

PRE-MEETING AGENDA

Casper City Council
City Hall – Council Meeting Room
Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 5:30 p.m.



	Presentation	Beginning Time	Allotted Time
1.	Wyoming Dept of Homeland Security Grant Applications	5:30 p.m.	5 min
2.	BLM Wildfire Mitigation Grant	5:35 p.m.	5 min
3.	Ice Arena Expansion Funding Agreement	5:40 p.m.	15 min
4.	Agenda Review	5:55 p.m.	5 min
	Approximate Ending Time		6:00 p.m.

*** Reminder ***

Please silence cell phones during the City Council meeting.

We are CASPER

Communication Accountability Stewardship Professionalism Efficiency Responsiveness

August 24, 2026

MEMO TO: Janine Jordan, City Manager 

FROM: Shane Chaney, Chief of Police 
Jeremy Tremel, Police Captain 
Zack Winter, Fleet Coordinator 

SUBJECT: That the City Council Authorize Grant Applications through the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$250,000.00) for the purchase of Portable Radios for Police Operations

Meeting Type & Date

Council pre-meeting
September 1, 2026

Action Type

Direction request

Recommendation

That Council, by minute action, authorizes the Casper Police Department to apply for a grant through the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security office in the amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$250,000.00) for the purchase of Portable Radios for Police Operations.

Summary

The Casper Police Department is seeking approval to apply for a State Department of Homeland Security Grant.

DHS/FEMA 2026 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant is administered by the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security (HLS) and intended to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial efforts to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism.

If approved, the department intends to purchase APX800 radios equipped with modern multi-key AES encryption to meet the State of Wyoming's new encryption mandate. Of the approximately 130 radios deployed across Casper's public safety agencies, only about 40 currently meet the new standard. Acquiring these radios is essential to restore seamless interoperability with state, county, and regional partners, and to ensure secure, reliable communications during critical incidents.

Financial Considerations

There is no match required

Council Adopted Goals

☒ Infrastructure

☒ Fiscal Stability

☒ Communication & Public Education

Oversight/Project Responsibility

Jeremy Tremel, Support Services Captain

Zack Winter, Fleet Coordinator

Attachments

None

August 26, 2026

MEMO TO: Janine Jordan, City Manager 

FROM: Zulima Lopez, Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities Director 
Jacob Black, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Support to Continue Pursuing Grant Funding through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program

Meeting Type & Date

Pre-meeting

September 1, 2026

Action Type

Direction Requested

Recommendation

That Council receive information regarding the City's submission of a grant application to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program and provide direction if Council does not support pursuing the funding opportunity.

Summary

On August 18, 2026, Sustainable Strategies notified City staff of the FY26 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program. This funding opportunity had an application deadline of August 28, 2026. The program supports hazardous fuels reduction, community wildfire planning, education, outreach, and implementation projects that reduce wildfire risk on or adjacent to BLM-managed lands. Awards range from \$10,000 to \$1.2 million, with approximately \$27.8 million available nationwide, and no local match requirement.

Following notification of the opportunity, staff contacted Lark Environmental, which had previously assisted the City in preparing a March 2026 grant application for wildfire planning efforts on Casper Mountain. Although that application was not funded, its scope closely aligned with the BLM program objectives, so staff believed that Lark would be well suited to quickly prepare a grant application with similar scope and objectives for submittal to the BLM program. Lark quickly confirmed that they were available and interested in helping the City to pursue this funding opportunity and could have the application written by the required deadline.

The short timeframe between staff becoming aware of the funding opportunity, securing Lark Environmental's assistance in preparing the application, and the August 28, 2026 submission deadline did not allow sufficient time to bring the grant request before Council for prior authorization as typically required by City policy. Accordingly, staff proceeded with applying for the grant on August 28 to preserve the opportunity while informing Council at the earliest practical

opportunity. The application may be withdrawn at any time should Council determine that it does not support pursuing the grant.

Casper Mountain represents one of the community's most significant recreational, environmental, and economic resources. However, its mix of public and private ownership, dense forest fuels, residential development, and critical infrastructure creates complex wildfire management challenges. The proposed project would establish a coordinated, long-term framework to reduce wildfire risk, improve community resilience, and protect public assets.

The City's application seeks funding for the Casper Mountain Wildfire Resilience and Fuels Management Project, to support development of a City-specific Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and implementation of priority hazardous fuels reduction projects on Casper Mountain. The proposed effort would evaluate wildfire risks, identify and prioritize fuels reduction treatments, improve coordination among City, County, State, Federal, and private landowners, and implement targeted fuels management activities to reduce wildfire threats to residents, critical infrastructure, recreational assets, and emergency access routes.

Financial Considerations

Lark Environmental proposed a fee of One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$1,920) to complete a grant application for submittal by the City. The total funding amount requested through grant application is \$720,146 over a five (5) year period. The BLM funding program does not require a local match, resulting in minimal financial risk to the City associated with submitting the application. Any future grant award requiring acceptance by the City would be brought before Council for consideration prior to execution of a grant agreement or expenditure of funds.

Council Adopted Goals

☒ Infrastructure – A CWPP for Casper Mountain will assist in protecting City-owned property and infrastructure, including assets at Hogadon Basin Ski Area.

☒ Fiscal Stability – Use of no-match grant funds for development and implementation of a CWPP allows City funds to be utilized on other City priorities.

☐ Communication & Public Education

Oversight/Project Responsibility

Zulima Lopez, Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Director
Jacob Black, Fire Chief

August 26, 2026

MEMO TO: Janine Jordan, City Manager 
FROM: Zulima Lopez, Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Director 
SUBJECT: Casper Ice Arena Expansion Project Funding Agreement Overview

Meeting Type & Date

Pre-Meeting
September 1, 2026

Action Type

Move Forward for Approval

Recommendation

That Council receives an overview of the proposed Funding & Completion Assurance Agreement associated with the Casper Ice Arena Expansion Project and understands its purpose, structure, and practical application in advance of formal consideration of the Agreement.

Summary

As the Casper Ice Arena Expansion Project continues toward construction, a Funding & Completion Assurance Agreement has been developed between the City of Casper and the Casper Amateur Hockey Club (CAHC), with guidance and support from the primary funding institution, Jonah Bank. The agreement is intended to establish a funding structure that provides assurance that there are adequate financial resources available to complete the project while protecting the City's investment and limiting the risk of an unfunded construction obligation. The proposed agreement will accompany the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) delivery method and is designed to ensure that the City's approved contribution is paired with verified private funding commitments on a proportional basis throughout construction.

Representatives of Jonah Bank and the CAHC have offered to meet with Council prior to formal action on the agreement. The purpose of the presentation is to walk Council through the primary structure and practical function of the proposed agreement, explain how donor pledges will collateralize a line of credit (loan), which, when combined with cash donations already in an established capital account, will provide the credit support to finance seventy percent (70%) of the project. The presenters will answer questions regarding the flow of funds and completion assurances that underpin the project funding strategy.

The presentation is intended to provide Council with a clear understanding of the funding framework prior to consideration of the Funding & Completion Assurance Agreement, which is anticipated to be presented for approval at the September 15, 2026 City Council meeting.

Financial Considerations

No additional funding authorization is requested through this informational presentation. Financial obligations and commitments associated with the proposed agreement will be presented in detail as part of the approval item scheduled for Council consideration.

Council Adopted Goals

☒ Infrastructure – This project expands the existing facility to double ice capacity, while also upgrading existing mechanical infrastructure to ensure reliable operation of both sheets into the future.

☒ Fiscal Stability – Expanding the existing arena to two sheets will decrease the operating subsidy while expanding recreational access for the community.

☐ Communication & Public Education

Oversight/Project Responsibility

Zulima Lopez, Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Director

Attachments

None