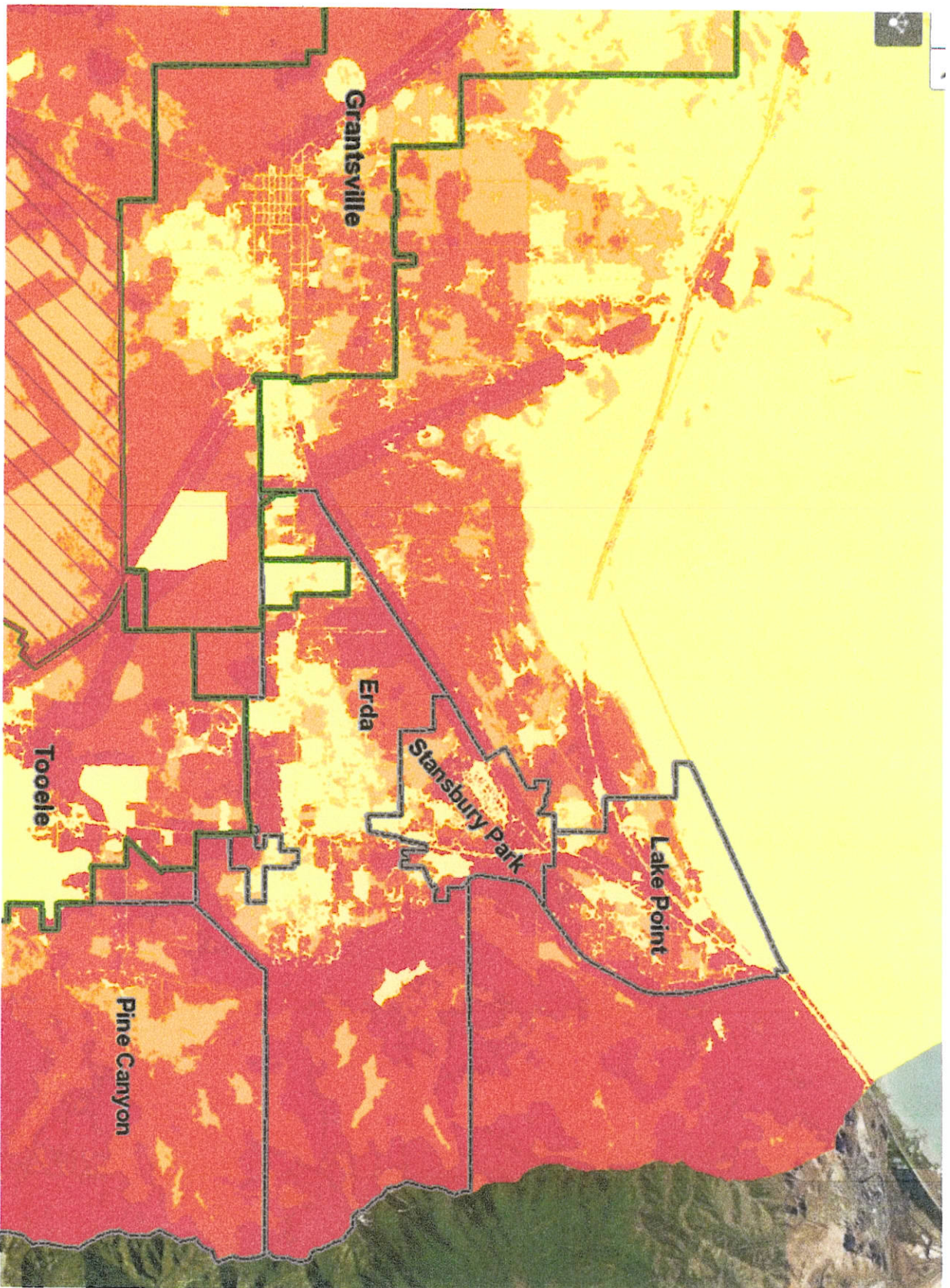


Erda City Council 12/30/21 Talking Points

- Utah Code 11-7-1 requires counties and cities to provide adequate fire protection within their territorial limits.
 - With this fire protection responsibility, a county or city would typically be required to pay for the cost of wildland fire suppression services.
 - A city's cost responsibility jurisdiction would be considered the incorporated private lands involved in the fire – not the state or federal land within their incorporated boundary.
 - Wildland fire costs are normally shared by the respective jurisdictions within the fire perimeter by taking the land status acreage percentage and applying it to the overall suppression costs.
 - So, if a fire was 100 acres and 50 of those acres was incorporated private land and 50 acres was BLM, the city would pay 50% and the BLM would pay 50%.
 - For example, in 2013 the town of Stockton was found to be responsible for \$1,000,000 in fire suppression costs after a devastating fire.
- This model could quickly bankrupt a town or small city, and catastrophic wildfires have become more prevalent over the years, so in 2016 Governor Herbert charged FFSL to design a better system. In 2017 the state legislature passed what has become known as the Cooperative Wildfire System under state code 65A-8-203.
 - This system allows a political subdivision with wildland fire suppression cost responsibility and taxing authority to enter into a cooperative agreement with FFSL.
 - The overall concept of the CWS is to task counties, cities, and districts with reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfires and in turn they will have the ability to delegate wildfire management and wildfire cost responsibility to the State.
 - So, each fiscal year a city would be assessed an annual participation commitment based on a dollar value attributed to each high-risk acre and each medium-risk acre, plus the areas 10-year fire suppression cost average.
 - The city would then engage in projects focused on Fire Mitigation, Fire Preparedness, and Fire Prevention. The years efforts need to equal the amount of the annual participation commitment.
- I believe it is important for your city council to understand how this system works, but your city does not have fire protection taxing authority because your city boundary falls within the already established North Tooele Fire Protection District.
 - This means that Erda city is not eligible to join into the Cooperative Wildfire System, but you are already covered under North Tooele's cooperative agreement.
 - I encourage you to engage with North Tooele to ensure that they are investing efforts to reduce the overall fire risk for Erda City.
 - Also worth mentioning, the incorporation of Erda will impact North Tooele's annual commitment. The state assesses a different dollar value to high-risk and medium-risk acres based on whether they are incorporated or unincorporated. So, by incorporating a



High risk is red.
medium risk is orange

PARTICIPATION COMMITMENT ACTIONS

For Local Governments

(Suggested actions, not a conclusive or final list. Other actions will be added as appropriate)



WILDFIRE PREVENTION

Activities directed at reducing the number of human-caused fires. (Goal: *Fire-Adapted Communities*)

- Costs of wildfire prevention campaigns
- Costs of wildfire mitigation educational materials (defensible space, firewise landscaping etc)
- Costs of implementing Ready, Set, GO! program
- Law enforcement patrols to enforce fire restrictions and/or burn permit violations
- Volunteer hours for meetings and events that promote, plan or implement CWPPs
- Costs of wildfire prevention media campaigns/ PSAs
- Costs of designing, producing and installing community awareness and/or wildfire prevention boards/displays

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS (25% max.)

Activities that lead to a safe, efficient and capable wildfire suppression response (Goal: *Strong Initial Attack Capability*)

- Costs of improving wildland fire apparatus, communication or support
- Costs of improving or creating additional ingress/egress into Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas identified in CWPPs
- Costs of improving or increasing firefighter access to secondary water systems through hydrants, tanks or drafting sites
- Actual costs for providing wildfire suppression training to fire department and/or emergency management personnel
- Volunteer hours spent in training for wildland fire suppression
- Costs of wildland-specific Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Costs of producing and installing road signs and address markers (including evacuation routes) as part of a CWPP
- Costs of certifying bulldozer operators
- Costs associated with enforcement of WUI code
- Costs associated with installing/maintaining helicopter dip sites
- Costs of inspecting resident defensible space work to certify for individual tax incentives
- Costs of producing and/or updating city emergency response plans that address CWPPs
- Costs of land-use planning that support objectives of CWPPs
- Costs supporting the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- Costs associated with gaining "Firewise Community" recognition

WILDFIRE MITIGATION (50% min)

Actions taken to reduce or eliminate risks to persons, property or natural resources. (Goal: *Resilient Landscapes*)

- Costs of equipment and labor (including volunteer hours) used to reduce hazardous fuels in accordance with CWPP (i.e. *fuel breaks, prescribed fire, timber harvests and certain activities that support grazing*)
- Costs or volunteer value of equipment and labor toward ongoing maintenance of existing CWPP fuel reduction projects
- Volunteer hours toward removing hazardous fuels from community common areas identified in CWPPs
- Volunteer hours toward improving ingress/egress in community common areas identified in CWPPs
- Costs associated with community fuel reduction events (i.e. chipper days)
- Costs of vegetation management equipment

Activities that DO NOT qualify:

- Any activity funded by other state or state-administered federal funds
- Any previously-matched prevention/preparedness
- Costs of state or federally-provided trainings
- Costs of initial attack suppression of wildfires
- Costs of improving culinary water systems
- Costs to improve individual structures
- Costs of existing county employees or programs including weed departments