



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617
(530) 265-1222 FAX (530) 265-9851 <http://mynevadacounty.com>

Steven L. DeCamp
Community Development Agency Director

Brian Foss
Planning Director

**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo**

MEETING DATE: July 11, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Brian Foss, Planning Director**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving a contract with Ascent Environmental, Inc. for the preparation of an Initial Study and subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Lake Van Norden Spillway project in Soda Springs in the maximum amount of \$263,490, authorizing the County to accept the customer deposit and directing the Auditor-Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Planning Department budget

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Resolution establishing a contract with Ascent Environmental, Inc. for the preparation of a CEQA environmental document for the Lake Van Norden Spillway project and amending the FY 2017/2018 Planning Department budget.

FUNDING: The contract amount is paid by the project applicant and impacts the 2017/2018 Planning Department budget but is not a cost to the County. County costs to administer the environmental document are included in the 10 percent administrative fee charged to the applicant.

ATTACHMENT: Resolution with Exhibit A: Personal Services Contract (Scope of Services and Schedule of Compensation)

BACKGROUND: In July of 2016 the Tahoe Donner Land Trust submitted an application to notch the Van Norden dam spillway on property located at 10187 Soda Springs Road in Soda Springs. The proposal could have an effect on the environment and involves the potential for seasonally increased, event-driven downstream flows, changes in habitat values within Lake Van Norden, impacts to upstream and downstream areas

and may change the visual character and quality of the site. An Initial Study will need be prepared to determine if an Environmental Impact Report or Mitigated Negative Declaration is required for the project. Given the technical expertise's required to analyze the water and habitat issues staff is recommending hiring a consultant to review the technical studies that have been completed by the applicant and prepare the proper CEQA environmental document.

On September 16, 2016, Requests for Proposal were sent to eight consultants. Responses were received from three of those firms. Based on the review of those responses received, the Planning Department proposes to hire Ascent Environmental, Inc., to perform the work.

The applicant, who also reviewed the three proposals, has agreed with the Planning Department's selection and will fund the work requested by this contract. The scope of work is attached to this contract.

Approved by: Brian Foss, Planning Director