



**COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Building – Cannabis Division

950 MAIDU AVENUE, SUITE 170, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617
(530) 265-1222 FAX (530) 265-9851 <http://mynevadacounty.com>

Trisha Tillotson
Community Development Agency Director

Craig Griesbach
Building Director

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

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Craig Griesbach, Building Director

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing application for, and receipt of, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development Cannabis Equity Grants program For Local Jurisdictions

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the resolution authorizing the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Grant application executed by the Community Development Agency.

FUNDING: This resolution reflects the intent to apply for competitive grant funding and receive grant funds to fund the operation of the County's Cannabis Equity Program. A resolution to accept an award and for FY 21-22 program expenses and offsetting grant revenues will come back to the Board with a request for a budget amendment in the event an award is made. This resolution includes a local contribution of \$50,000 conditional upon the receipt of grant funds that will be from the general fund. This will be included in a budget amendment in the event that an award is made and will be taken back to the Board.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution Authorizing Submittal of the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Application
- California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Grant Guidelines
- California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development's Cannabis Equity Grants Program Grant application Budget
- Government Agency Tax ID Form

BACKGROUND: On October 1, 2021, 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 2021-2022, the Cannabis Equity Grants Program for Local Jurisdictions was allocated fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the Cannabis Tax Fund, and twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) from the General Fund as a one-time allocation, for a total of thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000). 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 seven million dollars (\$7,000,000).

In 2020, Nevada County was awarded Type 1 funding to complete a Cannabis Local Equity Assessment which was completed and approved in Board Resolution NO. 21-431 on September 28, 2021. 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. It is now the desire of the County to pursue Type 2 funds through the same grant program. Funding Request Type 2, otherwise known as Assistance for Cannabis Equity Program Applicants and Licensees, allows for the following eligible uses of funding:

Assistance for cannabis equity program applicants and licensees to gain entry to, and to successfully operate in, the state's regulated cannabis marketplace.

There are two eligibility requirements for a local jurisdiction to qualify for a Type 2 grant.

1. The jurisdiction must have already conducted a cannabis equity assessment by the application due date; and
2. The jurisdiction must have adopted and/or operates a cannabis local equity program by the application due date.

Nevada County meets these qualifications and is applying for a total of \$2,395,654.45 to fund the implementation of the Cannabis Local Equity Program. On September 28, 2021, the Board also recognized the need for a local contribution recommendation for \$50,000 as a non-required match for this program.

Grant applications shall be submitted through the GO-Biz online Cannabis Equity Grants portal by December 13, 2021 at 11:59p.m. PT. Grant Agreements are anticipated to be executed no later than March 15, 2022.

SUMMARY:

In summary, the application and award of these grant funds will provide direct funding to implement the County's Cannabis Local Equity Program. Because this is a competitive grant, staff will return to the Board to accept an official grant agreement in the event of an award.

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Item Initiated and Approved By:
Submitted:

Craig Griesbach, Building Director
November 1, 2021