



Information and General Services Department

Office of Emergency Services Information Systems

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: April 13, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Steve Monaghan**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the contract between the County of Nevada and Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, pertaining to free residential green waste disposal for wildfire mitigation, in the total amount of \$125,113.26, for the period April 13, 2021 through July 16, 2021, authorizing the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the contract, and amending the FY20/21 Office of Emergency Services Budget by \$100,000 (requires 4/5 affirmative vote)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the contract

FUNDING: Funds for the 2021 Free Residential Green Waste Disposal program are currently allocated in the Office of Emergency Services budget and are derived from a combination of General Funds and Pacific Gas & Electric settlement funds. A budget amendment has been included for approval to allocate the settlement funds.

BACKGROUND: The state of California has seen an escalation in wildfire size, destructiveness, and frequency over the past several years. Of the top ten largest wildfires on record in the state, five of them occurred in 2020. With fires increasing in scale and harmfulness, the urgency to mitigate the threat of wildfire is critical.

Residents have referenced the high cost of green waste disposal as an economic barrier for accomplishing the development of defensible space. The Board of Supervisors for the past two years has invested funds in free residential green waste disposal programming to offer financial relief to residents developing defensible space around their homes and roadways. This programming has been widely promoted and is highly popular. In 2019, 550 tons of green waste were removed, and more than 5,000 tons were disposed of the following year.

This program offers assistance to residents seeking to aggressively mitigate the threat of wildfire on their properties. Free residential green waste disposal, utilized in tandem with other methods and programs such as residential debris burning, prescribed fire, the Fire Safe Council’s Chipping Program, composting, and grants to help private property owners treat their land, helps achieve the Board of Supervisors’ and the Office of Emergency Services’ shared goal to reduce the threat of wildfire in the county.

Fire Safe Council will be responsible for coordinating and executing free residential green waste disposal events in Grass Valley on May 21-24 and June 11-14, and in Truckee on May 14, June 4, and June 25. Additionally, free mulch pick-up will be available in Grass Valley on May 28-29 and June 18-19.

A budget amendment has been included in the attached resolution to reflect this contract's impact on the Office of Emergency Services' budget.

Item Initiated by: Jenn Tamo

Approved by: Steve Monaghan

Submittal Date: March 29, 2021