



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Cannabis Compliance Division

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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo**

MEETING DATE: November 26, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Matt Kelley, Code and Cannabis Compliance Director

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the submission of an application for the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions for Type 2 funding in the amount of \$500,000.00 for fiscal year 2024-2025

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution authorizing the submission of an application for the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions for Type 2 funding in the amount of \$500,000.00 for fiscal year 2024-25.

FUNDING: The Nevada County Cannabis Division intends to seek funding from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-BIZ) in an effort to continue to support and retain commercial cannabis applicants who participate in the regulated marketplace. The attached Resolution reflects the intent to apply for a competitive grant and receive grant funding to allow for the continued operation of the Nevada County Cannabis Equity Program. No match funding is being requested. If funds are awarded, a Resolution to accept an award amount and for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 program expenses and offsetting grant revenues will come before the Board of Supervisors with a request for a budget amendment.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Application
2. California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Grant Guidelines

BACKGROUND: On October 8, 2024, the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Department) released the competitive grant guidelines for the

Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions. For fiscal year 2024-2025, the Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions was allocated fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the Cannabis Tax Fund. There are two application types which are defined below. Applications for Type 2 funding requests, that is being applied for, are subject to a maximum request of three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000.00).

In 2020, Nevada County was awarded Type 1 funding to complete a Cannabis Local Equity Assessment which was completed and approved by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting on September 28, 2021, as included in Resolution No. 21-431. This Resolution adopted the Nevada County Cannabis Local Equity Program Manual and officially created the Local Equity Program pursuant to the California Cannabis Equity Act of 2018. As approved by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors by Resolution No. 23-086 at their regular meeting of February 28, 2023, the County received \$755,895.55 Type 2 fund grant award, which has been fully expended.

It is now the desire of the Cannabis Compliance Division to pursue additional Type 2 funds through the same GO-Biz Grant Program. The use of these grant funds as part of the goal of the Nevada County Cannabis Local Equity Program is to continue to support and retain commercial cannabis applicants who participate in the regulated marketplace.

Grant applications are required to be submitted through the GO-Biz online Cannabis Equity Grants portal by December 16, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Grant Agreements are anticipated to be executed no later than March 31, 2025.

SUMMARY:

In summary, the application and award of these grant funds will provide direct funding to further support the Nevada County Cannabis Local Equity Program and assist applicants and licensees to operate successfully in the regulated cannabis marketplace. Given that this is a competitive grant, staff will return to the Board of Supervisors to accept an official grant agreement in the event of an award.

Item Initiated By: Matt Kelley, Code and Cannabis Compliance Director

Approved By: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director