

Date: August 13, 2024

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Author and title: James Blattler, Emergency Services Program Manager

Title: Letter of Support - Friends of the Truckee Library Community Resource Center

Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action: Authorize the Mayor, Town Manager, and Emergency Services Program Manager to co-sign a Letter of Support to the Friends of the Truckee Library for the inclusion of a community resource center within the new Library

Discussion:

The Friends of the Truckee Library (FOTL) are leading the effort to build a modern library to replace the existing 1975 facility to meet the needs of our local community. Currently, the project is in the planning and design phase, and the FOTL is interested in including a community resource center (CRC) within the new library. They are seeking letters of support from local agencies and organizations which will be used to help secure outside funding for the project, and input to ensure a CRC is designed based on best practices and community needs. The recommended letter of support from the Town is provided as Attachment 1.

CRCs are locations where community members can receive essential information and resources during emergencies, such as electricity for charging electrical devices during long-duration electrical outages, clean air during severe smoke events, a warming or cooling center during severe weather events, and a central hub to locate additional outside resources. CRCs are not emergency shelters, as they typically operate during daytime and potentially evening hours.

Co-locating CRCs with libraries is a common practice in the field of emergency services, most commonly due to the well-established safe, and familiar place for all community members. Currently, no publicly owned facility in Truckee has every foundational piece needed for a reliable CRC; permanently installed backup power, adequate HVAC System, current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements, and a dedicated space that lacks competition for other purposes.

Due to the community's need for a safe, accessible, clean-air, climate-controlled environment to receive essential resources and information, Town staff recommends providing a letter of support to the FOTL for a library-based community resource center.

Priority:

Enhanced Communication

Climate and Greenhouse Gas Reduction X Emergency and Wildfire Preparedness Housing Core Service

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact as this is a letter of support only.

Public Communication:

None beyond this staff report and a website posting regarding the proposed recommendation.

Attachments:

1. Letter of Support to Friends of the Truckee Library