

Information and General Services Department

Office of Emergency Services

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: March 14, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency Services

SUBJECT: Resolution approving acceptance of the FEMA Hazard

Mitigation Grant Program Funds for the HMGP FM-5380-335-03R Ponderosa West Grass Valley and South County Fuels Reduction Phase 1 in the amount of \$256,040 for use during the

period January 13, 2023 through March 13, 2024 and

authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute the grant agreement and all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant on behalf of the County of Nevada

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution.

<u>FUNDING</u>: The \$256,040 in grant funds associated with HMGP FM-5380-335-03R will be received into the Office of Emergency Services budget. This grant requires a 25% local match (\$80,012.50) which will be satisfied by General Fund allocated to the Office of Emergency Services budget for grant-funded project needs. A budget amendment will be included during the contract award process for grant execution.

BACKGROUND: The County of Nevada has a severe and present danger from wildfire presenting a threat to public health and safety and the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") released Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding to reduce their losses from natural hazards.

The Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone has been a priority project identified in the current Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2016 CWPP), the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), and the CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Place Unit (NEU) Strategic Plan and the South County Shaded Fuel Break has been identified as priority by CAL FIRE in the NEU Strategic Plan.

On January 27, 2020, the Office of Emergency Services (OES), to support mitigation of the potential impact of wildfire on public health and safety submitted a grant proposal to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. FEMA awarded funds for this project on January 13, 2023 through the grant HMGP FM-5380-335-03R.

OES subsequently submitted additional independent grant proposals for the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Project and the South County Shaded Fuel Break Project with the intent of securing funding to implement these important projects as soon as possible. Both projects were subsequently partially funded via other grants. Specifically, the South County Shaded Fuel Break Project was funded by CAL FIRE on September 8, 2021 (Resolution No. 21-532) and the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Project was funded by USDA, United States Forest Service (USFS), Pacific Southwest Region, Fire and Aviation Management on September 4, 2022 (Resolution No. 22-519).

As such, OES will work with FEMA HMGP staff to adjust the originally proposed scope of work as needed to leverage and extend the funded work that is already underway for these important projects using the funds now available through the grant HMGP FM-5380-335-03R. This grant requires a 25% local match (\$80,012.50) which will be satisfied by General Fund allocated to the Office of Emergency Services budget for grant-funded project needs. If possible, the local match will be provided by the already awarded CAL FIRE grant that is funding the South County Shaded Fuel Break Project, however, project timelines and other FEMA stipulations associated with provision of match may make this untenable.

Item Initiated by: Alex Keeble-Toll, Senior Analyst, OES

Approved by: Craig Griesbach, Director, OES