



Information and General Services Department

950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-1238
Fax: 530-265-7112

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: October 22, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Steve Monaghan, Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan, prepared by Sierra Business Council

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the attached presentation and attached Strategy Plan.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND:

Economic Development is a major priority objective for the County as reflected in Resolution 19-070 adopted on February 12, 2019 that directs the County of Nevada to; “Support job-enhancing economic development with an emphasis on infrastructure that expands or preserves commerce and provides leadership and coordination opportunities to bring funding sources and community partnerships together including ERC, SBC, RCRC, CSAC and USDA.”

As a part of this effort, the Board adopted Resolution 18-525 on October 23, 2018 approving a three-year contract with Sierra Business Council (SBC) to develop and implement a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) as the Sierra Economic Development District fiscal agent with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). Additionally, SBC initially served as the fiscal agent for the Gold Country Broadband Consortium (GCBC) to increase digital access and use of broadband in designated counties of Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Sierra, and eastern Alpine counties. The GCBC has been unfunded for a year and anticipates that the CPUC will approve continued funding in the following month.

SBC, in their mission to promote economic development, combined with their expertise on Broadband, partnered with Americorps’ CivicSpark fellow program to conduct local research and develop a Broadband Strategy Plan for Nevada

County that identifies policy recommendations and visionary steps to promoting and increasing the deployment of Broadband throughout the County. As such, SBC will provide a presentation on its draft Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan for the Board's consideration and acceptance as a launch point to promote the expansion of Broadband n Nevada County.

Item Initiated by: Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: Julie Patterson Hunter, Clerk of the Board & Steve Monaghan, Chief Information Officer

Submittal Date: 10/10/2019