



INFORMATION & GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Information Systems
Geographic Information Systems
Cable Television
Central Services

Facilities Management
Purchasing
Emergency Services
Public Library

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2023

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Steve Monaghan, Director, Information and General Services Agency**

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Director of Information and General Services, or their designee, to submit a grant application to the Strategic Growth Council Community Resilience Centers program for up to \$10,000,000, and negotiate and execute any related documents necessary to accept these funds for the improvement of the Grass Valley and Nevada City Veterans' Halls, and their designated partners

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution.

FUNDING: If awarded the grant will be managed by the Information and General Services Office. No match is required if the grant is awarded, but funding is per reimbursement. There is no budget amendment needed at this time and no effect on the General Fund. A budget amendment will be brought to the Board if awarded.

BACKGROUND:

Per the California Strategic Growth Council (SCG), the historic 2021-2022 State of California Climate Budget Package, which totaled over \$15 billion and was implemented to tackle wildfire and drought challenges, build climate resilience in communities, promote sustainable agriculture, and advance a nation-leading climate agenda, allocated \$100 million to SGC over two (2) rounds for a new Community Resilience Centers (CRC) program.

As a Cabinet-level interagency organization housed within the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the SGC advances the State's key policy priorities through four (4) main categories: investment programs, collaborative policy initiatives, integrated policy and planning, and capacity building and technical assistance. The newest of SGC's investment programs is the CRC Program, which builds upon SGC's foundation and key community partnerships, in alignment with California Climate Adaptation Strategy, Extreme Heat Action Plan, and other statewide efforts, to build local resilience across California communities.

The Nevada City Veterans Memorial and Grass Valley Veterans Memorial buildings provide services to their communities, offering year-round resources including event spaces and a space for organizations to provide a wide variety of classes available to all community members. The Veterans' buildings provide meeting spaces for a myriad of community-based organizations which makes them an obvious hub of communication, cooperation, and community support that benefits our County beyond the cities in which they sit. Both buildings are unique fixtures in their cities, priceless resources to the community, are owned by the County, and are in serious need of updates. Although the County

has extensive emergency plans, the Nevada City and Grass Valley Veterans Memorial buildings are not identified as central evacuation locations, largely due to their lack of universal accessibility. Funds from this grant will improve the accessibility of both buildings, while also supporting extended community-based organizations that complement the services offered by the Veterans Memorial buildings throughout the grant period.

The CRC Program offers up to \$10 million for implementation of projects that build or improve neighborhood-level resilience centers to provide shelter and resources during climate and other emergencies, as well as year-round services and programming that strengthen community connections and ability to withstand disasters. The Facilities Management Division has identified and budgeted just over \$6 million in general and structural upgrades to both Veterans' buildings. \$1.2 million may be used for administration costs, which will include at least one limited term hire for a project manager to oversee construction and renovation. Remaining funds will be available for programmatic purposes, including, but not limited to education, outreach, other equipment that can benefit both communities and other needs identified by community partners. A key component of the CRC program requirements is community input during the grant development process, and throughout the award period (5 years) through a collaborative stakeholder governance structure, which will be determined by the time of the application submission. A memorandum of understanding between the County and partners to be included in the Grant will be presented to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

Staff is requesting the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of Information and General Services, or their designee, to apply for the maximum award of \$10,000,000 from the Strategic Growth Council CRC program.

The deadline for application submission is September 18, 2023. Blank copies of the budget template, application questions, and guidelines are included in this packet. Acquisition of materials, construction, and proposed programmatic funding will all begin in FY 23/24 for a period of five years. A third-party consultant will be hired and paid for by the grant to assess the program's achievements during the fifth year.

If passed, the Board agrees to accept funds if awarded.

Item Initiated by: Amy Cobden, Administrative Analyst II

Approved by: Steve Monaghan, Director, Information and General Services Agency