

Town of Lyons, Colorado
Board of Trustees
BOT Agenda Cover Sheet
Agenda Item No: XII.1.
Meeting Date: 10/02/2022

TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Town Administrator Simonsen
DATE: September 28, 2022
ITEM: Discussion / Direction to Staff on Fire Mitigation Strategies

☐ ORDINANCE
☐ MOTION / RESOLUTION
☒ INFORMATION

- I. **REQUEST OR ISSUE:** Staff is seeking guidance on the remaining fire mitigation strategies the Board would like to complete in 2023. The town has \$4,000 remaining in the 2023 budget that could be used toward another curb-side limb pickup. However, we were recently informed that LFPD is hosting another limb drop-off in Lyons in October and Boulder County is now hosting neighborhood mitigation and mulching through our county-paid tax dollars (see attached). Should the remaining funds be spent on private property pick-up or to mitigate additional public areas such as dead tree removal in parks, alleys, and public spaces?
- II. **RECOMMENDED ACTION / NEXT STEP:** Direct staff.
- III. **FISCAL IMPACTS:** Depends on strategies to be completed.
- IV. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Board of Trustees identified fire mitigation efforts as one of their top priorities for their 2022-2024 term. Their objectives are organized under three categories:

Mitigation Strategies

Offer Hazard Reduction Opportunities

The town sponsored one curb-side limb pick-up and one limb drop-off event at no cost to residents in 2023.

Prioritize and Mitigate Public Lands

The Martin parcel was identified by the LFPD as the highest-risk parcel within town limits. We had a crew come in and conduct mitigation. They will be having a controlled burn after the first snowfall.

We also engaged Operation Mighty Goats to mitigate Wildland Urban Interface terrain that is not easily managed by machinery. (See attached reports).

Apply for Mitigation Funding

We have submitted a grant application for \$300K toward mitigation efforts. We are waiting to hear if it will be awarded this round.

Educational Opportunities

Coordinate Messaging with LFPD

We work with LFPD on messaging via email blasts, newsletters, utility bills, etc. They want to be the lead on this. We would like to do more workshops, school programs, HOA meetings, etc. but it is really the purview of the LFPD to provide the information that they want disseminated.

Emergency Planning

Identify Roles and Responsibilities of Partners

We had a Code Compliance Officer who was our liaison to LFPD and met regularly with them on these goals. He recently left and went to work for Boulder County Hazard Mitigation. We will continue to work on this goal once we have a replacement.

Boulder County Hazard Mitigation Plan Goals

The LFPD and Town of Lyons also fall under the Boulder County Plans. We regularly attend their meetings to make sure everyone is on the same page. It is the LFPD's role to maintain the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that specifies their priorities and plans for Lyons and the surrounding areas.

Develop Evacuation Plans for Each Neighborhood

The LFPD met with each HOA in Lyons and discussed the homeowner's responsibilities for defensible space. We need to host similar meetings for areas in town without HOAs.

We also made extra efforts this year to get people to sign up for Emergency Alerts through the Boulder County Office of Disaster Management by having tables at events, sending eblasts, etc.

V. LEGAL ISSUES: None