



COUNTY OF NEVADA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617

(530) 265-1222 ~ FAX (530) 478-5799 <http://mynevadacounty.com>

Trisha Tillotson, Agency Director

Agricultural Commissioner

Building

Environmental Health

Farm Advisor

Planning

Public Works

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 27th, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DIRECTOR, OR THEIR DESIGNEE, TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE REGIONAL CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE GRANT PROGRAM, FOR FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: The grant is state funded with no match required. The grant will be managed by the Economic Development budget unit. Staff will bring forward a budget amendment for consideration if the grant is awarded. Funding to take place for three years, beginning December 2022.

BACKGROUND:

Nevada County's Board Objectives have identified Emergency Preparedness as a priority objective since 2017 due to an increased risk of wildfires and severe winter storms. On February 8, 2022 the Board adopted Resolution 22-092 outlining its objective on Emergency Preparedness to "lead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire... by focusing on improving countywide evacuation routes and safety, continuing to strengthen early alert and critical communication systems, partnering closely with residents in emergency preparedness, defensible space, home hardening, green waste disposal, and fire-safe land stewardship". The Board has also identified Economic Development as a major objective, by emphasizing resiliency and entrepreneurship; retaining and attracting high quality jobs' investing in major infrastructure projects; and working with local, state, and federal partners to support our small business, nonprofit, and tourism sectors.

The Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program is a new capacity building grant program for under-resourced communities in California. Administered by the Strategic Growth Council, RCC enables community-rooted and cross-sectoral partners to deepen their relationships and develop the processes, plans, and projects that will drive and sustain climate action. The goal of the program is to strengthen local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, and expertise with a particular focus on increasing access to funding resources for project planning and implementation within under-resourced communities. Funding covers a three-year period, and supports under-resourced communities in accessing funding and resources to plan and implement climate mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency projects. These place-based activities will both align with and inform regional priorities and efforts.



COUNTY OF NEVADA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617

(530) 265-1222 ~ FAX (530) 478-5799 <http://mynevadacounty.com>

Trisha Tillotson, Agency Director

Agricultural Commissioner

Building

Environmental Health

Farm Advisor

Planning

Public Works

The proposed project will bring together key partners and stakeholders in Nevada County and surrounding areas to form a collaborative with a focus on building capacity to address forest health, including workforce development and capacity building for organizational stakeholders. Identified strategies include building capacity in Firewise Communities (FWCs) with specific focus on those in under-resourced communities. The project will take place in two main phases:

- 1- Bringing stakeholders together and, with help of key partners, assessing strengths and needs
- 2- Develop workforce skills and work opportunities by creating a Forest Health Resource Hub.

The Forest Health Resource Hub will be facilitated by key partners, and will build capacity through convening and coordinating stakeholders, facilitating access to funding opportunities, training and technical assistance (e.g. Community College courses and/or neighborhood FWC training) all with the aim of improving the health of our local forests, and hardening our homes and communities against wildfire, extreme heat, and drought-related challenges. Awarded funds may support a combination of capacity building for stakeholders and the expenses associated with establishing and organizing the collaborative by key partners.

The formation of this collaborative will bring together regional stakeholders in Nevada County (and may include Sierra and Yuba Counties as well) as a means to build their capacity to leverage ongoing and sustainable resources for workforce development in forest management. It will also contribute to workforce development and forest health by streamlining pathways into forest health jobs for local workforce. As such, this collaborative will be a model of communication and cooperation between remote, disparate groups in rural California that other rural communities in California can look to as an example in the near and distant future.

If selected for an award, the grant will be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for approval to accept the award.

Item Initiated by: Amy Cobden, Grants Coordinator/Administrative Analyst II

Approved by: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director

Submittal Date: September 12, 2022

Revision Date: