



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO EDA GRANT

Award Number 07-79-07

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY PLAN

Progress Report: Oct 2019-March 2020

Activities Overview for Reporting Period:

Oct. 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020

Description of Accomplishments, Benefits and Impacts Attributed to Project and its Activities:

Initial data has been gathered by the Economic Development and Financing Corporation (EDFC) who reviewed 11 economic indicators and interviewed more than 15 key business owners, industry leaders, and stakeholders. We have secured the hire of Economic Development Coordinator, Una Wirkebau to project manage the ongoing workplan. A steering committee was established, with regular reoccurring meetings, comprised of economic development stakeholders and county. To date the committee has:

- Created a project plan
- Created and launched website www.MOVE2030.org
- Created www.facebook.com/move2030 site
- Data compilation has begun with a completed SWOT analyses report
- Determined Cluster analyses conducted by 3rd part vendor is in progress

Reviews and discussions on regional economic development plans in adjacent communities (Humboldt County, Lake County, Windsor, Sonoma County, Eureka, Arcata, Healdsburg). EDFC has contacted all 4 cities, initiating input and responses to survey questions for data collection.

In progress, development of an advisory team with key leaders to begin meeting in June

Highlight of Possible Upcoming Media Events or Opportunities for Collaborative Media Events:

- Press Releases: Nov. 6, 2019 and Feb 7, 2020
- The second phase of the Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan “MOVE 2030: Mendocino Opportunities for a Vibrant Economy” was announced
- Newsletter’s will begin by the end of May
- Blog Posts: <https://www.westcenter.org/mendo-business-news/creating-mendocino-opportunities-for-a-vibrant-economy-move-2030>
- COVID out-break has temporarily placed a hold on community outreach

Discussion of Progress to Date in Comparison to Established Timeline:

- Phase one and two are still in line with progress. Phases three and four will be impacted due to COVID and lack of ability to meet stakeholders. However we believe we can create a final report by March 31 2021
 - Phase ONE: Approach, Implementation
 - Phase TWO: Data Acquisition and Analysis
 - Phase THREE: Community Engagement
 - Phase FOUR: Reports and Recommendations

Discussion of Challenges that Current Impact or Could Impact Project Progress:

- COVID-19 and the associated Shelter-in-Place ruling is causing some difficulty in contacting various entities for data collection

- Unable to have a community kick-off for event, due to Shelter-in-Place directive

Discussion of Needs for EDA Assistance or Information that Should be Known to EDA:

- Adjustments have been made to the Digital Learning Hub Scope of Work. It has been approved and we are awaiting the paperwork for final sign off
- The *Mendocino County Digital Infrastructure Plan: 2019 – 2025* managed by the North Bay North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC) has submitted the application to the CPUC's CASF Infrastructure Program for grant funding to implement the first part of the plan for broadband expansion