



Cindy Johnson &lt;cynthia.johnson@edcgov.us&gt;

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## Board Agenda Item # 16

1 message

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Judi McCallum <judi.mccallum@edcgov.us>  
To: Cindy Johnson <cynthia.johnson@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jan 9, 2012 at 3:10 PM

One of the items on your agenda for tomorrow is from the AQMD. They will be asking you to approve an RFP for AB 2766 mobile emission reduction grant funds.

These funds have helped us immensely over the years by providing us with equipment and revenues to provide community chipping, biomass days, and pine needle collection services. This not only reduced the number of vehicle miles that the owners would have had to incur to get rid of their biomass from creating their defensible space, it also allowed us to re-use the chips as a bio-fuel for energy production, or as a soil amendment to reduce erosion in the Tahoe Basin.

Over the years, the miles averted add up to many thousands, if not tens of thousands. As you know, vehicle particulates do not help to keep our lake blue, and the additional miles just add more pollution to our sensitive environment. As an added bonus, the grants have also allowed us to reduce pile burning here in the basin.

The AB2766 grant program has been very helpful in our area, and we've even used some of the equipment to help treat the County lots here over the last couple of years.

Unfortunately, due to the late signing of last years grant (we received the authorized contract at the end of August) we have not been able to use it and will be asking for an extension. That said, the funding is invaluable to our efforts to reduce the overgrowth of forest material in our region.

I am hoping you will continue to support this program. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

John Pang  
Meeks Bay Fire Chief

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