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To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Joel Cochran, Undersheriff *Joel Cochran 11-13-19*
Date: November 13, 2019
Re: Agreement between the State of Colorado, Summit County and Summit
County Sheriff for Wildfire Protection

Request:

We are requesting the BOCC enter into an agreement with the Sheriff and the State of Colorado for the purpose of Wildfire Protection. The updated agreement creates the foundation for wildfire management and annual operational plans.

Background:

The updates to the agreement underwent a series of collaborative stakeholder reviews as listed:

- A small group of Stakeholders (Attorneys, Commissioners, and Sheriffs that were selected by their associations) reviewed and provided input on the initial draft in May and June. Based on feedback and input from that group, a revised draft was created and distributed Statewide in July for all Counties to review;
- 10 Stakeholder meetings were held around the State in July and August, which provided an opportunity for DFPC and County personnel to interact, discuss issues and concerns, and propose input and suggestions;
- A revised draft was distributed for review on September 4th. That draft was developed based on consensus from the Stakeholder meetings, with any new language or changes highlighted in the revised draft; and
- Based on the limited, non-critical comments received following the September 18th deadline, all proposed changes were accepted and there have been no additional revisions or additions since the final draft was sent out on September 4th.

Discussion:

The Sheriff and Attorney's Office participated in the stakeholder meetings and felt our feedback was considered. One recommendation that was not included in the final document was in regards to the State providing wildfire cost estimates before the end of the budget year. The State pushed back and said preparing estimates was complicated and lacked accuracy. Overall we feel the process was collaborative. The Sheriff's Office sees continued benefit in participation in this agreement as it provides the pathway to State Wildfire Funds and Programs.