



Date: March 11, 2025

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Author and title: Hilary Hobbs, Assistant to the Town Manager

Title: **Resolutions opposing local forest health, wildfire mitigation, social and economic impacts that will result from federal funding cuts**

Jen Callaway, Town Manager

Recommended Action:

- Adopt resolution 2025-15 opposing the local impacts to forest health and wildfire mitigation that will result from federal funding and staffing cuts to our public lands
- Adopt resolution 2025-16 opposing the local economic and social impacts that will result from federal funding cuts
- Provide direction to staff to draft a cover letter, to be approved by the Mayor and Vice Mayor, expressing the Town's opposition to federal staffing and funding cuts.

Discussion:

At the February 25, 2025 Town Council meeting Council provided direction to staff to agendize a discussion regarding a letter or resolution, to send to our federal representatives, expressing concern for and opposition to the local impacts that will result from federal staffing and funding cuts. Reductions in wildfire mitigation and fire response efforts within our National Forests, reduced levels of visitor services on public lands, paused review of the current Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resulting in the inability for local public agencies, such as the Town, to apply for any federal hazard mitigation grant programs, in addition to other funding cuts to local agencies, including the Town, are among these impacts. The Town, Airport District, Fire District, Homeowner's Associations such as Tahoe Donner, and property owners have proactively invested significant effort and funds into fire mitigation, readiness and preparedness, with mitigation work happening throughout our community and region. These efforts were envisioned to be a partnership with the work of the US Forest Service in mitigating fire risk on the federal lands that surround us, for we know that fire knows no boundaries. With the federal cuts and pauses, many of our local efforts will continue. However, the partnership with forest service lands is lost or at best, significantly minimized, and our community and region are at an increased risk of fire and threat given the nature of our communities being contiguous with Federal Forest Service land.

Staff have provided two resolutions for Town Council's consideration: Resolution 2025-15 opposing the local impacts to forest health and wildfire mitigation that will result from federal funding and staffing cuts to our public lands, and Resolution 2025-16 opposing the local economic and social impacts that will result from federal funding cuts (see Attachments 1 and 2). These topics have been separated into two resolutions because it is staff's understanding that additional local agencies will consider adopting an identical or similar wildfire mitigation resolution following Council's action to demonstrate regional alignment on this issue. Outreach has taken place to the following agencies:

- City of Grass Valley
- City of Nevada City
- City of Portola

- Town of Mammoth Lakes
- County of Nevada
- Placer County
- Northstar Community Services District
- North Tahoe Fire District
- Tahoe Forest Hospital District
- Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency
- Tahoe Truckee Unified School District
- Truckee Donner Public Utility District
- Truckee Donner Recreation and Park District
- Truckee Fire Protection District
- Truckee Sanitary District
- Truckee Tahoe Airport District

Next Steps:

Approved Council resolutions will be distributed to interested partner agencies for their consideration of adoption and/or support. Staff recommend that the Town collect all approved resolutions from partner agencies, compile them with a cover letter and coordinate an in-person delivery of these resolutions to Representative Kiely at his office in Rocklin. Staff proposes to extend the offer to delivery resolutions to Representative Kiley to partner agency leadership as a unified opportunity for our regional representatives to speak to Representative Kiely about the importance of these issues and answer any questions he may have. Should hand delivery of the resolutions not be possible, Town staff would compile the resolutions with a jointly signed cover letter and mail to Representative Kiley as a collective package.

Priority:

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

Fiscal Impact: None.

Public Communication: Agenda posting

Attachments:

- (1) Resolution 2025-15
- (2) Resolution 2025-16