



NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Alex Keeble-Toll – Office of Emergency Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to submit a grant renewal application to the California Fire Safe Council 2025 CAL FIRE County Coordinator Grant Program for the Nevada County Wildfire Coordinator in an amount not to exceed \$151,500 with no required match during the period of May 15, 2025 to July 31, 2026 and authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute 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 \$151,500 grant renewal request includes funding for County Coordinator Salary and Benefits for the grant period (May 15, 2025 – July 31, 2026), Contractual and Supplies costs to support wildfire mitigation outreach and engagement, and Indirect Costs at 12%. If awarded, grant funds would be received into the OES budget.

BACKGROUND: The Office of Emergency Services (OES) applied for the California Fire Safe Council County Coordinator Grant on September 30, 2021 and on November 15, 2021 was awarded the County Coordinator Grant (Grant #370779 CFSC) in the amount of \$175,000 (Resolution No. 21-531). On April 15, 2024 OES applied for a grant renewal, and on May 29, 2024 was awarded the County Coordinator Grant Renewal (Grant # 467704 CFSC) in the amount of \$186,076.80 (Resolution No. 24-198).

The objective of this Grant Program is to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups. The program provides counties with funding to hire a County Coordinator, whose roles are to 1) build a census of all active wildfire mitigation groups in their county, 2) analyze gaps in county-wide wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness and develop recommendations to fill these gaps, and 3) develop mechanisms to improve outreach and coordination efforts.

The funds were used to hire a County Coordinator to help advance the mission of OES, provide administration and facilitation support, lead public communication and stakeholder engagement, and increase collaboration and partnership.

Major accomplishments under the 2024 Grant #467704 CFSC included:

- Facilitating the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings and developing the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Collaborative.
- Hosting 26 stakeholder and collaboration events and attending 57 events during the grant period.
- Collaborating with the City of Nevada City to create Home Hardening educational materials to support their Home Hardening Demonstration Home Project. Providing outreach support to various projects such as Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1, Ponderosa Phase 1 Maintenance and Phase 2, and South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuel Reduction.
- Completing the Draft Nevada County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- Developing the Youth Emergency Preparedness Project.
- Coordinating and facilitating the first Nevada County Go-Bag Party event.

As a recipient of a County Coordinator Grant in the original round of funding, and the second round of funding, the County of Nevada was invited to submit a renewal application to the program for the period May 15, 2025 – July 31, 2026. Renewal of the Nevada County Wildfire Coordinator grant will support Nevada County in maintaining the momentum built under the original project, furthering county-wide wildfire mitigation initiatives, and advancing community resilience in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

Item Initiated by: AJ Zekanoski, Administrative Analyst I

Approved by: Alex Keeble-Toll, Director of Emergency Services