



**TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

Board Meeting Date: May 5, 2026

DATE: April 15, 2026

TO: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Brett Taylor, WUI Coordinator
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THROUGH: Richard J. Edwards, Fire Chief
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to ratify the Fire Chief’s acceptance of two grant awards issued by the Nevada Fire Chief’s Association (“NFCA”) which administers the Wildfire Risk Reduction Program, and funded through the IJJA Bureau of Land Management Nevada (NV) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program. Under this program, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District has received Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Silver Knolls Defensible Space Project for \$70,415 and Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Steamboat – Via Bianca Fuel Break Project for \$75,000 [no required match] (All Commission Districts). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

This item is to ratify the Fire Chief’s acceptance of two IJJA Bureau of Land Management Nevada (NV) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program grants issued through the Nevada Fire Chief’s Association – Wildfire Risk Reduction Program (WRRP). Under this program, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (“District”) has received Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Silver Knolls Defensible Space Project for \$70,415 and Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Steamboat – Via Bianca Fuel Break Project for \$75,000.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

BACKGROUND

The District applied for these two grants as part of a community-led initiative to reduce wildland fire risk. Via Bianca Homeowners Association and Silver Knolls Community Organization approached the District concerned about their wildland fire risk, and inquired about potential mitigations and available grant funds. 2026 is the second year of the WRRP through the Nevada Fire Chief’s Association. The program is intended to reach smaller-scale projects that are more impactful at the community level.

The Via Bianca-Steamboat project was identified in 2025 and the District was unsuccessful in securing grant funding for that project in its first application attempt. However, the District was successful in securing grant funding this year after strengthening the community support and reducing the cost per acre. The project aims to install a critical fuel break to the west of two exposed communities, Via Bianca Mobile Home Estates and Steamboat Mobile Home Estates. The District was successful in securing grant funding for the Silver Knolls Defensible Space project on its first attempt, assisted by the Silver Knolls Community Organization and its Firewise USA initiative. Community fuels reduction grants of this size are often too difficult for a small HOA to apply for and manage. The District's cooperation with both communities provides for all the grant management as well as a workforce for implementation. Both projects will be implemented by the District's Wildland Fuels Division staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of both projects will be the cost of the equipment used to implement them. Fuels reduction projects typically require some form of mechanized equipment to handle the brush, trees, etc., being removed. For these projects to be competitive and awarded at a reasonable cost per acre, the District will absorb the equipment costs. The fiscal impact from the Silver Knolls Defensible Space project is \$20,885.50. The fiscal impact from the Via Bianca-Steamboat Fuel Break project is \$34,908.05. These values are the billing rates of TMFPD-owned equipment at the expected use to accomplish project objectives. These are only projections and do not represent the actual cost to operate the equipment.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board ratify the Fire Chief's acceptance of two grant awards issued by the Nevada Fire Chiefs' Association ("NFCA"), which administers the Wildfire Risk Reduction Program, and is funded through the IJJA Bureau of Land Management, Nevada (NV) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program. Under this program, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District has received Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Silver Knolls Defensible Space Project for \$70,415 and Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Steamboat – Via Bianca Fuel Break Project for \$75,000 [no required match].

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion could be:

"I move to ratify the Fire Chief's acceptance of the following two grant awards issued by the Nevada Fire Chief's Association ("NFCA") which administers the Wildfire Risk Reduction Program, and funded through the IJJA Bureau of Land Management Nevada (NV) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program: (1) Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Silver Knolls Defensible Space Project for \$70,415 and (2) Grant Award #L24AC00738 – Steamboat – Via Bianca Fuel Break Project for \$75,000 [no required match]."

