



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO Executive Office

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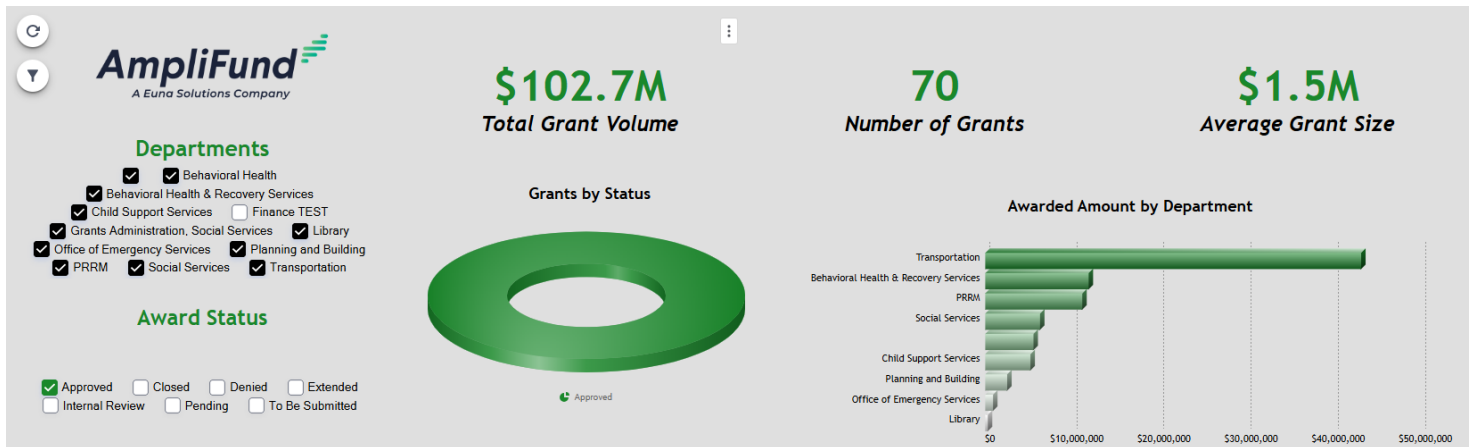
Introduction

In June, the Grants Unit provided significant support to County departments and advanced projects in alignment with the County's strategic plan. Mendocino County was nominated for the national Euna Advocate Award for its leadership in modernizing governmental grants management through the implementation of AmpliFund. HCD awarded the County a \$407,000 grant to launch the County's new Microenterprise Technical Assistance Program, which will provide direct support to at least 54 small local businesses. The Grants Unit also supported the PRRM Division's efforts to advance major wildfire resilience initiatives, including submitting a \$9.5 million notice of interest for a FEMA HMGP sub-application and continuing the development of a \$950,000 CAL FIRE Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project grant proposal. In addition, staff is assisting Social Services and the Mendocino County Continuum of Care with their HHAP Round 6 homelessness funding application. In FY 2024–25, the Grants Unit, in coordination with County departments and grant consultants, submitted seven grant applications and pre-proposals totaling \$16.7 million. It is currently assisting with the management of 16 active grants, valued at over \$16.4 million, for the Executive Office.

I. Effective County Government Organization

a. Grants Management Software Implementation - National Recognition

Mendocino County has been nominated for the Euna Advocate Award, a national honor recognizing the County's leadership in modernizing government grant management practices. This nomination follows the implementation of county-wide training and workshops using AmpliFund, a centralized grants management system designed to enhance transparency, compliance, and efficiency across departments. In June, the County's implementation team was invited to share their experience at the national AmpliFund Government Affinity Group meeting. There, staff highlighted the County's collaborative approach, training efforts, and commitment to strategic grant oversight. The County's story resonated with jurisdictions across the country, leading Euna Solutions, AmpliFund's parent company, to nominate the County for this prestigious award. Winners will be announced at the EunaVerse Conference in September, and the County is honored to be considered for this distinction.



Sample AmpliFund report

II. A Safe and Healthy County

a. \$943,276.82 - Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6, California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) [Application]

The Grants Unit is assisting the Department of Social Services and the Mendocino County Continuum of Care in developing and submitting their application for the Round 6 allocation of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program for Mendocino County. This round will provide \$760 million in non-competitive regional allocations statewide, with applications due by August 29, 2025. The program focuses on reducing unsheltered homelessness, maintaining both permanent and interim housing solutions, and aligning local actions with state housing laws. This collaboration is crucial for ensuring that Mendocino County can access its HHAP allocation and remain competitive for future state resources dedicated to addressing homelessness.

III. A Thriving Economy

a. **\$407,385.76 – Microenterprise Technical Assistance Program, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Income (PI) [Award]**

On June 26, 2025, HCD approved Mendocino County's application to establish a Microenterprise Technical Assistance Program. This initiative, led by County Economic Development staff, will provide targeted support to small-scale businesses by offering one-on-one counseling, workshops, and online resources. The program is designed to help microenterprises overcome the various barriers they face, especially those related to governmental regulations, permits, licenses, zoning, and other areas where business and government intersect—common challenges that often hinder business growth. By offering direct technical assistance, the County aims to empower local entrepreneurs with the tools and knowledge needed to successfully launch, manage, and expand their businesses, ultimately supporting regional economic development and job creation.

b. **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) RFP**

The Grants Unit with support from the Economic Development Division, is conducting a competitive Request for Proposal ([RFP](#)) process to solicit projects eligible for approximately \$600,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Income (PI) and possibly the upcoming Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The initiative invited eligible applicants to submit proposals for projects that align with CDBG program goals and County objectives, specifically benefiting low- and moderate-income residents. Twelve applications were received, and four applications were invited for interviews. Staff is currently verifying the eligibility of the top-scoring projects for CDBG funding with HCD. Once eligibility is confirmed, staff will finalize its funding recommendations from the RFP and seek direction from the Board on which project applications should be developed and submitted to HCD. The public hearing is scheduled for July 29, 2025.

IV. A Prepared and Resilient County

a. **\$9,500,000 - Sherwood Corridor Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4856, CalOES/FEMA [Application]**

The Grants Unit worked in collaboration with the Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, and Mitigation (PRRM) Division to submit a Notice of Interest (NOI) on May 28, 2025, for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4856 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and received notice on June 17, 2025 that the NOI was determined to represent and eligible HMGP activity and received a formal invitation to submit a full sub-application for HMGP funding consideration. The Grants Unit and PRRM team are working closely to develop a full sub-application to submitted by September 15, 2025. The Sherwood Corridor Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project aims to reduce the risk of loss of life and property by removing hazardous fuel loads in two key areas: (1) strategic buffer zones around Brooktrails homes and critical infrastructure, including drinking water facilities and emergency services; and (2) along Sherwood Road, which is the only major evacuation route to nearby communities and resources, as well as along the internal roads of Brooktrails. This scope of work was adapted from the County's canceled BRIC grant. After the cancellation of the

County's BRIC Phase 2 grant, and upon the advice of CalOES, the County revised the original BRIC Phase 2 scope of work to align with the requirements of this new funding opportunity.

b. **\$950,000 - Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) [Application]**

The Grants Unit is collaborating with the County's Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, and Mitigation (PRRM) Division to develop and submit a CAL FIRE grant application due August 6, 2025. The proposed project aims to support the county's ongoing wildfire resilience strategy, reduce risks, and improve emergency response capabilities in vulnerable areas.

c. **\$295,000 - Mendocino County Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Planning and Capacity Building, California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) [Amendment Approval]**

The Grants Unit received notification on June 17, 2025, that HCD approved the grant amendment for the Mendocino County Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance grant. This planning initiative aims to enhance public safety and reduce the risk of wildfires by developing a comprehensive and enforceable strategy for managing hazardous vegetation and combustible materials. Key tasks include researching best practices from other jurisdictions, analyzing the existing County ordinance (Chapter 8.77), and creating a tailored fuel abatement strategy that is specific to Mendocino County's rural context. The expected outcomes of the project will include a detailed implementation plan, updated ordinance language, and an assessment of the staffing and resources needed for effective enforcement. This project specifically addresses the challenges related to enforcing the County's current abatement policies, which involve high costs and limited capacity. The resulting plan will propose practical and cost-effective enforcement mechanisms designed to better serve communities throughout the County.

V. **Other/Additional Information**

2025 MANAGED GRANT FUNDS - GRANT UNIT

Funder	Grant Title	Project Title	Start	End	Awarded Amount	Project Goals	Status
CDBG/HUD	CDBG - Economic Development 2021	Mendocino County Microenterprise Technical Assistance	10/20/2022	10/19/2025	\$250,000.00	Project goals include microenterprise technical assistance services provided to a total of 110 beneficiaries, 6 workshops held, outreach & marketing plan completed & regular reporting.	Microenterprise technical assistance services provided by West Business Development Center to a total of 103 unique clients, ongoing outreach & marketing as well as quarterly progress reporting to the County.
CDBG/HUD	CDBG - Economic Development 2024	Mendocino County Microenterprise Technical Assistance	7/7/2025	7/7/2028	\$407,385.76	The County's In-House Microenterprise Program, funded by the CDBG PI, will provide technical support to microenterprises to help entrepreneurs launch and grow their businesses. The main objective of this program is to assist microenterprises in overcoming barriers, particularly those related to government regulations and processes. The program will offer assessments, service plans, workshops, and one-on-one consulting for a minimum of fifty-four clients, along with at least six workshops.	The notice of grant award was received on June 26, 2025. Currently, staff are engaged in a thorough review of the draft program manual and are finalizing it. Staff intends to present the manual to the Board of Supervisors for adoption in September.
CDBG/HUD	CDBG - Non-Housing 2021	Covelo Cleanup	8/17/2022	8/17/2025	\$500,000.00	Project goals include capacity building for RVIT (train 2 staff & purchase equipment), develop signage and social media posts for an outreach campaign, hold community volunteer cleanup events, removal of waste at least two (2) high visibility illegal dump sites, removal of junk vehicles on land subject to RVIT & county jurisdiction	On 12/9/24 the County requested a one-year extension from HCD, which the County signed on 6/20/25 and is currently waiting on HCD to counter sign. Before issuing the RFP for cleanup services, the County needs Permission to Enter Agreements from landowners for a minimum of two sites with illegal dumps. The RVIT has signed for the parcel it controls and project partners are working through land ownership issues with the remaining sites. RFP for clean up once Permission to Enter Agreements are secured for all sites. The RVIT Natural Resources Department and MCRCD are working together to plan community cleanups and outreach.

CDBG/HUD	CDBG-Mitigation Planning & Public Services NOFA	Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Planning and Capacity Building	1/9/2023	2/29/2028	\$295,000.00	The project aims to enhance public safety and reduce the risk of wildfires by developing a comprehensive and enforceable strategy for managing hazardous vegetation and combustible materials. Key tasks include researching best practices from other jurisdictions, analyzing the existing County ordinance (Chapter 8.77), and creating a tailored fuel abatement strategy specific to Mendocino County's rural context. The goal is to explore how other communities enforce hazardous fuel abatement for public safety, analyze existing ordinances, recommend a strategy for the County's program, and update ordinance language while estimating implementation resources.	The Grants Unit received notification on June 17, 2025, that HCD approved the grant amendment for the Mendocino County Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance grant. An RFP for a project consultant is expected to be released in July. The contractor will research fuel abatement programs and ordinance language used in other communities, engage with the project team to analyze findings, and recommend an approach tailored to Mendocino County. Based on this, the contractor will draft an action summary and workplan, propose updated ordinance language, and provide a forecast of the resources required for adoption and implementation.
CDBG/HUD	CDBG-Mitigation Planning & Public Services NOFA	Fire Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Public Services	1/22/2022	6/25/2025	\$187,064.00	The County seeks to combine two awarded abatement projects into one Fuel Abatement Ordinance and Enforcement Planning Project to better meet its needs. The goal is to explore how other communities enforce hazardous fuel abatement for public safety, analyze existing ordinances, recommend a strategy for the County's program, and update ordinance language while estimating implementation resources.	A project amendment request submitted to HCD 8/23/24. At the 3/3/25 check in with HCD, the program officer informed the County the application is under final review. On 4/22/25, the County completed the HCD close-out procedure for this grants so funds (\$187k) can be moved to the Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Planning and Capacity Building project. Project now officially closed out and funds being transferred to the Fire-Hazard Abatement Ordinance Implementation Planning and Capacity Building grant.
CDBG/HUD	17DR-Infrastructure & 17MIT-RIP Project Applications (NTP)	911 Switching Equipment	10/14/2022	2/28/2026 (preliminary approval to extend to 12/31/27)	\$3,732,597.00	Project entails the purchase and installation of an approximately 760-square-foot prefabricated bunker-type structure (bunker) to house 911 switching equipment, the replacement of the existing building electrical panels, and a new generator.	The equipment bunker, generator and electrical system have been completed, tested and the permit signed off. Installation and testing of, dispatch, communications and networking equipment continues. Received preliminary approval on 4/23/25 from HCD for extension request which would extend end date to 12/31/27, with formal approval coming in July 2025.

CDBG/HUD	17DR-Infrastructure & 17MIT-RIP Project Applications (NTP)	Microwave and Radio Communications Systems	8/1/2023	2/28/2026 (preliminary approval to extend to 12/31/27)	\$1,150,823.00	Project entails improved reliability and resiliency of microwave and radio communications systems through procurement and installation of higher capacity, upgraded microwave equipment (16 sites to receive upgraded equipment).	Installation contractor has completed installation and training is scheduled for October. Received preliminary approval on 4/23/25 from HCD for extension request which would extend end date to 12/31/27, with formal approval coming in July 2025.
CDBG/HUD	17DR-Infrastructure & 17MIT-RIP Project Applications (NTP)	Microwave Facilities Hardening	6/2/2025	2/28/26 (preliminary approval to extend to 12/31/27)	\$509,707.00	Project entails enhancing the resilience of the County's communication system equipment against hazard events through site improvements at two locations: one in northeast Mendocino County and another in southern Mendocino County.	The County faced delays due to a site's remote location, extreme weather, and complex planning. Staff requested a time extension (1/17/25) and project modifications (2/4/25). The County's completed the required environmental assessment (EA) as part of the NEPA process and submitted it on 12/20/25 along with responses to HCD questions on 3/7/25 and 3/28/25. The County received project award notification letter from HCD on 4/25/25. FONSI was posted on 5/6/25 and no public comments were received. The FONSI and RROF were sent to HCD on 5/28/25. HCD requested additional updated project information and the County expects to receive the receive its Notice to Proceed (NTP) shortly.
FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4354	Redwood Complex Ignition-Resistant Construction, Phase 2 -Batch 2	11/2/2022	6/30/2026	\$2,218,277.25	Project entails replacing flammable roofing materials with ignition resistant roofing materials for properties within Mendocino County to help improve community resiliency in the face of wildfire.	As of June 30, 2025, the program has had eleven (11) participants complete projects and reimbursements have been issued. One (1) participants has completed their project and is in the reimbursement process. Two (2) have notices to proceed. Four (4) participants have updated funding agreements awaiting signatures. 11 participants have draft funding agreements which need updated quotes. Two (2) participants have placed the project on hold. Thirteen (13) participants have withdrawn from the program. Two (2) participants were disqualified from the program.

FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4407	Emergency Warning Siren Feasibility and Installation Project, Phase 1	9/13/2021	12/31/2024	\$33,141.00	Project address the County's multiple hazards through the installation and management of early warning sirens. Phase 1 deliverables include conducting site specific workplans, mapping and land use planning, permitting and environmental activities.	Phase 1 deliverables were submitted to CalOES on 11/26/24. Key accomplishments include conducting acoustic testing, releasing an RFP for system procurement, and completing mapping, 4 site plans, and environmental reviews while integrating community feedback from RVFD meetings regarding the project. Project is awaiting FEMA project review and approval before moving to Phase II.
FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4458	Critical Generators Mitigation Project	7/18/2022	3/31/2026	\$80,285.00	Project ensures County continuity of operations during power outages due to public safety power shutoffs and disaster events. Phase 1 deliverables include procurement for a design consultant, regulatory permitting where needed, project design for finalizing each site's generator capacity and site design, and other administrative tasks to install generators at 5 County facilities.	The County's engineering consultant has completed project designs, revealing that market price increases have exceeded the current budget. County staff discussed these challenges with CalOES and formally requested a project scope revision from 5 sites to 2 and budget modification on 9/24/25. A 12-month time extension was approved on 11/18/24.
FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4558	Orr Springs Road Fuels Reduction, Phase 1.	11/4/2022	11/18/2025	\$127,975.90	Project reduces hazardous fuels along Orr Springs Road/Comptche-Ukiah Road to improve ingress and egress and aid in evacuations and access during fire events. Phase 1 includes hiring a project management contractor, completing a route survey to identify trees for removal, engaging with landowners on 183 parcels for access agreements, and developing an operations plan with revised project maps and CEQA review actions.	In July, Environmental Resources Solutions, Inc. (ERS) began surveying in areas where access agreements have been received. Access Agreements with large landowners (Mendocino Redwood Company and California State Parks) on the route are nearly complete. ERS is continuing to receive signed Right of Entry agreements that were sent to property owners in April. Landowners can indicate whether they wish to participate in the project, specify any special instructions for the contractors during the mapping process, or identify any vegetation they would like to remain undisturbed. The contractor has started outreach focusing on making contact with local business owners and fire agencies to post and distribute materials regarding the project to landowners. For more information or to complete a right of entry for this project visit https://www.eresourcesolutions.com/projects .

FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 4683	Update to Mendocino County MJHMP	3/20/2024	3/20/2027	\$345,137.49	Project will develop and adopt a FEMA approved Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was last approved in 2021 and due for an update in 2026, to meet the requirements outlined in 44 CFR Part 201 and the most current FEMA hazard mitigation plan guidance. The updated MJHMP will include the following jurisdictions: Mendocino County, City of Fort Bragg, City of Point Arena, City of Ukiah, City of Willits, Covelo Fire Protection District, Mendocino County Office of Education, and the Noyo Harbor District.	The contract for a consulting firm to update the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) was approved by the BOS on 5/20/25 (Agreement 25-041) With Synergy Disaster Recovery, LLC) and the pre-kickoff meeting with the County was held on 6/5/25. The PRRM team has scheduled the first in-person kickoff workshops with local government and applicable jurisdictions for 7/16 & 7/17.
FEMA/CalOES	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program (BRIC) – Phase 1	8/5/2024	1/17/2026	\$3,631,394.00	The grant intended a Phase 1 scoping project to design a Phase 2 program focused on home hardening and fuels management. Phase 1 was to involve hiring consultants, LIDAR mapping, public outreach, screening homes for fire hardening, identifying fuels treatment methods, site inspections, CEQA analysis, budget revisions, and report delivery. Phase 2 scope which is now canceled included approximately 750 residential home retrofits using ignition-resistant construction materials and defensible space establishment, and approximately 1,520 acres of hazardous fuels reduction, including grazing, to build community resiliency to future wildfire events in the Brooktrails/Sherwood Corridor, targeted fuels reduction around City of Willits water treatment plant, with a specific target of at least 300 acres of grazing for fuels reduction and at 5 acres of invasive species removal.	On April 4, 2025, FEMA announced the end of the BRIC program and the cancellation of all BRIC applications from Fiscal Years 2020-2023. As a result, all BRIC applications submitted during these years, including the County's 2022 sub-application, are affected. CalOES has encouraged the County to continue work on its Phase 1 deliverables (project & environmental planning) and submit reimbursements until DHS or FEMA otherwise notifies CalOES. The County is preparing an amendment request for additional time and revised scope. CalOES has also advised exploring the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) as an alternative funding opportunity for BRIC Phase 2 (project implementation) deliverables, for which staff have submitted a successful Notice of Intent (NOI).

CalOES	CalOES Prepare CA Jumpstart	Mendocino County Grants Capacity Building	7/1/2022	7/1/2027	\$992,000.00	Establish a Grants Unit within the County Executive Office to enhance grant research, application development, and reporting. Acquire grants management software and hire consultants for technical expertise and grant writing. Conduct outreach sessions in six high-hazard census tracts—Covelo, Willits, Calpella, Ukiah, Boonville, and Hopland—to gather community input on resilience goals. Submit at least 16 resilience-focused grant applications based on this feedback.	In 2023, the Grants Unit was established, and a series of 8 community outreach sessions took place across the county. A follow-up series of community outreach sessions is being planned for the second half of 2025. In 2024, grants management software was acquired and implemented county-wide, with additional training sessions and implementation county-wide in the first half of 2025. A successful RFP for a grant writing consultant was conducted in 2024. During the fiscal year 23-24, a total of 10 grant applications were submitted, amounting to \$16,386,700. So far in fiscal year 24-25, 6 applications have been submitted, totaling \$16,335,030.
CAL FIRE	CA Climate Investments Wildfire Prevention	Mendocino County Fuels Reduction and Community Preparedness	9/29/2022	3/15/2026	\$1,894,185.00	Project goals include implementation of roadside fuels reduction in key areas, completion of CEQA analysis for five future projects to streamline implementation, and funding the Mendocino County Community Chipper Days program for three additional years (225 days, serving 1,575 residents). The project will treat 66.2 acres in Covelo and Dos Rios, protecting 100-150 homes. The proposed CEQA projects (Branscomb, Black Bart Trail, Redwood Ridge, Old River Road, Hopland) aim to clear approximately 207 acres and enhance future funding opportunities.	The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, as a key project partner, has completed 73 chipper days for 560 properties, 11.57 miles / 83.64 acres of roadside fuel reduction, achieved 4 of 5 CEQA targets, and conducted 1 prescribed burn training.
			ACTIVE GRANTS	16	\$16,354,972.40		

2024-2025 GRANT APPLICATIONS - MENDOCINO COUNTY GRANT UNIT

	Funder	Grant Title	Project Title	Application Submitted	Award Status	Notification Date	Start	End	Project Cost		Column1
	AWARDED										
1	State Department of Water Resources (DWR)	Statewide Flood Emergency Response Grant Program	Mendocino County 2024 Flood Emergency Response Initiative	Preproposal 12/21/23, Full proposal 5/2/24	Awarded	9/26/2024	3/20/2025	9/30/2027	\$289,387.00		
2	Board of State and Community Corrections	Proposition 47 Cohort 4	Fort Bragg Care Response Unit-Coastal Expansion	6/10/2024	Awarded	10/4/2024	10/3/2024	6/30/2028	\$2,521,555.00		
3	State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Economic Development Technical Assistance & Micro-Enterprise Assistance Program	5/3/2024 / Revision 3/28/25	Awarded	6/26/2025	7/7/2025	7/7/2028	\$407,385.76		
								AWARDED	\$3,218,327.76	3	
4	USDA Rural Development	Community Facilities Program Disaster Repair Grants	Winter Storm Road Clearing Equipment	8/30/2024	Pending				\$198,236.00		
5	EPA	Recreation Economy for Rural Communities (RERC)	North County (Covelo, Leggett & Laytonville)	10/16/2024	Pending				\$0.00		
6	USDA Rural Development	USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program	SURE-UP: Strengthening, Upfitting and Resilience in Rural Law Enforcement: USDA Grant for Protection	12/17/2024	Pending				\$50,000.00		
	USDA Forest Service	Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG)	North Mendocino County Wildfire Resilience and Evacuation Safety Project	3/13/2025	Pending				\$6,382,432.00		
	CalOES/FEMA	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4856 - Notice of Interest (NOI)	Sherwood Corridor Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project	NOI -5/28/2025 Full application due 9/15/25	Pending				\$9,500,000.00		
								PENDING	\$16,130,668.00	5	
7	State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)	California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Grant Program	Mendocino Evacuation Safety Improvements Project	1/10/2024	Not Awarded				\$1,235,115.00		
8	State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)	2017/2018 CDBG MIT-PPS	Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) Update Project	3/15/2024	Withdrew application due to HMGP 4683 award				\$400,000.00		
9	PG&E	Resilience Hubs Grant Application 2024	Mendocino County Critical Facilities Generators	6/6/2024	Not Awarded				\$100,000.00		
10	Redwood Region RISE	Catalyst Pre-Development Funds	Home Hardening Market & Workforce Analysis	1/15/2025	Not Awarded				\$204,362.24		\$16,538,053.76
								NOT AWARDED	\$1,939,477.24	4	
								All	\$21,288,473.00	12	
								2024	\$5,201,678.76	9	
								2025	\$16,086,794.24	3	