

Board Report

File #: 21-1051, Version: 1

Adopt a resolution to authorize creation and implementation of the Growing Equity Together Program. <u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt a resolution to authorize creation and implementation of the Growing Equity Together Program.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION

In October 2021 the Cannabis Program ("Program") presented the proposed structure of the Growing Equity Together ("GET") Program to the Board of Supervisors together with a request that the Board authorize the Program to execute a grant agreement with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. The details of this structure are provided again for the Board's convenience as Exhibit B to this report.

The proposed GET structure was reviewed and approved by the Board, however, due to an oversight, the Resolution did not expressly authorize the creation of the GET program. On review of the Resolution by the assigned grant analyst, this issue was identified as potentially fatal to the grant application. accepted. To qualify for a Type 2 grant award, a local jurisdiction must have adopted a local equity program; the language in the board order and resolution did not explicitly state that this was the intent or direction from the Board. Consequently, the Program now requests that the Board expressly authorize the creation and implementation of the GET Program by adopting the attached Draft Resolution in advance of the December 13, 2021 application deadline. Doing so will ensure that the Program can timely file its application and hence, will remain eligible to receive the requested approximately \$1.7m in grant funding already earmarked for the County by the state.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The Office of the County Counsel reviewed and assisted with the preparation of this report.

FINANCING:

The County's Cannabis Program is funded in County Administrative Office - Department 1050, Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs Division - Unit 8533, Cannabis. Approval of this report and funding thereof depends on a GO-Biz Tier 2 grant application with an indeterminant award amount.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The County Cannabis Program addresses each of the Strategic Initiative Policy Areas that promote the growth of a responsible and legal Monterey County cannabis industry.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- X Economic Development
- X Administration
- X Health & Human Services
- X Infrastructure
- X Public Safety

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Prepared by: Joann Iwamoto, Cannabis Program Manager

Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant CAO

Attachments:

- A: Resolution Adopted 10/12/2021
- B: Growing Equity Together Framework
- C: Draft Resolution