



RESOLUTION No. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AB2766 FUNDS FROM THE NORTHERN SIERRA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (NSAQMD) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000 FOR THE PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 28TH, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28TH, 2023 FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION EFFORTS INCLUDING THE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL, CHIPPING, AND ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WHICH REDUCE SMOKE IMPACTS TO THE COMMUNITY AS IT DISPOSES OF HIGH LEVELS OF DOWNED VEGETATION PRODUCED BY THE RECENT INTENSIVE WINTER STORM AND TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/22 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 30th, 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 the fast-approaching 2022 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 high cost of removal of this vegetation remains a significant barrier for fuels reduction for many property owners; and

WHEREAS, residents may choose to dispose of their green waste by burning the material; and

WHEREAS, while burn piles may provide a cost-effective solution for processing this material, it is not an ideal means of disposal as coronavirus remains a respiratory pandemic, and COVID-19 disproportionately affects vulnerable populations with existing comorbidities; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2022, the NSAQMD held a regular board meeting and consider expending AB2766 funds; and

WHEREAS, AB2766 funds are derived from DMV vehicle license surcharges and in large jurisdictions are utilized for equipment and activities which reduce air pollution from vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Air District policy provides rural air districts the flexibility to assess program needs and the overall air quality benefits of proposed projects and to allocate AB2766 DMV surcharges accordingly; and

WHEREAS, NSAQMD during their regular board meeting on February 28th, 2022, approved the transfer of AB 2766 funding to Nevada County for alternatives to pile burning; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County provides hazardous vegetation removal alternatives to pile burning in partnership with and through support to the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County for green waste disposal, chipping, and hazardous fuels removal for residents with Access and Functional Needs; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the funding will be allocated to 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 \$150,000 of AB 2766 funds from NSAQMD for wildfire mitigation efforts including the Green Waste Disposal, Chipping, and Access and Functional Needs Assistance Programs which reduce smoke impacts to the community as it disposes of high levels of downed vegetation produced by the recent intensive winter storm, and authorizes the Chair of the Board to execute Agreement No. 2021-10 with NSAQMD, and directs the Auditor Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 21/22 Office of Emergency Services budget as follows:

Increase:

0101-20702-414-1000 / 449000 \$150,000

0101-20702-414-1000 / 522090 \$150,000