

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 3.5
(ID # 11243)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

FROM : FIRE DEPARTMENT:

SUBJECT: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Authorization to Apply for 2019-2020 California Climate Investments and Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Fire Prevention Grants Program and the Forest Health Program, each with a four (4) year performance period; All Districts; [\$91.7 million available]; 100% State Fund

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Riverside County Fire Department to Apply for the 2019-2020 California Climate Investments and Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Fire Prevention Grants Program and the Forest Health Program.

ACTION:

Shawn Newman
Shawn Newman, Chief Cal Fire Riverside County 11/12/2019

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Shawn Newman
On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Hewitt and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: November 19, 2019
xc: Fire

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By *[Signature]*
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% State Funds			Budget Adjustment: No	
			For Fiscal Year: 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: [CEO use]

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The California Climate Investments and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) budgeted up to \$91.7 million to CAL FIRE's Fire Prevention Grants Program and the Forest Health Program. Together, these programs improve resiliency of forested and forest-adjacent communities and upper watershed forests while achieving climate goals. The grant funding is available for projects that focus on supporting local efforts to remove dead and dying trees that pose a threat to public health and safety and for projects that reduce the wildfire threat to habitable structures within State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Funded activities include hazardous fuel reduction, fire planning, and fire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Qualifying projects and activities will help California cope with its extensive tree mortality crisis and provide benefits to habitable structures in the State Responsibility Area (SRA). Non-SRA lands may be included within project boundaries but project activities must provide an overall benefit to reduce the threat of wildfires to the greatest number of people, habitable structures, and SRA land area. Projects will be designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during project activities and over time through wildfire reduction. Matching funds are not required; however, priority is given to projects that contain matching funds and leverage other financial resources.

The department plans to apply for grant funding for a multifaceted program to address the high fire hazard caused by non-native insect infestation in the Riverside County mountain communities as well as potentially create fuelbreaks in areas of the county with the highest fire risk. The Project components will include survey and mapping of tree health and mortality, treatment of trees and forest fuels and other related forest restoration projects, and fuel modification activities.

If the Fire Department is awarded funding, we will seek acceptance of the award from the Board of Supervisors.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

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These funds are dedicated to protecting the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire related hazards in the unincorporated area.

Additional Fiscal Information

The Fire Prevention Grants Program does not require cost share match. The department will provide cost share through our approved budgeted departmental functions.

Contract History and Price Reasonableness

The department was awarded four Fire Prevention grants and one Forest Health Grants totaling \$5.6 million; which were accepted by the Board of Supervisors (items 3.20 and 3.21 on November 6, 2018, 3.18 on May, 7, 2019, and 3.13 and 3.14 on June 4, 2019), and these projects are currently being administered. The Fire Prevention Grant Program replaces the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund (SRAFPF) and Tree Mortality (TM) Grant Program previously funded by CAL FIRE. On April 2, 2015, the department was awarded \$296,000 in SRAFPF funding to reduce hazardous fuels in the Idyllwild/Pine Coves areas. The Board of Supervisors action on May 7, 2015 (3-57) authorized the acceptance of the grant and the terms of the grant were satisfied.


Diane Sinclair, Deputy Director-Fire Admin 11/12/2019