



# Board Agenda Item 63

DATE: August 5, 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBMITTED BY: Steven E. White, Director  
Department of Public Works and Planning

SUBJECT: Retroactive Grant Application and Revenue Agreement with the California Fire Safe Council

## RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1. Retroactively approve and authorize the Department of Public Works and Planning's previous submittal of a grant application to the California Fire Safe Council for 25 CALFIRE County Coordinator Grant Program funds, in the amount of \$117,600, to develop countywide collaboration and coordination between various wildfire mitigation groups;**
- 2. Retroactively approve and ratify the execution of a Revenue Agreement with the California Fire Safe Council for 25 CALFIRE County Coordinator Grant Program funds by the Director of the Department of Public Works and Planning to develop countywide collaboration and coordination between various wildfire mitigation groups, in the amount of \$117,600, effective May 23, 2025, through July 31, 2026; and**
- 3. Approve and authorize the Chairman to execute the Governing Body Resolution.**

Approval of the recommended actions would allow the Department of Public Works and Planning (Department) to receive California Fire Safe Council 25 CALFIRE County Coordinator Grant Program funds. The grant will fund a County Coordinator position to partner with representatives from wildfire mitigation groups, agencies, and community partners to build a coordinated, countywide mitigation strategy. This item pertains to locations in District 5.

## ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

There are no viable alternative actions. Should your Board not approve the recommended actions, the Department would not be eligible to fund a County Coordinator position.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Net County Cost associated with the recommended actions. The recommended revenue Agreement (Agreement) represents a grant award in the amount of \$117,600. The grant allocation does not require matching funds. Sufficient appropriations and estimated revenues were included in the Department's Org 5512 FY 2024-25 Adopted Budget and are included in the Department's Org 5512 FY 2025-26 Recommended Budget to offset costs associated with providing services.

## DISCUSSION:

The California Fire Safe Council provides CALFIRE County Coordinator grants to assist Counties with wildfire mitigation outreach and coordination. The objective of the County Coordinators Grant is to educate, encourage, and develop countywide collaboration and coordination amongst various wildfire mitigation groups. Eligible administrative costs relevant to countywide coordination efforts, including but not limited to the salary, support, and administrative costs for a designated County Coordinator.

There is a need to improve countywide wildfire mitigation, outreach, and coordination. The County received notification about the funding opportunity on April 4, 2025, with an application due date of April 25, 2025. On April 25, 2025, the Department submitted an on-line grant application to continue building and enhancing partnerships with wildfire mitigation groups, agencies, and community partners, contingent upon your Board's approval. On May 14, 2025, the California Fire Safe Council notified the Department that the County's grant application totaling \$117,600 was selected for funding but required execution of the Agreement as soon as possible to encumber grant funds.

Coordinated hazard tree removal projects with the Fire Safe Councils and the Sierra Resource Conservation District in the County of Fresno began in 2016, as a result of the bark beetle tree induced die-off. As the bark beetle tree die-off continued and escalated throughout the County, these wildfire mitigation groups provided services to the community that complement the County's overall goal to protect lives and property.

The Department proposes to provide the required services with current staff assigned to the Tree Mortality/Forest Health Program. In addition to building upon current partnerships with wildfire mitigation groups and developing a coordinated, countywide mitigation strategy, the Department proposes to continue to build on a countywide GIS mapping tool for the public to view current and future wildfire mitigation projects including the assessment of wildfire prevention plans.

The Agreement is effective May 23, 2025 through July 31, 2026. The Agreement contains a dispute resolution procedure requiring both parties to first seek resolution through mediation or arbitration of any dispute that may arise from the Agreement. In addition, the County and the State may terminate the Agreement upon providing the other party a 30-day written notice.

REFERENCE MATERIAL:

BAI #42, April 25, 2023

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

On file with Clerk - Agreement with California Fire Safe Council  
On file with Clerk - Governing Body Resolution

CAO ANALYST:

Maria Valencia