



COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: October 27, 2020
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Trisha Tillotson, Director of Public Works
SUBJECT: **Resolution to Approve Caltrans Maintenance Agreement for Bollards Within State Highway Right of Way on Route 20 Within the County of Nevada County – District IV**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached resolution approving a maintenance agreement with the State Department of Transportation for maintenance of bollards on Route 20.

FUNDING: Ongoing maintenance costs will be covered by various emergency responders in Nevada County. There is no impact to the General Fund and no budget amendment is needed.

BACKGROUND: In March of 2019, Nevada County on behalf of several fire agencies, applied for an encroachment permit to install two gates on Highway 20 at South Ponderosa Way and Mushroom Trail for emergency access only to improve the response time to these isolated areas by at least 30 minutes. After several discussions, appeals, and involving elected officials, Caltrans agreed to allow three removable bollards to be placed at each of these two emergency access points. As the jurisdictional governmental agency, the County is required to enter into a Maintenance Agreement in order to install the bollards. While on-going maintenance will be minimal, various emergency responders in Nevada County have agreed to assist the County as needed.

The two emergency access points will essentially serve the same area the Ponderosa West Project served where the Nevada County Board of Supervisors declared a local emergency in the area due to dangerous fire risk conditions. In addition, several communities within High and Very High fire severity zones could be served by the emergency access points including: Rough and Ready, Penn Valley, Lake Wildwood and the City of Grass Valley. A conservative population estimate would be around 30,000 people, that could be impacted by wildfire in the area of the proposed gates, including thousands of homes, numerous businesses, agricultural land, and critical infrastructure including the only solid waste transfer facility in western Nevada County.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Trisha Tillotson, Director of Public Works
Submittal Date: October 8, 2020
Revised Date: October 9, 2020