



# RESOLUTION No. 22-392

## OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

**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)**

WHEREAS, Priority A of the County of Nevada Board of Supervisors is to reduce the loss of life during a wildfire by improving evacuation routes and early warning systems, creating more defensible space around private properties and driveways, building a network of maintained fuel breaks, engaging residents in emergency preparedness and fire-safe stewardship, and enhancing critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors proclaimed a local emergency on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (Resolution 21-541), in response to an intensive winter snow-storm which resulted in an excessive amount of down trees and vegetation making Nevada County vulnerable to wildfire during fire season; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Services is responsible for preparing the community and mitigating wildfire hazards in the County; and

WHEREAS, the League of California Community Foundations makes grants available to support the relief, recovery and resilience from natural hazard events in communities across the state of California through their Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Services built an equity-focused Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program to help California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE) approved, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recognized Firewise communities in Nevada County reduce wildfire risk; and

WHEREAS, the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation was notified by the League of California Community Foundations on June 8, 2022, of the notice of intent to award the maximum grant amount of \$100,000 in Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience funds to implement the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program in collaboration with the County of Nevada Office of Emergency Services in consultation with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County has the third highest number of NFPA recognized Firewise communities in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program will make micro-grants available directly to CAL FIRE approved, NFPA recognized Firewise communities within Nevada County to fund hazardous vegetation reduction projects; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services will oversee the implementation of the Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program and is bringing forth a resolution to the Board of Supervisors to contract with the Sierra Business Council to administer the grant program; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the micro-grants will be awarded in Eastern Nevada County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, that the Board of Supervisors hereby accepts \$100,000 of Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund funds from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation to implement a Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program in support of Nevada County Firewise communities and authorizes the Director of Emergency Services to execute the grant agreement (Attachment 1) in substantially the form attached hereto with the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation and directs the Auditor Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Office of Emergency Services budget as follows:

Increase:  
0101-20702-414-1000 / 462400 \$100,000  
0101-20702-414-1000 / 521520 \$100,000

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 12th day of July, 2022, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward Scofield, Dan Miller, Susan K. Hoek and Hardy Bullock.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

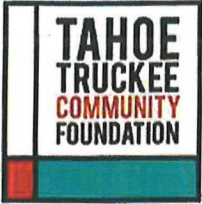
ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 

  
Susan K. Hoek, Chair

7/12/2022 cc: OES\*  
AC\*



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June 22, 2022

Steve Monaghan  
Emergency Services Director  
Nevada County  
Via email: [steve.monaghan@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:steve.monaghan@co.nevada.ca.us)

Dear Steve,

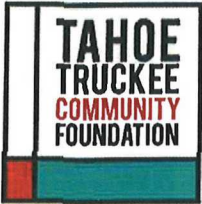
Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF) is proud to have been the lead community foundation member acting on behalf of Nevada County for the recent grant application process for disaster relief funding through the League of California Community Foundations.

The following page contains the pass through grant agreement for Nevada County Office of Emergency Services for this \$100,000 Disaster Relief funding being passed through TTCF from the League of California Community Foundations. We ask that the agreement be executed and a copy returned to us for our records.

Thank you,

Phyllis McConn  
Community Impact Officer





## GRANT AGREEMENT

### League of California Community Foundations Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund

Pass Through Grant from Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation to Nevada County

The undersigned hereby agrees to the following grant conditions:

1. To use the funds only for the designated purpose as described in the grant application and subsequent grant notification letter and not for any other purpose without prior written approval of the League of California Community Foundations (League) and Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF).
2. To notify the League and TTCF immediately of any change in (a) Grantee's legal or tax status, (b) Grantee's executive or key staff responsible for achieving the grant purposes, and (c) Grantee's ability to expend the grant for the intended purpose.
3. To allow the League and TTCF to include information about this grant in their periodic public reports, newsletter, news releases, social media postings, and on their websites. This includes the amount and purpose of the grant, any photographs you have provided, your logo or trademark, and other information and materials about your organization and its activities.
4. If/when publishing an acknowledgement of this grant, to refer to the fund from which it came as the **Disaster Relief, Recovery and Resilience Fund at the League of California Community Foundations**. Please also note **Supported by Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation**.
5. To submit any interim and/or final report(s) as requested by the League. Instructions and deadlines for submitting any required report(s) will be sent separately.

Name of Organization: Nevada County Office of Emergency Services

Project: Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program

Grant Amount: \$100,000

Signed Steve Monaghan  
Steve Monaghan (Jul 12, 2022 09:22 PDT)

Title Director of Emergency Services

Date 07/12/2022



*Is this grant request to support immediate relief/response to a specific active (or recent) natural hazard event?*

Yes

*What is the amount of the grant you are requesting?*

\$100,000

*What type of event will this grant be used to respond to?*

Extreme weather

*Has the event been declared a disaster by a government body? (check all that apply):*

Yes, County and State

*Briefly describe the event and its impact on your community to date in terms of economic impact, loss of life, destruction of property, displaced persons, etc.*

On December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the Nevada County Board of Supervisors along with the State of California proclaimed an emergency in response to an intense winter snowstorm. On the morning of December 27<sup>th</sup> 2021, this storm brought excessive amounts of snow to areas that typically receive little to no snow. The effects were devastating, as the storm brought down an extreme number of trees and limbs blocking roadways, destroying power poles, leaving thousands without power, and leaving a tremendous volume of down and dead vegetation throughout the County. Some areas were hit harder than others. This emergency drove approximately 1,000 of the Nevada County's residents to shelters in search of housing, warmth, or electrical power over a two-week period. In the aftermath of the storm hundreds of calls for assistance were received by 211 from residents reporting blocked roadways as well as damage to infrastructure and homes. Coordinated storm response and rescue efforts helped ensure that no lives were lost, and County and community partners responded with evacuation support, wood and propane assistance, food and water deliveries, sheltering resources, and more. Some of the hardest hit communities were Alta Sierra, Banner Mountain, and Cascade Shores. Over 270 miles of publicly maintained roads required clearing due to imminent fire and life safety hazards on primary ingress and egress routes. The County of Nevada and its local agencies have documented almost \$10 million in response and recovery costs, including an estimated \$5 million to clear downed trees from public roads and right of ways.

One of the lasting results from this storm event for Nevada County is the unusually high amount of hazardous vegetation which is quickly making the county extremely vulnerable to wildfire. Community concern and motivation is high. The storm debris crisis is visible throughout the County, and the desire for response has been seen in the record-breaking amounts of green waste being dropped off by residents during county sponsored free drop off events as well as reported by local Fire Departments including Cal Fire.

*Describe your community foundation's plans for using these funds.*

In response to the high levels of hazardous vegetation left by the December snowstorm, Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation plans to partner with the County of Nevada in consultation with the CA

Governor's Office of Emergency Services to provide a Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant Program. This program will be directed at supporting community action in response to storm related hazardous vegetation. Specifically, our grant program offers financial support to communities and homeowners to implement hazardous vegetation management including;

- Increased defensible space around homes
- Removal of hazardous vegetation from private property
- Clearing of evacuation routes on private roadways

This has been determined as a high priority for this community and the County and State Office of Emergency Services. While the County maintains public roadways, resources to support private land are scarce, and the need is urgent.

The Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant program would make grants of a total of 26 micro-grants of \$3,600 each available to existing National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certified Firewise communities located in Nevada County to implement projects immediately. Firewise communities will be encouraged to apply for a micro-grant to fund a project in their community to manage storm related vegetation, clean-up and debris processing. Project examples could include renting a chipper for community use, contracting for transportation of downed vegetation to processing sites, renting equipment or hiring a contractor to clear evacuation routes on private roadways.

There is currently little assistance or funding provided to private property owners who are struggling to remove hazardous vegetation and create defensible space around their homes. The Storm Debris Response Micro-Grant program would help fill the gap between local governments responsibility to clear right of ways and property owners' responsibility to address their parcels.

*How do you envision funds from this grant advancing equity and helping you reach the most vulnerable or underserved members in your community? How will you know if you are reaching them?*

Nevada County has one of the highest numbers of NFPA certified Firewise communities in California covering a majority of the county. Nevada County's Firewise communities are all-volunteer organizations without paid staff, dues collection or budget leaving them with little resources to defend their homes from wildfire. Providing a micro-grant program supporting Firewise communities would be a step toward empowering communities vulnerable to wildfire as a result of the December 27<sup>th</sup> snow-storm event.

This is an equity-focused program. Approximately 102,000 people in rural Nevada County live across 978 square miles of diverse and rugged rural lands in the Northern Sierra Nevada range. The overwhelming majority, 91%, of Nevada County has been determined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program to be either a high or very high fire hazard severity zone. The impacts of climate change, extreme fire and extreme weather-induced events, have a disproportionate impact on the elderly, individuals on a fixed or low income, residents without access to transportation, as well as those who are socially and physically isolated. Nearly one third (28.4%) of the Nevada County population is 65 years of age or older; 13.6% higher than the state average. Our grant program offers financial support to communities and homeowners to implement hazardous vegetation management including;

- Increased defensible space around homes
- Removal of hazardous vegetation from private property
- Clearing of evacuation routes on private roadways

Funding community efforts to accomplish these projects will reducing risk as well as promote empowerment and peace of mind.

Our proposed program will also specifically ensure that underserved communities are prioritized, using a scoring tool that will elevate applications from Firewise communities in underserved locations. The tool created uses data collected by the County of Nevada Department of Social Services aggregating the locations of CalWORKS, CalFRESH, Medi-Cal and other support service recipients into zip codes allowing for the prioritization of zip codes with the highest underserved populations.