

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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July 19, 2022

U.S. Economic Development Administration, Seattle Regional Office
Sheba Person Whitley, Regional Director
915 Second Ave Room 1890
Seattle, Washington 98174

RE: Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program
El Dorado County Caldor Fire – DR 4616
Match Letter

Dear Director Whitley,

The County of El Dorado submits this letter in support of Sierra Business Council's application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) Program under the Special Need criteria for the Caldor Fire, federally declared major disaster number DR-4616. The Caldor Fire burned over 220,000 acres, destroyed over 1,000 structures, and decimated the community of Grizzly Flats, CA. Prior to the Caldor Fire, the County of El Dorado was already suffering economically from extreme drought and latent impacts of the COVID-19 disasters. The Caldor Fire was a crushing blow to the County's key industry sectors, essential infrastructure, and jobs.

The County is in dire need of economic assistance and capacity building to begin recovery operations. A PWEAA grant will help provide essential support for the development of a Disaster Recovery Plan. The County of El Dorado has worked with the Sierra Business Council (SBC) to identify a preliminary recovery strategy scope that is focused on the necessary infrastructure to ensure residents can return to their homes and jobs, supports sustainable economic development, fosters much needed high quality job creation, and builds resilience into the local economy.

The County of El Dorado is committed to meet the required 20% match with dedicated County Planning staff time as part of the SBC project team. In-kind match is available as needed for the duration of the project, unencumbered and dedicated to the proposed project. In-kind fund commitment for this project is \$29,590.

The SBC is well-positioned to provide disaster recovery coordination services for the County of El Dorado and we respectfully encourage your support and approval of their PWEAA2020 grant application.

Signed,

Lori Parlin, Chair
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors
County of El Dorado, State of California