



Information and General Services Department

Office of Emergency Services

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2018

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Steve Monaghan – IGS-Emergency Services**

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Office of Emergency Services Program Manager to submit a grant application to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire Prevention Program, to fund the Nevada County Hazardous Vegetation Removal Equipment Project in the total amount of \$90,000 for the period July 16, 2018 through July 19, 2019.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution

FUNDING: Funding will be received into the Facilities Management budget when for the purchase of the equipment. There is a \$9,000 matching fund requirement that will be paid from the Facilities Management budget with savings from the decreased use of Cal Fire crews and equipment rentals to manage vegetation. There is no further impact on the General Fund.

BACKGROUND: On May 10, 2018, the California Department of Forestry and Fire (Cal Fire) announced the availability of local fire prevention grant funding through Cal Fire's Fire Prevention Program. This program provides funding for local projects that address the risk of wildfire and reduce wildfire potential.

Due to the rapid timeline of the grant application process Nevada County OES has drafted a Nevada County Hazardous Vegetation Removal Equipment Project based on identified needs from Facilities Management. It has been proposed that grant funds will focus on the procurement and implementation of a Skid Steer Brush Mulcher. A Skid Steer Brush Mulcher requires fewer personnel and less time to operate in comparison to traditional vegetation management operations. Faster vegetation management and mulching will add to our County's capabilities. A Skid Steer Brush Mulcher applies less ground pressure (than a tractor), and does not typically rut the soil, making this equipment ideal for environmentally-sensitive areas. These machines also process around existing vegetation without damaging keeper trees.

The County maintains roadways, critical facilities, and administrative buildings. This includes treatment plants, water supplies, areas near power lines, communication facilities, and community centers. The Skid Steer Brush Mulcher will be able to assist in vegetation management in these areas. Project equipment will support the reduction of hazardous vegetation, while promoting a healthy ecosystem.

Item Initiated by: John Gulserian

Approved by: Steve Monaghan