

From: [Carey Sweet](#)
To: [Wildfire Safety Advisory Board](#)
Subject: Wildfire evacuation routes Wednesday,
Date: April 14, 2021 9:19 AM

Dear members of the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board,

I am a long time resident of Southern Nevada County (38 years on Dog Bar Road). For as long as I've lived here there has been real issue of safe evacuation routes in our area. Notably, there is a serious transportation problem for people who live in developments that were created back in the 60's and 70's when the county planners did not consider the growth of population in our rural area. These neighborhoods have private roads with dead ends and locked gates that if open would allow safe retreat from wildfires. The people in these neighborhoods are at risk but there is a solution. In the case of the Alta Sierra Ranchos at the southern end of the development, Brewer Road is blocked with a gate that leads in to the Golden Oaks development which is a route to Highway 49. If by eminent domain the road was opened as a public road it would alleviate a serious risk and also help the traffic situation on Dog Bar Road, which is a 12 mile long, winding rural route.

The other places that could be opened to safe evacuation routes is the one lane bridge over the Bear River at Dog Bar Road going in to Placer County. Immediately after the bridge there is a one lane bridge over the flume/canal which almost weekly has traffic altercations and trucks getting stuck on the tight curves. Placer counties road crews constantly repair the railings of that Canal crossing but have yet to remedy the situation by creating a two lane bridge.

In addition to these places, there is also an opportunity to create safe transportation and evacuation routes at the ends of:

*Woodacre Drive leading into Salt Creek Road and the Golden Oaks development to Hwy. 49.

*A connection from the end of Norvin Way to Clover Valley Road over Wolf Creek would lead to a safe route.

*Paving and widening Mount Olive Road that leads from Dog Bar Road to Highway 174 through Chicago Park.

*A new bridge crossing at the end of Taylor Crossing Road off of Dog Bar that leads into Colfax and Highway 80. (This is a historic river crossing used in the 1800's).

*A connection of McCourtney/Perimeter Road to Camp Far West Road to Spenceville Rd. leading out to Highway 65.

I hope these suggestions help in the progress of creating safer wildfire evacuation routes in Nevada County.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carey Sweet

Grass Valley, Ca. 95949