

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Boise County Board of Commissioners intends to use federal funds made available under Title III of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 and all remaining funds received from that time through the receipt of funds in 2016. These funds can only be spent for certain purposes set forth in 16 U.S.C. 7142.

### ***Proposed uses of federal funds***

The County proposes to use the funds until they expire on September 30, 2018, as set forth in PL 114-10, or as extended by later legislation, as follows:

### **Funds to carry out activities described and sanctioned by the Firewise Communities Program:**

- \$100,000 to pay salary, benefits, and operating costs of the Boise County Fire Mitigation Forester.
  - The Forester will provide to Boise County homeowners living in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires.
  - This proposed amount would be for the salary and benefits of the Forester (a  $\frac{3}{4}$  year county salaried employee); the expenses for transportation, office and operations for the Forester; revision and maintenance of the Boise County Community Wildfire Protection Plan; and wildfire hazard mitigation and response planning, per the Boise County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- \$72,000 to assist homeowners with professional management advice and modification of fuels within the home ignition zone

### **Funds to reimburse the County for emergency services performed on Federal land:**

- \$20,000 for the Boise County Sheriff
  - This amount would be to reimburse the Sheriff for anticipated search and rescue and emergency services performed on federal land and paid for by the County in the FY2017.
  - The reimbursement will be for the salary or wages of emergency response personnel deployed during an emergency response; the replacement of equipment, material and supplies expended, damaged or destroyed during an emergency response; the repair of equipment damaged during an emergency response; and the maintenance of vehicles, equipment, and facilities during an emergency response.

### **Funds to develop County Wildfire Protection Plans:**

- \$50,000 to pay salary, benefits, and operating costs of the Boise County Fire Mitigation Forester. (See Forester responsibilities above)
- Remaining Title III funds (approximately \$30,000) to pay salary, benefits, and operating costs of qualifying work performed by the Boise County Emergency Manager.
  - When the Emergency Manager provides the same qualifying services that the Forester does.

***Public comments***

The County is holding a 45-day comment period which will end at 5pm on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The Board is also sending this proposal to the Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee pursuant to Section 302(b)(2) of PL 110-343. Please send the County any feedback, suggestions, or concerns that you may have regarding these proposed uses of these federal funds. Comments on this proposal may be sent by mail to the Boise County Board of Commissioners, c/o Boise County Clerk's Office, PO Box 1300, Idaho City, ID, 83631, or by email to [kcoffelt@co.boise.id.us](mailto:kcoffelt@co.boise.id.us).

Following the 45-day comment period, and after taking into full consideration the comments received, the Board will issue a decision on the proposed use of funds. If, in the future, the Boise County Board of Commissioners decides to use these funds for a different project that meets the legal requirements other than the ones described above, a subsequent public notice will be issued for a 45-day public comment period.