

**MEMORANDUM  
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY SERVICES  
COUNTY OF PLACER**

**To: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**From: JAMES DURFEE / ALBERT RICHIE**

**Subject: 2007 CLEAN AIR GRANT APPLICATION**

**Date: MARCH 6, 2007**

**ACTION REQUESTED/RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Department of Facility Services to apply for grant funds in the amount of \$102,000 from the 2007 Clean Air Grant program administered by the Placer County Air Pollution Control District and appoint the Director of Facility Services as an agent of the County to execute necessary documents.

**BACKGROUND:** The annual Clean Air Grant Program is administered by the Placer County Air Pollution Control District to provide funding for projects that will help reduce emissions and assist the Six-County Sacramento Federal Ozone Non-attainment Area in achieving health-based ambient air quality standards. Historically, Facility Services burned vegetation as a standard management practice for the reduction of vegetation at County sites. However, over the past few years, changes in clean air regulations have forced the Department to find alternative methods of vegetation reduction to achieve fire safety and land management objectives while minimizing emissions.

With the addition of the 1,200 acre Hidden Falls Regional Park and other natural areas, the County's vegetation management responsibility has increased significantly in recent years. Facility Services plans to use a variety of fuel load reduction methods including mechanical and hand clearing as well as grazing and limited burning. The proposed Clean Air Grant Application in the amount of \$102,000 will fund the purchase of a masticator unit with a trailer to be utilized for the reduction of brush and maintenance clearing of established fuel breaks and access corridors. A masticator unit consists of a rotating horizontal drum unit with chipping teeth and safety shroud mounted on the front of a tracked, skid steer tractor. This equipment is effective in initial clearing of brush, stacked cut material and large scale periodic maintenance clearing.

The current phase of fire safety and access clearing at Hidden Falls Regional Park consists of clearing approximately 42 acres of shaded fuel breaks and access corridors. Additional shaded fuel breaks will be constructed as development progresses on the westerly portion of the park. In addition, the unit would be used for maintenance clearing of up to 100 acres of overgrown areas of various sites throughout the County. The masticator unit would supplement efforts already under way including volunteer and staff labor, California Conservation Corps hand crews, and the County Chipper Program utilizing Cal Fire (CDF) crews.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE:** Adoption of this Resolution by definition, does not constitute a project as defined by Section 15378(b)(4&5) of the Public Resource Code.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** If the application is approved by APCD, the equipment will be purchased with the Grant Funds. The Department anticipates minimal costs associated with the maintenance of this equipment.

JD:AR:JR:dh

ATTACHMENTS: RESOLUTION

cc: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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# Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of: **A RESOLUTION OF THE PLACER  
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZING  
THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY SERVICES TO  
APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS UNDER THE  
2007 CLEAN AIR GRANT PROGRAM**

Resol. No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ord No: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Attest:  
Clerk of said Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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**WHEREAS**, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District administers the Clean Air Grant Program and funds projects that will help reduce emissions and assist the Six-County Sacramento Federal Ozone Non-attainment Area in attaining health based ambient air quality standards.; and

**WHEREAS**, Placer County is responsible for an ongoing program of fuel load and vegetation management on natural areas of County property to reduce fire danger and maintain accesses (the Project); and

**WHEREAS**, Placer County seeks support from the Clean Air Grant Program to reduce emissions from burning vegetation by means of mechanical reduction, and

**WHEREAS**, if successful, the Placer County will enter into Contract with the Placer County Air Pollution Control Board;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Placer County Board of Supervisors hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an Application for funds under the Clean Air Grant Program; and
2. Finds that the reduced emissions that will result from this Project are not required by any local, state, and/or federal rule or regulation; and
3. Finds that the proposed Project is consistent with one or more of the qualifying categories specified in the Clean Air Grant Program Information and Guidelines; and
4. Appoints the Director of Department of Facility Services as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to Applications, agreements and payment requests which may be necessary for the completion of the Projects.