



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

MEETING DATE: October 8, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency Services

SUBJECT: Resolution approving acceptance of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program funds for the 1721-RFFCP grant in the amount of \$229,106.00 with match in the amount of \$175,505.00 for the period September 20, 2024 through October 31, 2027 and retroactively authorizing the Director of Office of Emergency Services to execute the grant agreement and all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant on behalf of the County of Nevada.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program funds in the amount of \$229,106.00 will be received in the Office of Emergency Services budget. These funds will be paired with \$173,073 in ARPA Grant Support and Match funds reviewed and approved by MIM on December 18, 2023 and \$2,432 in funds from the OES Department Budget for a total of \$175,505.00 in match. The total amount of \$404,611.00 will be used to fund a fully loaded limited term Forest Management Advisor staff position for the term of two-years.

BACKGROUND: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy through the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) distributes funding to local organizations to promote robust, collaborative forest health partnerships. The Office of Emergency Services was invited by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to submit a request under the RFFCP to build local capacity to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration work in Nevada County.

The Office of Emergency Services is uniquely positioned to do this work because of the extensive community engagement, hazard analysis, and multi-benefit project area prioritization that has been undertaken over the last 18 months as part of the update to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

OES worked with Sierra Nevada Conservancy staff between October 2023 and July 2024 to scope and submit a funding request to support the development and implementation of a pipeline of projects identified through the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

process.

Specifically, OES proposed to hire a Nevada County Forest Management Advisor who is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) for a two-year limited term to ensure that the County and our collaborative coalition have the capacity to carry out the pipeline of projects identified through the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update using a coordinated and strategic approach. The RFFCP request specifically outlines objectives for making this position sustainable beyond two-years.

The Office of Emergency Services requested permission to apply for the 1721-RFFCP Grant on August 6, 2024 (Res. 24-428) and the grant was subsequently approved by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

The RFFCP is a California Natural Resources Agency program administered by the Department of Conservation and is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities.

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

Approved by: Craig Griesbach, Director, OES