



COUNTY OF NEVADA COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: January 25, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Resolution accepting the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant in the amount of \$122,860.90 for the term January 21, 2022 through December 30, 2022 and authorizing the County Executive Officer to execute the grant agreement and all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Resolution.

FUNDING:

The grant funds will be deposited into the Economic Development budget, account 0101-10902-272-1000 / 445090. There are no General Fund dollars used for this agreement.

The item before the Board is a grant award/revenue item, with no expenditures included. A budget amendment will be established once the revenue has been received and the associated expenditures/contracts are identified and brought to the Board for approval.

BACKGROUND:

The County Executive Office applied for the California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant on November 23, 2021. This application furthers Economic Development board objective by securing resources to support small businesses. The Economic Development Board Objective is coordinated primarily by the County Executive Office. The County was required to sign a letter designating authority to apply for the grant and the grantor specified that the County Executive Officer could be the designee; and due to a short application deadline, the County Executive Officer signed the letter and applied for the grant.

The County was notified on December 22, 2021 of the intent to award Nevada County a California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant in the amount of \$122,860.90.

The objective of this Grant Program is to provide relief to the hardest to reach microbusinesses and entrepreneurs by awarding \$2,500 grants to eligible microbusinesses throughout the county. As part of the grant program, eligible microbusinesses that face systemic barriers to access capital, including but not limited to, businesses owned by women, minorities, veterans, individuals without documentation, individuals with limited English proficiency, and business owners located in low-wealth and rural, communities will be targeted with outreach and marketing. A thorough and focused marketing plan will target the eligible businesses.

As described in the grant proposal the County Executive Office will provide oversight for implementation and will contract with Sierra Business Council to administer the program. This contract, which will total 6% of the grant award, will be brought to the Board in February.

The County and Sierra Business Council will work together to provide an easy access application for hard-to-reach microbusiness while also implementing systems to ensure eligibility and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse. Sierra Business Council will maintain a dedicated phone line and email address for grant applicants.

The award procedure will be developed following the CalOSBA California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant guidelines, with eligibility defined in the attached contract. Should the number of eligible businesses exceed the amount of grant funding available, a lottery will be performed.

The California Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant program will advance the 2021 Board Objective of Economic Development, specifically focusing on a post-pandemic economic recovery and supporting small businesses.

This resolution accepts the California Microbusiness Covid-19 Relief Grant in the Amount of \$122,860.90 and authorizes the County Executive Officer to execute the grant and all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the Grant.

Recommended action:

Staff recommends the Board adopt the attached Resolution accepting the California Microbusiness Covid-19 Relief Grant in the amount of \$122,860.90 for the term 1/21/22 - 12/30/22 and authorizing the County Executive Officer to execute the grant agreement and all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant program.

Item Initiated by: Ariel Lovett, Interim Projects Administrator

Approved by: Alison Lehman, County Executive Officer