



**COUNTY OF NEVADA**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617  
(530) 265-1222 ~ FAX (530) 478-5799 <http://mynevadacounty.com>  
Trisha Tillotson, Agency Director

Agricultural Commissioner

Building

Environmental Health

Farm Advisor

Planning

Public Works

---

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

---

**MEETING DATE:** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the County Executive Officer or their designee to sign a letter of commitment to the Bear-Yuba Regional Climate Collaborative as co-applicants to the Regional Climate Collaboratives Grant Program.

---

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** The grant is state funded with no match required and will be managed by the Sierra Nevada Alliance (lead applicant) if awarded. Staff will bring forward a budget amendment for consideration if the grant is awarded. Funding to take place for three years, beginning Spring of 2024.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program is a capacity building grant program for under-resourced communities in California. Administered by the Strategic Growth Council, RCC enables community-rooted and cross-sectoral partners to deepen their relationships and develop the processes, plans, and projects that will drive and sustain climate action. The goal of the program is to strengthen local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, and expertise with a particular focus on increasing access to funding resources for project planning and implementation. Funding covers a three-year period and supports under-resourced communities in accessing funding and resources to plan and implement place-based climate mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency projects. The aims of this program align with the Board's 2023 Objectives, Emergency Preparedness, Economic Development, and Climate Resilience.

In the September 27, 2022, Nevada County Board of Supervisors meeting, authorization was given from the BOS for the Community Development Agency Director to apply for the Regional Climate Collaboratives Grant (RES 22-505). The application was paused shortly after with the intention of taking more time to work with regional partners in developing a comprehensive proposal over the following year. The County of Nevada is now partnering with the Sierra Nevada Alliance (a regional non-profit that will act as lead applicant) and others to form the Bear-Yuba Regional Climate Collaborative under this grant. The Collaborative's vision is to connect forest resiliency planning with climate adaptation and action planning for adjacent communities, while uplifting local disadvantaged communities to foster a thriving rural economy. The project proposal objectives are to:

1. enhance wildfire and climate resilience capacity,
2. integrate science-driven resilience approaches,
3. promote sustainable forest management,
4. foster diverse relationships and peer learning,
5. bolster the local rural economy to implement projects.

The Sierra Nevada Alliance will be the lead applicant, with County of Nevada acting as a partner capable of leveraging key local and regional partnerships. This grant will build the County's capacity to engage a

diverse set of stakeholders on climate planning: County agencies, utility districts, tribes, FREED Disability Resource Center, Firewise communities, and senior-serving and other community-based organizations. By leveraging the county's extended network, this Collaborative will work together to engage priority rural populations and identify projects that build climate resilience for priority rural populations, including senior, low-income, and/or disabled residents.

If funded, Nevada County will use awarded funds to hire an analyst in the Community Development Agency to:

1. provide consultation and connection to energy efficiency, resource conservation, and home hardening resources,
2. promote workforce development aligned with climate resilience priorities, and
3. coordinate development of Nevada County Climate Action Plan and Bear-Yuba Watershed GHG Dashboard.

The formation of this collaborative will bring together regional stakeholders in Nevada, Yuba, Sierra, and Placer Counties to build their capacity to leverage ongoing and sustainable resources for workforce development in forest management. It will also contribute to workforce development and forest health by streamlining pathways into forest health jobs for local workforce. This collaborative aims to be a model of communication and cooperation between remote, disparate groups in rural California for other rural communities faced with similar pressures.

If selected for an award, the grant will be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for approval to accept the award.

**Item Initiated by:** Amy Cobden, Grants Coordinator/Administrative Analyst II

**Approved by:** Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director

Submittal Date: November 21, 2023

Revision Date: