

# COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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**Ed Scofield**

Supervisor, 2nd District

Email: [ed.scofield@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:ed.scofield@co.nevada.ca.us)

October 3, 2014

County of Nevada  
Board of Supervisors  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

**DATE OF MEETING:** October 14, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Letter of support for the Economic Resource Council's Digital Media Leadership Campus.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the attached letter

**FUNDING:** None.

**BACKGROUND:** The Economic Resource Council (ERC) is applying for a grant from the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) to develop a Digital Media Leadership Campus in Nevada County. This Campus is envisioned to serve as a hub for emerging and existing companies focused on video technologies; including broadcast, satellite, video collaboration, surveillance, security, military, space, and other emerging technologies. It would possess world class video-centric programs, training and collaboration labs, and office space.

According to its website, "EDA is committed to helping foster connected, innovation-centric economic sectors which support commercialization and entrepreneurship as described in the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010... As part of this strategy, funding is available for capacity-building activities that include Proof of Concept Centers and Commercialization Centers as well as scaling of existing commercialization programs and centers; feasibility studies for the creation and expansion of facilities such as science and research parks; and supporting opportunities to close the funding gap for early-stage companies." Under this program, the ERC is applying for \$500,000 under a competition entitled, "Science and Research Park Development Grants."

To augment its application, ERC is requesting letters of support from local governments, businesses and institutions. I believe the EDA grant and the Digital Media Leadership Campus as envisioned by ERC are a perfect fit for each other. Therefore, I request your approval of the attached letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Scofield  
Supervisor, District II

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October 14, 2014

Ms. Julie Lenzer Kirk, Director  
Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship  
U.S. Economic Development Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Suite 71014  
Washington, DC 20230

**RE: Board of Supervisors Support for Nevada County Economic Resource Council's  
Application for EDA**

Dear Ms. Kirk:

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors strongly supports the Economic Resource Council's (ERC) application for a \$500,000 Science and Research Park Development Grant.

This grant would help fund the development of an American Digital Media Leadership Campus in Nevada County. This campus represents the potential for a "game changing" economic development advancement in our County. The Campus would serve as a hub for emerging and existing companies focused on video technologies; including broadcast, satellite, video collaboration, surveillance, security, military, space, and other emerging technologies. It would possess world class video-centric programs, training and collaboration labs, and office space. Such a campus would propel Nevada County and our region as a "hub" for digital media and related industries and provide a needed boost to our economy. If funded, this grant could pave the way to "fast track" the project, covering much of the feasibility and design work that would be required.

A Task Force comprised of individuals from the public and private sectors, (including digital media executives) has been assembled and is working on a strategic plan for the Leadership Campus. The commitment of these individuals demonstrates a strong public/private partnership that is dedicated to making this vision a reality.

Therefore, we request the Economic Development Administration approve the ERC's application for funding and help launch the Digital Media Leadership Campus.

Sincerely,

Nathan H. Beason,  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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