

COUNTY OF NEVADA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, PO Box 599002, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-7902 (530) 265-1222 ~ FAX (530) 265-9854 http://mynevadacounty.com

Agricultural Commissioner

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memorandum

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director

SUBJECT: Resolution approving submittal of a letter of commitment for

the grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program, led by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District which requests funding for the regional Going Beyond Green: Cultivating Community, Connections, and Crops application with Nevada County as a subrecipient and authorizing the Community Development Agency (CDA) Director or their designee to execute this letter of

commitment and other required documents.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt the resolution.

FUNDING: There is no application fee for the CPRG program. If awarded, the grant will be managed through the CDA Administration Budget. The grant application will be led by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sac Metro Air District) with the County of Nevada designated as a subrecipient to support implementation, with funding allocated for staff time and in-direct costs. The potential funding range as a project subrecipient is estimated to be \$5 Million to \$8 Million. If the proposed grant application is awarded, approval will be requested by the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND:

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 24-073 at the February 20, 2024 regular meeting, establishing Climate as a 2024 Board Objective to safeguard

economic durability, environmental integrity, public health, and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating climate conditions that reflect our rural quality of life. The principal goal of the EPA CPRG Program is to implement Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction programs, policies, projects, and measures identified in a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) developed under a CPRG planning grant.

The Sac Metro Air District *Going Beyond Green* project application to the CPRG program will enable the County of Nevada to pursue key GHG reduction measures outlined in the regional PCAP *Capital Region Climate Priorities Plan*, specifically:

- (1) Green-Means-Go: in which the County of Nevada will catalyze non-transportation infrastructure that will remove key barriers to infill development, as part of a regional approach to helping accelerate development options and reduce vehicle miles travelled.
- (2) Mobility Hubs: in which the County of Nevada will: 1) develop and deploy the infrastructure necessary to support the county transitioning to zero emission vehicles, 2) engage private partners in the creation of community-based charging infrastructure to allow for the expansion of zero emission technology throughout the region and 3) design and implement operational and mobility improvements which increase the efficiency of public transit and enhance community accessibility.
- (3) Carbon Farming: in which the County of Nevada will work with project and county-based partners to prioritize place-based sequestration strategies, provide technical assistance for the development of site-specific Carbon Farm Plans, and develop a one-stop-shop information hub and funding application to accelerate the deployment of incentive dollars for priority carbon sequestration practices that enhance soil health and the reduction of GHG emissions.

The County, as part of the Sacramento-Roseville, CA Combined Statistical Area, has participated in the regional steering committee to develop the *Capital Region Climate Priorities Plan*, led by the Sac Metro Air District, with the *Going Beyond Green* project being one outcome of this collaborative effort.

Upon the Board's approval, CDA Administrative Staff will submit the letter of commitment to support the *Going Beyond Green* project application to the EPA CPRG program by the April 1, 2024 due date. If awarded, staff will return to the Board to request approval to accept the grant funds and provide an additional update.

Item Initiated by: Erika Seward, Senior Administrative Analyst

Approved by: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director