



Date: July 20, 2022

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Title: **Clean-Up the Lake Donner Lake Monitoring Agreement**

Approved By: _____ Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action: Authorize the Town Manager to:

- A. Execute a contract with Clean-Up the Lake to complete Donner Lake Monitoring program in an amount not to exceed \$16,603 funded through CIP2314 Climate Partnerships; and
- B. Provide direction to staff regarding an educational art installation.

Discussion:

In June 2022 the Town was approached by the non-profit organization, Clean Up The Lake, Founder & Executive Director Colin West with a request to support a monitoring and clean-up program for Donner Lake.

In 2020 Clean Up The Lake completed it's first circumnavigated SCUBA clean-up of Donner Lake, pulling out 5,151.5 pounds of submerged litter. Two years later, Clean Up The Lake is completing a second monitoring project which consists of the following:

1. Scuba cleaning and monitoring: same zone identified as was completed in 2020 which consists of 0-25 foot zone cleaned across the 8-mile circumference. Goal is to remove any litter but also to gather and compare the data from two years ago to understand how it has changed.
2. Sampling hot spots at greater depth: This will aid in determining how deep the litter issues extends. Consists of a minimum of 3 hot spot dives at depths of both 75-100 feet and also 45-65 feet.
3. Expansion into data collection on invasive species and algal blooms: Gathering photographic, video and GPS data on the presence of invasive species.
4. Data Collection, Comparison and Analysis: Analyze all data to better understand how the submerged litter issue has changed since 2020 and identify any specific problem areas or the highest contributors to underwater waste.

A detailed scope of work is included as Attachment 1 for reference. The Town's Police Department, in partnership with the Fire District, typically conduct a dive and clean-up session annually. Due to staffing shortages and capacity with special events the Town staff has not been able to do a clean-up activity. Execution of this agreement with Clean Up The Lake would complete this annual effort that Town staff typically does as well as provide additional benefit of data collection and data points for future reference and use.

The total cost of the Donner Lake Monitoring project is \$113,651. To date, Clean Up the Lake has raised \$97,049.00 in grants and donations from the Martis Fund, Tahoe Mountain Resorts Foundation,

Truckee Tahoe Lumber Company, Parason Community Foundation, and Raley's. The contract with the Town for \$16,603 would provide the final funding needed to complete Donner Lake Monitoring project.

In addition, the Town could consider an educational art component in conjunction with the litter removal efforts in which an art piece is curated from the collected litter and displayed as an education piece as to how much litter is accumulated in the lake. Initial conversations with Clean Up The Lake indicate that an art component and installation could range anywhere from \$35,000-\$50,000. The idea of an art installation could be considered by the Town's Public Art Commission (PAC) for discussion and recommendation for Council. Staff asks for Council direction if this should be brought to the attention of the Public Art Commission of Truckee for consideration and recommendation. Should Council direct that this be brought forward to the PAC, the next available Art Commission meeting would be August 2, 2022. Staff would work with the PAC to assess the value of an art piece, the concept of an art piece and an appropriate installation location and return to Town Council with the Art Commission's recommendations. In addition, staff would discuss with PAC the options of using the same artist that was selected for the south shore art install or do a call for artists which would take significantly more time and the idea of brainstorming concepts for the art piece, The Art Commission has an appropriated budget of \$100,000 that could support this effort if moved forward.

Recommendation: The Council has clearly expressed and communicated the priority of protecting our natural resources and being good stewards to our land. In alignment with this goal, staff recommends that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract with Clean-Up the Lake to complete a Donner Lake Monitoring program in an amount not to exceed \$16,603 funded through CIP C2314 Climate Partnerships. In addition, staff asks for Council direction as to referring the idea of an art installation and art component to the PAC for consideration and recommendation to Council.

Priority:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure Investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Core Service

Fiscal Impact: CIP C2314 Climate Partnerships has \$20,000 budgeted for Donner Lake Partnerships. At the time of budget adoption, no specific partnerships were identified other than a Council direction to protect Donner Lake and collaborate with partner agencies to do so. Clean Up The Lake's Monitoring program is in alignment with the intent of this CIP and therefore, staff recommends funding this project with the approved CIP budget.

Public Communication: This staff report and agenda publication.

Attachments:

1. Clean Up The Lake Donner Lake Monitoring Program Scope of Work