

Information and General Services Department

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE:December 6, 2022TO:Board of SupervisorsFROM:Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency ServicesSUBJECT:Resolution retroactively authorizing the Nevada County Office
of Emergency Services to submit a grant application to the
Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire Recovery and Forest
Resilience Grant Program in the total amount of \$750,000 and
authorizing the Director of Office of Emergency Services to
execute all additional documents required to fulfill the
requirements of the grant on behalf of the County of Nevada

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: Adopt the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: If awarded the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Grant Program funds in the amount of \$750,000 will be received in the Office of Emergency Services budget. These funds will be used to satisfy the required one-to-one match associated with the FY23 Earmark Request (Congressionally Directed Spending) that OES was directed to submit for maintenance of the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Phase 1 Shaded Fuel Break. The total project cost is \$1,500,000. A budget amendment is not required at this time and there is no additional impact on the General Fund.

BACKGROUND: The Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Phase 1 Shaded Fuel Break Project was identified as a priority wildfire mitigation action by the CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Strategic Plan and the Nevada County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. CAL FIRE funded the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Phase 1 Shaded Fuel Break Project, and this work was completed on March 15, 2022. Shaded fuel breaks must receive maintenance actions every two to three years or within five years all mitigation benefit is lost.

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Grant Program includes maintenance of fuel breaks as an implementation project category. This grant opportunity is thus well aligned with the proposed project to conduct maintenance actions on the 1,200-acre Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Phase 1 Shaded Fuel Break Project area. Furthermore, because the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency, these funds can be used to satisfy the one-to-one local (non-federal) match that is a requirement

of Earmark Requests.

The Office of Emergency Services submitted a Concept Proposal to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Grant Program on July 29, 2022. Sierra Nevada Conservancy subsequently requested that a full proposal be submitted for consideration. The Office of Emergency Services requested and received approval from the CEO's Office to submit a full proposal on October 28, 2022. Sierra Nevada Conservancy anticipates notifying applicants of award status March 2023.

If awarded, acceptance of this grant will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval per County Policy.

Item Initiated by:Alex Keeble-Toll, Senior Administrative Analyst, OESApproved by:Craig Griesbach, Director, OES