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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Agenda Item: Presentation by Paula Stepp and the Middle Colorado Water Shed (MCWC)
Date: 03/19/24

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to allow time for Paula Stepp, Executive Director of the Middle Colorado Water Shed Council, to present an update on recent work that is being done by the MCWC. Among other projects, Paula and her team have been working to establish and build the Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative. Members from area fire agencies and local municipalities have formally come together under Paula's guidance to join the Wildfire Collaborative with the goal identifying regional areas of concern related to wildfire risk, identification of at-risk resources, pre and post fire best practices and policy, and fire mitigation efforts.

With the Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative MOU now in place, well over a dozen agencies have committed to supporting the need to work toward better fire resiliency in our region. While individual work by each agency continues, the collaborative holds the possibility of opening the door to funding opportunities that might not exist for single organizations trying to accomplish similar work.

Attached please find Paula's presentation materials as well as a copy of the Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative MOU.