

RESOLUTION 2012 - 7746

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR  
THE SENIOR AND DISABLE DEFENSIBLE SPACE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, wildfire is recognized as one of the greatest natural disaster threats in Plumas County; and

**WHEREAS**, Plumas County historically averages the highest frequency of lightning fires in northern California, and wildfires have burned more than 290,000 acres in the last 10 years, much of it being catastrophic stand replacing events; and

**WHEREAS**, Plumas County's landbase consists of 71% public lands of which 65% is managed by federal land management agencies including the Plumas, Lassen, and Tahoe National Forests and the Lassen Volcanic National Park; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2001 thirty communities were initially identified and listed in the Federal Register of "Urban Wildland Interface Communities Within the Vicinity of Federal Lands That Are at High Risk From Wildfire; and subsequently the remainder of Plumas County communities have been identified as "communities -at-risk" from wildfire originating on public lands, and

**WHEREAS**, in 1998 the Plumas County Fire Safe Council originated and subsequently incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2002 with a mission to "Protect natural & manmade resources caused by wildfire through Firewise activities and pre-fire mitigation activities"; and

**WHEREAS**, California Public Resources Code 4291 provides that a person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining a mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times maintain defensible space of 100 feet from each side and from the front and rear of the structure; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005 the Plumas County Fire Safe Council prepared a collaboratively developed Community Wildfire Protection Plan that was approved and certified by the Board of Supervisors, County Fire Warden, and Butte Ranger Unit Chief for the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan identified numerous mitigation recommendations, including creating Defensible Space, to lessen wildfires impacts to citizens homes; and

**WHEREAS**, there is research documenting the effectiveness of Defensible Space in home survival during a wildfire and that it provides a safer environment for firefighters; and

**WHEREAS**, there are County residents who lack either the physical and or fiscal capacity to create their own Defensible Space; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of the funds for the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 through a local assistance grants program, for projects such as hazardous fuel reduction; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors recognizes the paramount importance of protecting citizens homes from catastrophic wildfire; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that it is widely recognized that with proper preparation and mitigation efforts that homes can survive the impacts of a wildfire without catastrophic results; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Supervisors further recognizes the efforts and success of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council in working with citizens, through its Senior and Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Program to help mitigate impacts from catastrophic wildfire; and

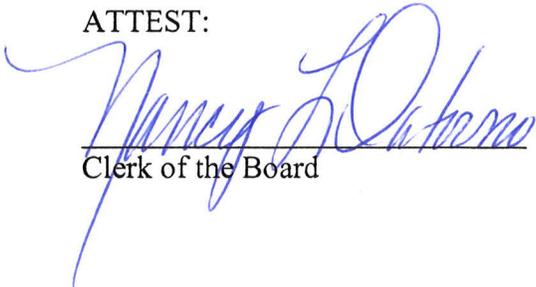
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Plumas County Board of Supervisor supports the efforts of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council to seek grant funding opportunities for its Senior and Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Program through the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California at a regular meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012

**AYES:** Supervisors THRALL, SWOFFORD, MEACHER, KENNEDY, SIMPSON  
**NOES:** Supervisors NONE  
**ABSENT:** NONE

  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

  
Clerk of the Board