

STAFF REPORT

Date: **October 23, 2024**

To: **Mayor and City Council**

Through: **Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager**

Subject: **Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the FY2024 Economic Development Initiative Community Project Funding Grant for the City of Reno California Building Historic Rehabilitation and Facility Upgrades Project in the amount of \$870,000.**

From: **Dan Tresley, Project Manager**

Department: **Maintenance and Operations**

Summary:

Congress approved grants for Economic Development Initiative (EDI) Community Project Funding (CPF) as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, (Public Law 118-42). Congress awards grants to communities under the EDI for the purpose of supporting housing, homelessness prevention, workforce training, public facilities, parks, resilience planning, and other critical infrastructure projects and services. Under this initiative, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto and Senator Jacky Rosen earmarked \$870,000 for the City of Reno California Building Historic Rehabilitation and Facility Upgrades. These CPF awards are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are subject to the rules and spending categories outlined in the federal legislation and by the United States Department of Treasury. On March 8, 2024, the HUD Office of Economic Development, Congressional Grants Division (CGD) officially approved the City of Reno’s grant application for this project and issued an award letter for Council approval. Staff recommends Council accept these funds for the expenditure to complete the California Building's historic rehabilitation and facility upgrades.

| Consent Review | Yes | No |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval? | | X |
| 2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council? | | X |
| 3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council? | | X |
| Other Considerations | | |

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| What percent of the total City budget does this item represent? | 0.0% |
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Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability
Economic and Community Development
Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

In 2024, Congress made available “grants for the Economic Development Initiative for the purposes of Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the Consolidated Appropriations Act. These funds finance a wide variety of public project activities including facility site planning and preparation; facility construction, renovation, rehabilitation or purchase; streetscaping; development or improvement of parks or other public spaces; and many others.

This grant award was allocated by Senator Catherine Cortez Masto and Senator Jacky Rosen under the FY2024 EDI CPF initiative and is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HUD Office of Economic Development, Congressional Grants Division (CGD) has officially awarded the City of Reno \$870,00 to fund historic rehabilitation and facility upgrades at the California Building.

Discussion:

The California Building is an historic building within the City of Reno’s Idlewild Park. This building is frequently used for recreational programs, community events, community meetings, and both K-12 and university educational programs. This is a very popular building for the public and that popularity has resulted in signs of significant wear and tear. Planned improvements for project include a major interior renovation with repair work and expansion to the exterior that will both expand and ensure the capability of this building to continue to serve our community.

This project will support major renovations to the interior and exterior of the City of Reno’s historic California Building. Interior renovations will include expanding and renovating the kitchen, renovating the men’s and women’s restrooms, remodeling the building’s office space, providing gender neutral restroom, repairing water damage in the ceiling and interior walls, painting the interior, and replacing flooring. Exterior renovations will include repairing the

concrete patio in the rear of the building, painting the exterior, rehabilitating the outdoor serving structure, and adding a shade structure. This repair work will preserve the historical significance of the structure while also ensuring current and future generations can share in the City's unique cultural heritage. If approved, this project is estimated to start construction in spring 2025.

Financial Implications:

These funds are received outside the normal City budget process and generally are unable to offset other City expenses outside the intended use for this grant. Uses for these funds are restricted and must follow U.S. Treasury rules and guidance.

Legal Implications:

The acceptance of the grant requires the City to accept and comply with all terms and conditions of the grant and further approve and sign a grant agreement.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council accept the FY2024 Economic Development Initiative Community Project Funding Grant Award in the amount of \$870,000 for the California Building's historic rehabilitation and facility upgrades.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendations.

Attachments:

FY 2024 Community Project Funding Award Letter