



Information and General Services Department

Office of Emergency Services

10014 N. Bloomfield Road
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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: July 12, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Steve Monaghan, Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: Resolution accepting League Of California Community Foundations Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Funds from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation in the amount of \$100,000 to implement a Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program in support of Nevada County Firewise communities, authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute the grant agreement and directing the Auditor Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Office Of Emergency Services Budget (4/5 affirmative vote required)

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution.

FUNDING: The revenue received from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation and the program expenditures will go through the FY 22/23 Office of Emergency Services Budget. A budget amendment has been included for approval.

BACKGROUND: Nevada County has an overabundance of downed trees and vegetation as a result of the recent severe winter storm which began the morning of December 27th 2021. This abnormally high level of hazardous vegetation makes Nevada County vulnerable to wildfire during this year's fire season.

In response to the increasing threat of wildfire in recent years many Nevada County residents have chosen to organize their communities into California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE) approved, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recognized Firewise communities. Currently there are 68 CAL FIRE approved, NFPA recognized Firewise communities in Nevada County helping residents within their geographic areas organize and take action to reduce the threat of wildfire to their homes. Becoming recognized by the NFPA requires communities to coordinate with the Nevada County Fire Safe Council to obtain a risk assessment every 5 years, maintain a three-year community action plan, invest annually in Firewise projects and have their application documents reviewed and approved by CAL FIRE.



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In recognition of the immense community mobilization potential through Firewise communities the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services built the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program focused on providing direct support to Firewise communities as they work to address the large amount of hazardous vegetation left by the December 27th 2021 snow storms.

On April 8th, 2022, the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation in collaboration with the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services applied to the California League of Community Foundations, Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund for \$100,000 to implement the equity-focused Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program. On June 8th 2022, the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation received the notice of intent to award the maximum grant amount of \$100,000.

If acceptance of these funds is approved the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program will make twenty-six grants of thirty-six hundred dollars each available for projects that increase defensible space around homes, removal of hazardous vegetation from private property, or clear evacuation routes on private roadways this summer.

Nevada County Office of Emergency Services is also bringing a separate item before the Nevada County Board of Supervisors July 12, 2022, requesting approval to enter into a contract with Sierra Business Council to administer the micro-grant program on behalf of County of Nevada. Sierra Business Council has extensive experience implementing similar grant programs such as the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant Program (approved by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors on February 22nd, 2022, Resolution 22-0181) and will ensure the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program is implemented quickly and efficiently with an anticipated application period opening in mid-July 2022.

Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program is a first of its kind program in Nevada County and if approved will strengthen the bond between the County of Nevada and local Firewise communities as they organize to address the threat of wildfire and prepare for the future.

Item Initiated by: Josh White

Approved by: Steve Monaghan