



RESOLUTION No. _____
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF NEVADA AND SIERRA GOLD PARKS
FOUNDATION FOR AN OUTDOOR VISITOR SAFETY FUND GRANT
FOR \$71,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH AWARDEE.**

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package passed by Congress and signed by President Joseph Biden on March 11, 2021 in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic challenges. ARPA included \$350 billion in State and Local Aid, which included \$65.1 billion in direct funding to counties. Based on US Treasury allocations, Nevada County has been allocated \$19,376,239 in funding; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, staff brought a preliminary ARPA Expenditure Plan to the Board for direction. The plan included a recommendation to allocate 30% of ARPA funds (\$5.8M) to “Community & Economic Resiliency” projects. This included one loan program and four grants, including the “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund” program, which was allotted between \$800,000-\$1 Million for improvements to major river crossings and trailheads impacted by increased visitation; and

WHEREAS at the February 8, 2022 Board of Supervisors regular meeting the preliminary plan was further refined and ratified with the adoption of Recreation as an objective, including additional funding augmenting ARPA funds for recreation with a subsequent Recreation budget unit established within the Community Development Agency; and

WHEREAS the goal of the Recreation Board Objective is “to promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets” with a specific initiative to “Identify and implement strategies to promote health and safety at river crossings, lakes, trailheads, and other high-use or high-risk areas”; and

WHEREAS, the Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund is comprised of \$450,000 in ARPA Funds and \$400,000 General Fund Economic Infrastructure Assignment dollars; and

WHEREAS, the County awarded a first round of Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund grants totaling \$415,570 to eligible entities which included nonprofit organizations, for-profit businesses, special purpose districts, and pending availability of general fund moneys, State and Federal agencies, to respond to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with proposals that will increase resiliency and promote health and safety at highly impacted outdoor recreation destinations; and

WHEREAS, remaining funds total \$34,430 in ARPA and \$400,000 in General Funds in the Recreation budget unit 0101-70102-325-1000-521520; and

WHEREAS, the County released a request for applications for a second round of Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund grants on February 8, 2023, from eligible entities; and

WHEREAS, 20 concept proposals were received from 18 different organizations; and

WHEREAS, a 7-member evaluation panel (Panel), consisting of three community members and four county staff, reviewed and scored concept proposals; and

WHEREAS, 12 proposals from 11 different organizations were invited to submit a full proposal; and

WHEREAS, the County received 11 final full proposals from 9 individual eligible entities totaling \$815,230; and

WHEREAS, the same evaluation panel again reviewed and scored applications with a recommended list of eight projects from seven eligible awardees; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipient Agreements were developed on a case-by-case basis and reviewed with the Auditor-Controller to ensure the grantees are in good standing with the County; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipients will enter in the attached “Grant Award Recipient Agreement” with the County, and additionally specifying that grant recipients will provide quarterly reports beginning in January 2024; and

WHEREAS, to promote transparency, required quarterly reporting will be posted on the County of Nevada’s American Rescue Plan “ARPA” and Recreation web pages; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds are approved in the FY 23/24 County Budget; and

WHEREAS, Sierra Gold Parks Foundation was among the seven awardees approved for funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, that:

1. The Grant Award Recipient Agreement awarding \$71,000 in an “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund Grant” to Sierra Gold Parks Foundation is hereby approved.
2. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to execute the grant agreement on behalf of the County of Nevada for the “Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund” which is hereby approved and attached hereto.