

Economic Development Division Implementation Update

The Executive Office has also began working with Human Resources to create a new classification for an Economic Development Coordinator. This position will require understanding of local resources, data analysis skills, project management skills, facilitation skills, strategic planning skills, and can manage and leverage complex state and federal grants. The position will have the same salary scale as an Administrative Analyst I/II. Although the economic development work is multi-discipline and includes various partners and County departments, the Economic Development Coordinator will be the primary contact to track economic development performance measures.

The Executive Office thrives to create an Economic Development Division that is SMART (Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Relevant and Time-bound). In order to understand and develop performance measures, staff is reviewing the Move2030 plan by West Business Development Center, Industry Clusters and Employment Multipliers Key Findings by TCCG Tech Coast Consulting Group, Mendocino County 2018-2019 Economic Assessment by EDFC, County of Mendocino: Economic Assessment Resilience Analysis by Beacon, County of Mendocino Economic Development Analysis by Beacon, Workforce Alliance of North Bay's Labor Market Analysis, EDA's Economic Development Recovery and Resiliency Playbook, and monthly Labor Force Data for Counties published by EDD.

Staff will be attending the 2023 State of the Region Summit: Our Elemental Economy in September. Staff will start attending the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) and Sonoma-Mendocino Economic Development District (SMEDD) meetings. Furthermore, staff intends to invite the Community Development Commission (CDC) of Mendocino County to attend the Economic Development Standing Committee meeting in September to initiate housing discussions.

With the Grants Division; Prevention, Resiliency, Recovery, and Mitigation (PRRM) Division; Contracts Unit, and Office of Emergency Services (OES) in the same reporting structure, the Economic Development Division is well structured to form relationships with community partners, strategically design and track projects, and apply for and leverage grant funding. Staff has already researched the economic development practices of other northern California counties—including but not limited to El Dorado, Humboldt, Lake, Nevada, Sonoma, Sutter, and Yolo. The Executive Office will form the division based on best practices with the available resources we have. The Executive Office is eager for the Economic Development Division to be created and looks forward for further direction from the Board.