



**NEVADA  
COUNTY**  
CALIFORNIA

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**BOARD AGENDA MEMO**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 22, 2023

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Ariel Lovett, CEO Project Administrator  
Jeffrey Thorsby, BOS Senior Management Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Climate Resilience Objective Presentation Update

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Accept the presentation and provide feedback and direction on budget allocation proposal.

**FUNDING:** No direct action will be taken at the meeting. However, staff recommends a future budget amendment allocating \$200,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (via Fund 1111) for the purposes of funding resilience projects in promotion of the Climate Resilience Objective with the below project scope.

**BACKGROUND:** On January 27, 2023, at the Nevada County Board of Supervisors' Annual Workshop, the Board provided direction to staff to include Climate Resilience as a 2023 Board Priority Objective. Specifically, the Board directed staff to safeguard Nevada County's economic durability, environmental integrity, and public health and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating changing climate conditions in a way that reflects our rural quality of life. Additionally, at the workshop, the Board provided general direction to staff to allocate up to \$200,000 for work associated and special projects supporting and promoting Climate Resilience. Subsequently on February 7, 2023, the Board adopted its annual priority objectives and for the development of the FY2023-24 budget that included Climate Resilience via Resolution 23-068.

The County Executive Office and the Office of the Board of Supervisors has partnered to co-manage the new objective for its first year, following precedent with the County Executive Office incubating the Board's objective on Recreation and Economic Development objectives, both of which are now managed by the Community Development Agency. In addition, the Chair of the Board of Supervisors formed the *Ad Hoc* Climate Resilience Subcommittee that includes District I Supervisor Heidi Hall and District V Supervisor Hardy Bullock to provide policy guidance to staff for year one.

In addition, staff have also formed an internal Core Workgroup that is co-managed by CEO Project Administrator Ariel Lovett, and Board of Supervisors Sr. Management Analyst Jeffrey Thorsby. In addition to the Core Workgroup, the County has also established an

internal county team that provides consultation, input and works to ensure other county projects related to climate resilience are tracked and incorporated under the Objective's 5 Initiatives:

1. Protect and Harden Critical Infrastructure
2. Enhance carbon storage and sequestration on natural and working lands.
3. Enhance collaboration to increase community capacity and achieve climate goals.
4. Pursue funding and advocacy opportunities.
5. Align strategies in coordinated strategic plan.

For a complete list of the Core Workgroup and Objective Members, please refer to the Climate Resilience Objective Charter attached hereto. In addition, staff will provide a general update on each initiative during the presentation, but further information can be found in the BOS Annual Objectives Quarter 2 Report.

Furthermore, after six months of initial planning, staff is seeking feedback and direction from the Board of Supervisors on its recommendation for general use/focus areas for allocation of \$200,000. Once feedback and direction are provided, county staff will prepare and bring back a budget amendment allocating \$200,00 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for Climate Resilience projects. Please note the below is an estimate only. Contracts over \$50,000 will be brought to Board. Staff are actively seeking grant funding for all items. In the event that grant funding is accessible, staff may request reallocate funding.

Current recommendations for the Climate Resilience Budget allocation for the Board's consideration include the following:

<b>Climate Resilience Objective Budget Proposal Overview</b>		
Climate Resilience Plan Development	\$	65,000
Community Coordination & Capacity	\$	40,000
Professional services - Initiative Implementation	\$	40,000
Civic Spark Fellowship	\$	39,500
Education & Advocacy	\$	10,000
Annual Sustainability Summit	\$	5,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>200,000</b>

Item Initiated: Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst  
Approved: Martin Polt  
Submittal Date: August 8, 2023