

Information and General Services Department

Office of Emergency Services

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2023

<u>TO</u>: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency Services

SUBJECT: Informational presentation from the California Disaster Airlift

Response Team (CalDART) regarding their statewide network of local

teams and resources in response to emergency events.

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the presentation from CalDART representatives.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND: The current Nevada County Board Objective for Emergency Preparedness is to "Lead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire. Do this by focusing on improving countywide evacuation routes and safety, continuing the strengthen early alert and critical communication systems, partnering closely with residents and community partners in emergency preparedness, defensible space, home hardening, green waste disposal, and fire-safe land stewardship." As mentioned in this objective, community and regional partnerships are vital to our success when responding to emergency events. The California Disaster Airlift Response Team (CalDART) is a statewide resource when responding to these incidents and is another tool in our toolbox when supporting the community.

CalDART is an organization made up of statewide Disaster Airlift Response Teams (DARTs) to improve California disaster resilience in the face of wildfires, earthquakes, floods, mudslides, and other emergency events which may impair regional surface transportation. DARTs utilize a common operating model and are located at airports around the state, including Nevada County's local airport. DARTs provide logistical options for impacted communities, helping emergency managers, organizations, and citizens who are trying to move people or supplies into or out of a disaster zone. CalDART helps make the state safer by connecting regional pilots as one more way to engage in their love of flying, and helps communities maintain their awareness of how they can utilize their local airport to their direct benefit during a disaster.

In Nevada County this is a unique resource that adds increased flexibility when responding to any type of emergency event. Local area pilots as well as statewide pilots can participate in this program. CalDART allows general aviation relief efforts to spool up faster after the occurrence of an event, allows local communities to have better access to available volunteer air transportation services, and allows a wider variety of relief operations to be conducted; all in a safer, managed operating environment.

Item Initiated & Approved by: Craig Griesbach, Director of Emergency Services