

Fire Aside Sole Source Documentation

January 8, 2025

Based on research, Fire Aside is the only software solution designed exclusively for defensible space and home hardening evaluations by fire agencies with a full spectrum of services and integrations. Fire Aside is the only available product that comprehensively includes all needs for community wildfire mitigation program in one package, including:

- A bi-lingual, accessible resident portal for Defensible Space Inspections that was designed to help users understand their defensible space and home hardening status, priorities, and mitigation options while providing an easy 'check-off' feature to track progress of SIZ evaluation, mitigation efforts, etc.
- Ability to track and maintain situational awareness of completed, on-going, and planned fuel mitigation work (defensible space) and building resilience (home hardening) on a parcel level for private properties.
- Reports are customized with content specific to that land parcel.
- Reporting capability is customized to include content specific to ordinances and messaging for our specific jurisdiction.
- The software allows Inspectors to assess the findings and mitigation progress for a specific site.
- Ability to notify residents of upcoming chipping events via integration with ChipperDay.
- Automation of resident notifications including email and US Mail.
- Optional integration with ArcGIS on the backend.
- Option for resident to request follow up evaluations and/or allow staff to schedule bulk evaluations or specific inspections with residents.
- Direct integration with CalFIRE for nightly updates to the state database.
- Integration with resident financial assistance portal to allow residents to become aware of, apply for and customize any resident grant programs if available.
- Integration with 3rd party wildfire modeling services including Vibrant Planet, Pyrologix, and Willow Labs.
- Ongoing compliance with the SOC II Type 2 standards.

Fire Aside has developed a stable and robust database and continues to support thousands of individual evaluations each week with 100% product availability and redundancy features to avoid data loss. The Fire Aside software product has been evaluated and awarded via a sole source justification in several western US jurisdictions, including Truckee, Marin County, City of Berkeley, City of Boulder, City of Austin and others. Locally, Fire Aside is already used by Nevada City and Nevada County Fire Safe.

Benefits

This purchase/contract will help our community achieve its performance measure of reducing the number of buildings exposed to wildfire risk.

Specifically, this software will allow us to:

- Reduce the likelihood of structure ignition.
- Reduce the potential for structure-to-structure ignition or conflagration.
- Mitigate the threat of wildfire to ensure resilient landscapes.
- Cultivate fire adapted communities that are informed, empowered, and prepared for wildfire.