



TO: GCS D Board of Directors

FROM: Pete Kampa, General Manager

DATE: December 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6D: Adoption of a Resolution Approving Application for the American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Funding for Trail Infrastructure and Public Access Enhancements

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

I move to adopt Resolution 44-2021 approving Application for the American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Funding for Trail Infrastructure and Public Access Enhancements.

BACKGROUND:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law. This historic legislation was designed to enable all Americans to respond to and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Under the American Rescue Plan, The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) was allocated \$3 billion in supplemental funding to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build back better by accelerating the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and building local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks. American Rescue Plan funding enables EDA to provide larger, more transformational investments across the nation while utilizing its greatest strengths, including flexible funding to support community-led economic development.

Several funding opportunities were created by the EDA with the American Rescue Plan funds, including the *Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Program*. There is \$240 million that has been allocated to the competitive side of this program aimed at helping communities that have been hardest hit by challenges facing the travel, tourism and outdoor recreation sectors to invest in infrastructure, workforce or other projects to support the recovery of the industry and economic resilience of the community in the future.

Under this component, EDA will fund travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation projects that include non-construction and construction activities. For the most part, this component is intended to fund projects that are focused on new and expanded infrastructure, projects with a multi-state or national focus, and projects in regions most adversely affected by damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors from the coronavirus pandemic.

Through this program, EDA can support both the development of travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery strategies and the implementation of recovery projects, including in communities adjacent to National Park Service units, State Parks, National Marine Sanctuaries, and

other natural destinations. This includes construction activities where the project is owned by the Eligible Applicant such as:

- Water and stormwater/wastewater improvements,
- Pier construction and improvements,
- New outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements,
- Nature-based infrastructure projects to improve access to recreation,
- Cultural, arts, and tourism facilities (e.g., visitor or tourist information centers),
- Workforce training facilities and capacity building programs,
- Accessibility enhancements, and
- Country-wide or multi-state travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion

Grants range from \$500,000 to \$10 million (more or less okay). It will fund 100%, but does require some justification as to why a 20% match cannot be matched.

Staff feels that much of the District's park and recreational concepts that have been developed over the last couple of years will be extremely competitive given the guidelines and prioritizations of this grant program. The development of an RV park/campground facilities, along with the Hetch Hetchy Trail that support tourism and their location to Yosemite National Park being the most competitive.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution 44-2021
- [EDA Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation One Page Information Sheet](#)
- [EDA Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Presentation](#)

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant opportunity has the opportunity to be funded 100% if adequate justification can be provided why the District cannot fund the 20%.

RESOLUTION 44-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT APPROVING APPLICATION FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT TRAVEL, TOURISM, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION FUNDING FOR TRAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC ACCESS ENHANCMENTS

WHEREAS, the Groveland Community Services District (herein referred to as District) is a local government agency formed and operating in accordance with Section §61000 et seq. of the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law. This historic legislation was designed to enable all Americans to respond to and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Under the American Rescue Plan, The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) was allocated \$3 billion in supplemental funding to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build back better by accelerating the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and building local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks, and;

WHEREAS, several funding opportunities were created by the EDA with the American Rescue Plan funds, including the *Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Program*; and

WHEREAS, there is \$240 million that has been allocated to the competitive side of this program aimed at helping communities that have been hardest hit by challenges facing the travel, tourism and outdoor recreation sectors to invest in infrastructure, workforce or other projects to support the recovery of the industry and economic resilience of the community in the future; and

WHEREAS, under this component, EDA will fund travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation projects that include non-construction and construction activities; and

WHEREAS, grant awards will range between \$500,000 to \$10 million with the potential of zero match, but will require some justification as to why a 20% match cannot be matched; and

WHEREAS, staff feels that much of the District’s park and recreational concepts that have been developed over the last couple of years and contained in the Master Park Amenities Plan will be extremely competitive given the guidelines and prioritizations of this grant program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DOES hereby adopt resolution 44-2021 approving application for the American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Funding for Trail Infrastructure and Public Access.

WHEREFORE, this Resolution is passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District on December 14, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Rachel Pearlman, Board Secretary

Janice Kwiatkowski, President - Board of Directors

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, Rachel Pearlman, the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, do hereby declare that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, duly called and held on December 14, 2021.

DATED: _____