



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

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Sean Powers, Agency Director

Agricultural Commissioner

Building Department

Environmental Health

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Dept. of Public Works

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

MEETING DATE: February 25, 2020
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sean Powers, CDA Director
SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing State of California Cannabis Equity Act Grant Funding Executed by the Community Development Agency (CDA)

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the resolution authorizing State of California Cannabis Equity Act Grant Funding executed by the Community Development Agency.

FUNDING: N/A. This resolution reflects the intent to apply for grant funds. A resolution to accept funds and/or contracts would come back to the Board for consideration.

BACKGROUND: On February 5, 2020 the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) announced the release of the Grant Solicitation for the Cannabis Equity Grants Program for local jurisdictions. Only eligible local jurisdictions (cities and counties) may apply for this grant. Applications must be submitted electronically via the online application portal by March 9, 2020. The purpose of the Cannabis Equity Grants Program is to assist populations and communities impacted by cannabis prohibition by providing support to local jurisdictions as they promote equity in California and eliminate barriers to enter the newly regulated cannabis industry. The grant solicitation is attached for further information about the grant. A Cannabis Equity Assessment is required to access any of these funds and Nevada County would need assistance to perform the Cannabis Equity Assessment.

Humboldt is the only county with an equity program and Mendocino County is starting the process. Cities with equity programs include Oakland, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sacramento. Humboldt's assessment was performed by the California Center for Rural Policy (CCRP) at Humboldt State University. Mendocino is now under contract with the CCRP to conduct their assessment and design their program. CDA reached out to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development and that office concurs with using CCRP as a respectable choice for conducting the assessment. The County intends to engage in a service contract with CCRP and that contract is being negotiated. With the tight timeline to apply for the grant, the resolution is being brought before the Board as staff had a month to put this project and application together.

Additional rounds of equity grant funding are promised in subsequent years and a completed Cannabis Equity Assessment is required to access those funds. The cost of assessment is eligible for the grant funding and should be reimbursed from the State. CDA supports using this funding to assist applicants with coming into the regulated market and obtaining the necessary permits.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Sean Powers, CDA Director

Submittal Date: February 13, 2020

Revision Date:

Attachments