



STAFF REPORT: 2025 Replacement Reserve Fund Budget - Fuel Reduction Common Area Year 2

RECOMMENDATION:

By Motion:

The Board of Directors authorizes the expenditure of the budgeted 2025 Replacement Reserve Fund component - Fuel Reduction Common Area Year 2 cost not to exceed \$304,196.

BACKGROUND:

A portion of Tahoe Donner Common Area comprises 1,300 acres of green belt and open space that must be maintained to meet defensible space and forest health standards. The Common Area Defensible Space Program was divided into six phases for planning, funding, and implementation, with a six-year rotation in the TDA Reserve Study. The priority each year is to treat the Common Area adjacent to private properties and Tahoe Donner's amenities. The 6-year rotation in the Reserve Study began in 2024, which is Year 2/Phase 2 of the program. The phases and associated project areas are outlined in Exhibit A.

This staff report is prepared for board consideration because the expense exceeds \$50,000, and thus, per Resolution 2016-9, requires Board of Directors authorization for expenditures beyond budget approval.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Scope of Project

Staff has assessed the Phase 2 Common Area defensible space needs and determined 136 acres of priority treatment areas. Many of these Common Areas have difficult access, bisect watercourses, are on steep slopes, and are very close to homes, all of which increase the treatment cost per acre.

The Tahoe Donner forestry crew is best suited to meet the environmental standards and homeowner relations necessary in these project areas. Staff will utilize the Forestry Department crew and newly acquired forestry equipment to treat these priority areas. The project budget for this corrective maintenance was planned to utilize in-house labor. An estimated total of 13,000 labor and equipment hours were budgeted to complete this work in-house.

Proposed Project Schedule:

The forestry crew will implement the Phase 2 fuel reduction project in the selected Common Areas as conditions allow through October 2025. Given unpredictable weather conditions, work may become impractical during the later part of the season, in which case the project may be extended into 2026.



FISCAL IMPACT:

The Fuel Reduction Common Area Year 2 is funded in the Replacement Reserve Fund. The Board of Directors approved the 2025 Replacement Reserve Fund Budget for this component for \$304,196 during the annual budget process. The projected expenditure is within the approved budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

The recommended Board action is as follows:

By Motion:

The Board of Directors authorizes the expenditure of the budgeted 2025 Replacement Reserve Fund component - Fuel Reduction Common Area Year 2 cost not to exceed \$304,196.

Alternative(s) the Board may consider:

Direct staff to provide additional information and bring the proposed project back for consideration at a future board meeting. This is not advised, as the defensible space work is critical to the fire hazard management program. Delaying approval to proceed with the approved 2025 budgeted item may impact the project schedule, potentially reducing the total acres treated for the year.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A: Common Area Defensible Space Cycle

Exhibit B: 2025 Priority Project Map

Staff Report Prepared By: Ben Gwerder, Forester

Reviewed By: John Groom, Director of Land Management

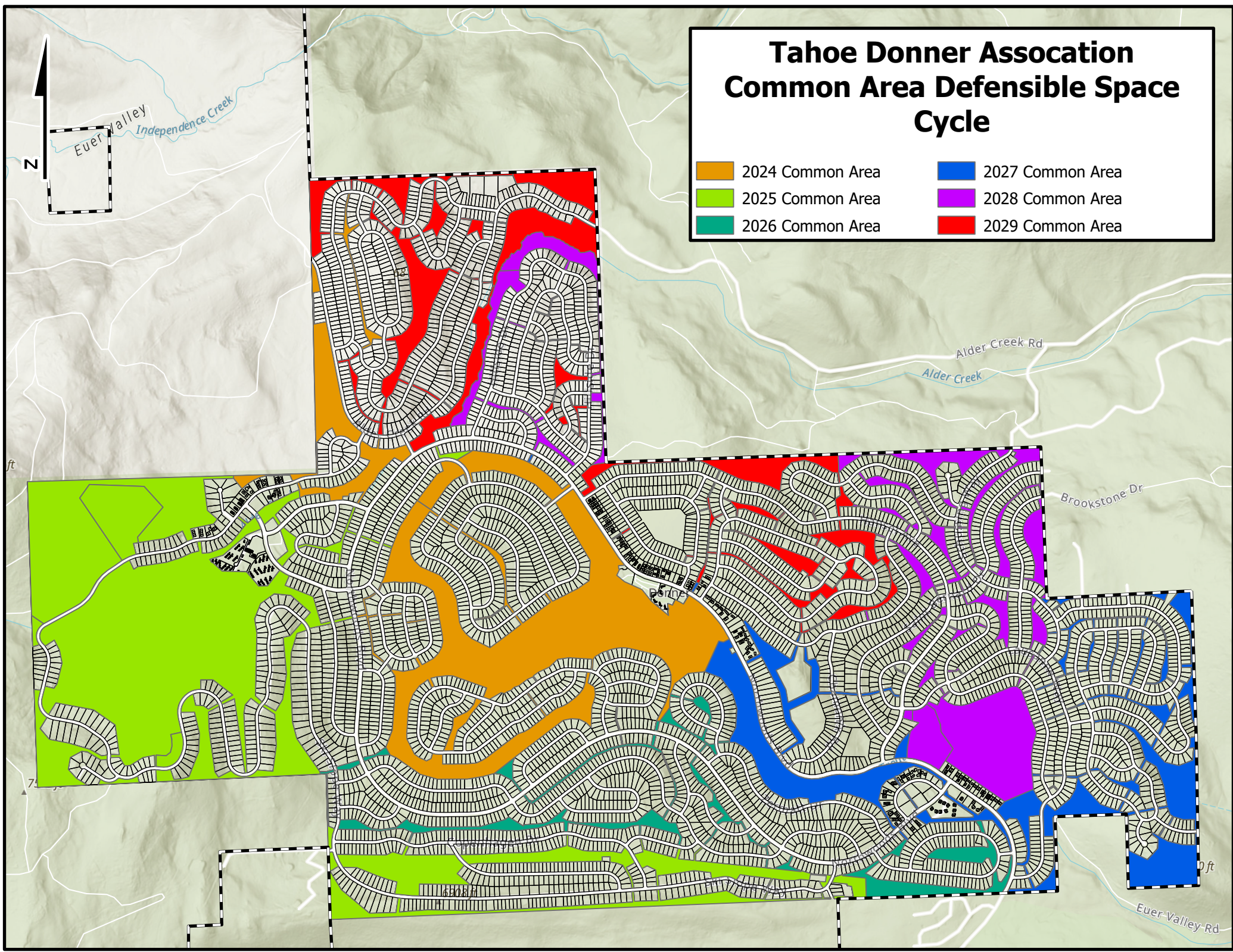
Reviewed By: Jon Mitchell, Director of Capital Projects and Facilities

Reviewed By: Annie Rosenfeld, General Manager



Board of Directors Meeting: 4/25/2025

Tahoe Donner Association Common Area Defensible Space Cycle

- | | |
|--|--|
|  2024 Common Area |  2027 Common Area |
|  2025 Common Area |  2028 Common Area |
|  2026 Common Area |  2029 Common Area |



Tahoe Donner Forestry Common Area Planned Project Areas

-  2025 Common Area
Planned Projects
-  Tahoe Donner Boundary

