RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-347

MEETING: July 14, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Hodson, CAO

RE: Approval of Title III Project - Fire Safe Council

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the Grant Agreement for the Use of Title III Funding from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 for the Continued Funding of the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2017, in the Amount of $59,380 per fiscal year; Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement. This funding proposal meets the criteria to receive Title III funding by supporting the efforts of Firewise Communities (Fire Safe Councils). A description of the proposal was published in the publication of record on May 28, 2015, and the 45-day comment period has ended. No comments to date have been received.

The Forest Reserve Fund has a cash balance of $46,627. To date the Federal government has not yet re-authorized additional funding beyond Federal Fiscal Year 2015 for this program. The 2015 funding amount is expected to be $41,193 and will be received in September 2015. Funding re-authorization beyond Federal Fiscal Year 2015 will not be confirmed until the Federal Budget is adopted. If the program is re-authorized, the County can anticipate receiving approximately $40,000. Considering the current fund balance and funding requests, staff estimates that if Federal Fiscal Year 2016 is funded there will be sufficient funding to complete the contract. Should Federal Fiscal Year 2016 funding not be re-authorized there will be insufficient funding to fully pay the second year of the contract. The Agreement contains a termination clause for insufficient funding so if the funding is not re-authorized, the Board may terminate this Agreement or direct staff to use another funding source.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

On May 19, 2015 the Board of Supervisors gave direction to begin the 45-day comment period on funding the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council with Title III funds.

On April 7, 2015, the Board adopted Resolution 2015-143, approving a budget action reducing General Fund contingency by $20,000 to fully fund the Fiscal Year 2014-15 agreement with the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, because it was unknown at the time if the Federal government would re-authorize the funding.

On March 17, 2015, the Board of Supervisors received a presentation by the Fire Safe
Council and gave direction to staff to bring an item back with the appropriate budget action to fully fund the remainder of the current Fire Safe Council Agreement.

**ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**
Do not approve the Grant Agreement. The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council will need to seek funding from another source which may jeopardize their grant funding.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**
The Forest Reserve Fund has a cash balance of $46,627

**ATTACHMENTS:**
Fire Safe Council Agreement 2015-2017 (DOC)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hodson, CAO 7/8/2015

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: John Carrier, District V Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier