

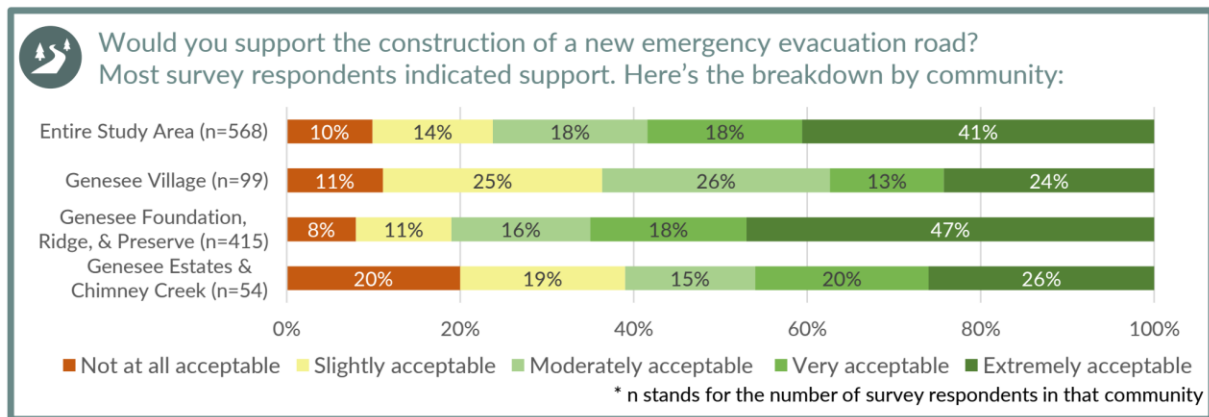
Does the fire department support the construction of the proposed emergency access route (EAR)?

Yes. It was recommended in the [Community Wildfire Protection Plan \(CWPP\)](#) that was developed in 2008 and revised in 2021. The addition of a secondary ingress/egress route is a critical tool that when coupled with roadway mitigation increases roadway survivability for both citizens and first responders and provides a secondary means of egress when a primary evacuation chokepoint is compromised.

Does the community support the construction of the proposed emergency access route (EAR)?

In 2021, a household survey was conducted for the fire protection district and one of the questions asked was, 'Would you support the construction of a new emergency evacuation road?'. Those results are depicted below:

What we might do in the future: Build an emergency road!



What would the proposed emergency access route (EAR) be used for?

The proposed emergency access route would only be utilized for official purposes only. This would include periodic training for fire and law enforcement, firefighting operations, and community and first responder ingress/egress.

During the community meeting I heard that the proposed emergency access route (EAR) would primarily be used for other fire departments to enter Genesee. Is that true?

The proposed emergency access route (EAR) is a tool, and it would be utilized on a case-by-case basis. There are an infinite number of emergency scenarios that would each dictate a unique strategy and a set of corresponding tactics but for the sake of illustration the following are three examples of how the EAR might be utilized during a wildfire:

- 1) A wildfire approaching from the south or southwest – residents would be evacuated to the north and the EAR would be utilized for firefighting operations both in terms of ingress/egress but also potentially as a firebreak. Law enforcement may elect to use one or two lanes on Genesee Ridge and Genesee Trail and, if needed, they may shutdown I-70 to allow for the high volume of vehicles entering the interstate
- 2) A wildfire approaching from the west or east– A fire starting at the midpoint of the district and traveling either east or west would likely cut the district in half in terms of fire operations and

evacuation. As such, residents would evacuate both to the north and to the south on the EAR and first responders would enter both from the north and the south

- 3) A wildfire approaching from the west, northwest, north, northeast or east, and located in the upper portion of the district – residents would evacuate to the south on the proposed EAR. First responders would enter the community from the north

Again, there are numerous scenarios but, when possible, residents would be routed to the north. The reason for this is that during high-stress, low visibility situations following a familiar path is safer and much more likely to get residents out of harm's way in the most efficient manner.

Why not just shelter in place? I've mitigated around my home

Based on our analysis, there are currently no areas within the GFPD that could serve as a fully safe designated area for wildfire evacuation emergencies under 10-20 mph and >20 mph winds due to steep slopes and heavy fuel loads. (2022 CWPP 3F, page 59). Survivability is highly uncertain if you elect to shelter in place or delay your evacuation.

Where can I find more information about the CWPP?

<https://geneseefpd.colorado.gov/community-wildfire-protection-plan>

Where can I find more information about preparing for a wildfire?

<https://geneseefpd.colorado.gov/wildfire-info>

Where can I find more information about the Emergency Access Route (EAR)?

<https://geneseefpd.colorado.gov/emergency-access-route-info>

How do I get more involved with wildfire preparedness?

<https://geneseefpd.colorado.gov/ambassador-hub>