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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 8, 2023

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency Services

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Contract between the County of Nevada and Fire Safe Council of Nevada County for CAL FIRE 5GG20116, “South County Shaded Fuel Break” amending Exhibit D Contractor/Rental Not to Exceed rates to permit the Hand Crew Module to be billable as individual module components.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** The CAL FIRE California Climate Investments Wildfire Prevention Grant Program funds in the amount of \$952,610 were received in the Office of Emergency Services budget on December 14, 2021 when County of Nevada Board of Supervisors authorized the Director of Emergency Services to accept these funds in Resolution No. 21-532. This project includes \$85,620 in in-kind match to be provided by project partner Fire Safe Council of Nevada County. There is no additional impact on the General Fund.

**BACKGROUND:** The South County Shaded Fuel Break (Project) is identified as a top priority in the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Plan (Unit Plan). The Project, adjacent to Alta Sierra and southeast of Grass Valley and Nevada City, and north of the community of Lake of the Pines, is a 150 ft wide roadway shaded fuel break along two critical access points to State Highway 49, which is considered by the Circulation Element of the Nevada County General Plan to be a principal artery for evacuation. The fuel break runs east-west on Lodestar Road to Buck Mountain between state Highway 49 and Dog Bar Road along 9 miles encompassing 339 acres. Treatment involves thinning vegetation and removing ladder fuels and includes 226 private parcels, whose total improvement values equate to \$169,369,520.

This project is funded by a CAL FIRE grant with in-kind match funds provided by project partner Fire Safe Council of Nevada County. On December 14, 2021 the County of Nevada Board of Supervisors authorized the Director of Emergency Services to accept CAL FIRE California Climate Investments Wildfire Prevention funds for the 5GG20116 grant, “South County Shaded Fuel Break” in Resolution No. 21-532.

On September 27, 2022 the Board subsequently approved the contract between the County of Nevada and the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County for the 5GG20116 grant, “South County Shaded Fuel

Break” for the term of September 27, 2022 through December 31, 2024 for the maximum amount of \$901,578 with a match requirement of \$85,620 through Resolution 22-518.

Both parties desire to amend the contract Exhibit D for the South County Shaded Fuel Break Project to allow for the “Hand Crew Module” to be changed from a Not to Exceed (NTE) of \$200 per hour (4-person crew, tools, transport) to be billable as individual module components for the positions of Ground Crew Supervisor (NTE \$60 per hour) and Ground Crew (NTE \$35 per hour) with a maximum of 1 (one) Crew Supervisor per 3 (three) Ground Crew.

The South County Shaded Fuel Break Project is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. The Cap-and-Trade program also creates a financial incentive for industries to invest in clean technologies and develop innovative ways to reduce pollution. California Climate Investments projects include affordable housing, renewable energy, public transportation, zero-emission vehicles, environmental restoration, more sustainable agriculture, recycling, and much more. At least 35 percent of these investments are located within and benefiting residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households across California. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website at: [www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov](http://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov)

**Item Initiated by:** Alex Keeble-Toll, Senior Administrative Analyst

**Approved by:** Craig Griesbach, Director, OES