



# **RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

## **OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA**

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZENS LEAGUE (SYRCL) FOR \$75,000 FOR THE “OUTDOOR VISITOR SAFETY FUND GRANT” FOR THE WILD & SCENIC TRAIL MARKER AND SAFETY SIGNAGE PROJECT FUNDED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH AWARDEE**

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package passed by Congress and signed by President Joseph Biden on March 11, 2021 in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic challenges. ARPA included \$350 billion in State and Local Aid, which included \$65.1 billion in direct funding to counties. Based on US Treasury allocations, Nevada County has been allocated \$19,376,239 in funding; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, staff brought a preliminary ARPA Expenditure Plan to the Board for direction. The plan included a recommendation to allocate 30% of ARPA funds (\$5.8M) to “Community & Economic Resiliency” projects. This included one loan program and four grants, including the “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund” program, which was allotted between \$800,000-\$1 Million for improvements to major river crossings and trailheads impacted by increased visitation; and

WHEREAS, the Board approved a new 2022 objective “To promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets” at their regular meeting on February 8, 2022, with a specific initiative to “Identify and implement strategies to promote health and safety at river crossings, lakes, trailheads, and other high-use or high-risk areas”; and

WHEREAS, at its 2022 Board Workshop the board identified up to \$850,000 for the Outdoor Recreation and Visitor Safety Fund through a combination of American Rescue Plan Act funding and Transient Occupancy Tax funds; and

WHEREAS, these expenditures will be aligned with the ARPA final rule priority of “2.22: Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety”;

WHEREAS, the County released a request for proposals for eligible entities which included nonprofit organizations, for-profit businesses, special purpose districts, and pending availability of general fund moneys, State and Federal agencies, to respond to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with proposals that will increase resiliency and promote health and safety at highly impacted outdoor recreation destinations; and

WHEREAS, 19 concept proposals were received from 10 organizations, totaling \$1,377,817 in requests; and

WHEREAS, a 5-member evaluation panel (Panel), consisting of two community leaders and three county staff, reviewed and scored concept proposals; and

WHEREAS, 13 proposals from 9 different organizations were invited to submit a full proposal; and

WHEREAS, the County received six final full proposals from five individual eligible entities totaling \$361,965; and

WHEREAS, the Panel again reviewed and scored applications to provide the County Executive Officer (CEO) with a recommended list of six projects from five eligible awardees; and

WHEREAS, the Panel presented recommendations to the CEO and the CEO identified the six proposals from five different organizations for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for final approval and award; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipient Agreements were developed on a case-by-case basis and reviewed with the Auditor-Controller to ensure the grantees are in good standing with the County; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipients will enter in the attached “Grant Award Recipient Agreement” with the County, specifying the use the ARPA monies to cover only those eligible costs identified in the RFA and necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency in accordance with federal guidance, and further affirming the Grant Award Recipient shall be responsible for reimbursement to County of any grant funding provided under this agreement that are determined by federal or state officials to be unauthorized expenditures, and additionally specifying that grant recipients will provide quarterly reports beginning in September 2022; and

WHEREAS, to promote transparency, required quarterly reporting will be posted on the County of Nevada’s American Rescue Plan “ARPA” web page; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the 2022/2023 Recreation budget presented under file ID 22-0786 authorizes \$450,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding for the Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is contingent upon the adoption of the FY 22/23 County Budget; and

WHEREAS, South Yuba River Citizens League’s South Yuba River Wild & Scenic Trail Marker and Safety Signage Project proposal was among the six approved for funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, that:

1. The Grant Award Recipient Agreement awarding \$75,000 in an “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund Grant” to South Yuba River Citizens League is hereby approved.
2. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to execute the grant agreement on behalf of the County of Nevada for the “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund” which is hereby approved and attached hereto.

Funds to be disbursed from 1111-70102-325-0222/521520