



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5th Street, Suite 111, Eureka, CA 95501-1153
Telephone (707) 476-2390 Fax (707) 445-7299

July 28, 2020

Malinda Matson
Economic Development Representative Northern & Coastal California
915 Second Avenue, Room 1890
Seattle, WA 98174-1012

RE: Support for City of Blue Lake's Grant Funding Request to US Economic Development Administration (EDA)

Dear Ms. Matson,

I am writing on behalf of the County of Humboldt to state our strong support for the City of Blue Lake's request for funding through the *EDA 2019 Disaster Supplemental Grant Program* for an RV park and campground on undeveloped land within the City of Blue Lake. We feel this development is strategically aligned with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and will bring a new, higher end tourist amenity to the region.

Humboldt County has not had a new RV park developed in many years and it's a gap in our lodging strategy when it comes to attracting and maintaining visitors to our area. The City of Blue Lake is looking to be a basecamp for those that are traveling with their campers and RVs and that want to stay in our region longer and visit our many attractions.

The City of Blue Lake is proposing to meet their match requirement by creating opportunities for various partner agencies to participate in the project. They are proposing to structure the contract to include scoping sessions with local tourism, marketing and economic development groups to ensure that the project is evaluated in a way that reflects the strategies identified in the CEDS, the County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors' Strategic Framework and other regional investment strategies.

The City of Blue Lake would also like to have input from county partners on the evaluation of proforma data as well as final development and investment strategies. If funded, the County of Humboldt is allocating a minimum of eighty hours of staff time for County Economic Development Division staff to assist the City of Blue Lake with their project.

With these points in mind, we strongly support the City of Blue Lake's efforts to bolster the regional economy through promoting tourism and development within Blue Lake.

Regards,

Estelle Fennell

Chair, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors



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cc: Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development
Senator Mike McGuire, Chair, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors