

2023 BOARD OBJECTIVES

OCTOBER-DECEMBER



Grand re-opening and ribbon cutting celebration at the Truckee Library on November 7, 2023

Message From the Chair

As we usher in a new year, I would like to reflect on the progress we've made with some of the Board's annual objectives.

Regarding the Board's **Recreation** objective, I was pleased to attend the ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Gary D. Clarke Field by Magnolia School in Grass Valley. The field, which has a new synthetic turf, is used daily by an array of groups for soccer, flag football, baseball and more. Our focus on recreation was recognized by the California State Association of Counties, which gave our county its prestigious Challenge Award. Nevada County was chosen for its dedication to finding collaborative solutions for visitor safety and outdoor recreation. I want to commend my Board colleagues and staff for this well-deserved recognition of their efforts including the South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort, Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund, and related initiatives.

Learning from our severe snowstorms the last two winters, we have put a lot of effort into educating the public about preparing for winter. To further our objective of **Emergency Preparedness**, we mailed residents a flyer with tips such as stocking up on enough firewood and propane, getting flashlights and batteries ready and filling their pantries with shelf stable foods. We worked hard to clear up debris from last winter's storms to address wildfire mitigation concerns. We removed fallen trees and limbs from nearly 100 miles of county-maintained roadways and positioned 54 green waste bins in 25 locations. By removing flammable vegetation, we improved defensible space and firefighter ingress, and resident egress in the event of a wildfire.

As part of our **Climate Resilience** objective, we have been exploring joining Pioneer Community Energy, a Community Choice Aggregation provider, which procures power for its customers in place of the local investor-owned utility, Pacific Gas & Electric. We have postponed our discussions now because of the spike in renewable energy prices but hope to return to talks sometime next year.

We now have 25-30 new beds available for people experiencing **Homelessness** who have serious behavioral health conditions thanks to a \$3.6 million grant from the state's Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program. We approved a \$1.4 million contract with Hospitality House to get hotel rooms or rental homes for people experiencing homelessness. We estimate we will be able to serve 100-150 people over the next three years through this program.

I am no stranger to contentious community meetings. Certainly, the issue that attracted the most public attention this quarter was Rise Grass Valley's petition for recognition of vested rights to conduct mining operations at the Idaho Maryland Mine. While our Board chamber was at capacity for the public hearing on this controversial topic in mid-December, I want to express my gratitude to everyone on both sides of the issue who conducted themselves responsibly and respectfully.

This marks the end of my term as Board chair. I have appreciated serving in this way and look forward to helping my successor in the new year.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ed C. Scofield". The signature is fluid and cursive.

ED SCOFIELD
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

2023 Board Objectives



Fiscal Stability and Core Services

Maintain the County's financial stability and core services.



Emergency Preparedness

Lead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire. Do this by focusing on improving countywide evacuation routes and safety, continuing to strengthen early alert and critical communication systems, partnering closely with residents and community partners in emergency preparedness, defensible space, home hardening, green waste disposal, and fire-safe land stewardship.



Economic Development

Promote economic development by emphasizing resiliency and entrepreneurship; retaining and attracting high quality jobs; investing in major infrastructure projects; and working with local, state and federal partners to support our small business, nonprofit, and tourism sectors.



Broadband

Equitably expand broadband to support economic development, distance-learning, telework, telemedicine, and general quality of life for all residents by championing the implementation of Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan policies and last-mile infrastructure projects.



Climate Resilience

Safeguard Nevada County's economic durability, environmental integrity, and public health and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating changing climate conditions in a way that reflects our rural quality of life.



Housing

Coordinate with local jurisdictions, developers, and other partners to facilitate development of, and access, to affordable and workforce housing.



Homelessness

In partnership with the Continuum of Care, prevent homelessness, address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, and move towards sustainable, ongoing programs.



Recreation

Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities and preserve natural resource assets.

Board Objective Development Process

JULY-DECEMBER

Implementation

Departments bring updates and items to the Board of Supervisors at regular meetings.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Annual Board Workshop

Board drafts annual priorities and approves them at a February Board meeting.



YEAR-ROUND

Community Input

Board and staff receive input on community needs and priorities through public comment, surveys, and other constituent and stakeholder communication.

JUNE

Budget Adoption

Budget is adopted, including funding for Board objectives.

FEBRUARY-APRIL

Budgeting for Objectives

Staff prepares budget. Budget Subcommittee reviews budgets.

Intent of Report

This report, covering October-December 2023, summarizes the initiatives and performance measures used to track progress toward the Board of Supervisors' 2023 policy objectives. Staff developed this tracking report to be delivered on a regular basis to the Board and available on the County's website for public review. In addition, the highlights of the report are formally presented to the Board of Supervisors twice annually: first, at the Board's annual planning workshop in January each year, and second at a regular Board of Supervisors public meeting in July as a mid-year update.

This report is intended to increase transparency and accountability of the County's work toward meeting the Board's objectives.

Any questions, suggestions, or requests for additional information regarding the information in this report should be directed to the County Executive Office at CEO@NevadaCountyCA.gov.

STATUS KEY SYMBOL

Each objective and initiative are accompanied by a status symbol. The key to the status symbol is below:

	On Target
	Caution
	Below Plan
	Not Started
	Completed

Maintain the County's financial stability and core services.



Progress Update

Q4-23

For Q4 (October through December 2023) there continue to be some cautionary indicators within the County's economically sensitive revenues. Key highlights include the following:

- Property taxes continue to grow in FY 23-24, though at a slightly lower rate (5.3%) than the long-term growth rate of 5.5% which was budgeted
- Transfer Taxes continue to trend lower, starting last Fiscal Year, with results through December coming in below the same timeframe in FY 22-23
- Recording Fees showed a similar trend lower in FY 22-23 from previous years. Current year is performing approximately flat to FY 22-23 through December, and we're expecting that trend to continue or show a slight decline
- Recently, the State Legislative Analyst Office has announced that the state may face a \$68 billion deficit in fiscal year 24-25, largely as a result of a severe revenue decline in 22-23 and ongoing deficits in coming years
 - See December, 2023 LAO Fiscal Outlook Report available here: [The 2024-25 Budget: California's Fiscal Outlook](#)
- We are monitoring the situation closely, particularly as we begin to develop our FY 24-25 budgets
- Other key indicators of overall County economic activity are mixed compared to the adopted budget and previous year activity
- Overall, despite certain issues to monitor, the County is in a stable fiscal position for the time being with no immediate threats to the delivery of core services

Our position is bolstered by:

- Healthy fund balances
- Robust fiscal policies
- Long-range planning for known and anticipated significant projects

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- Continue to closely monitor transfer tax and recording fee revenues as potential leading indicators of future property tax revenue trends
- Engage program professional associations to better understand potential impacts of State budget issues
- Develop pre-emptive recession response plans with Fiscal Administrative Collaboration Team (FACT) to ensure departments are ready to respond quickly if/when needed
- Incorporate strategic guidance from the Board's January Workshop into the FY 24-25 budget development process

Initiatives



Monitor economically sensitive revenues

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23



Ensure healthy fund balances in major operating funds

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23



Prepare and implement long-term financial plans

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23



Develop and manage County budget

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23

Property Taxes

Property Taxes and Transfer Taxes



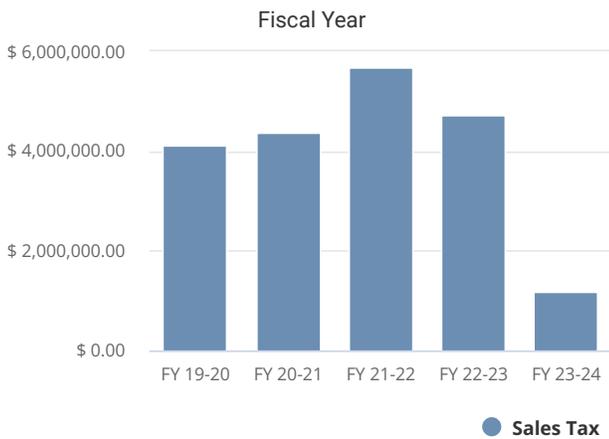
Transfer Taxes

Property Taxes and Transfer Taxes



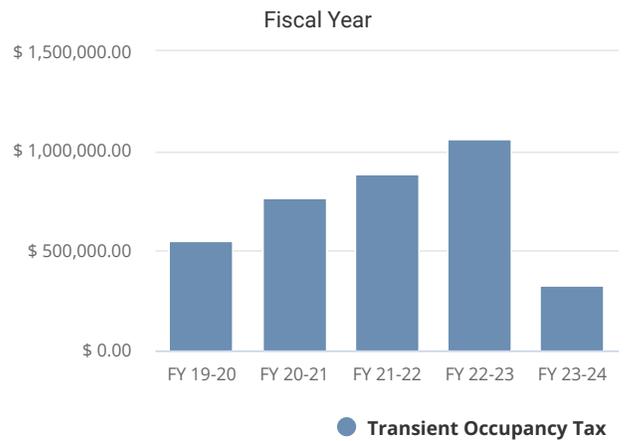
Sales Tax

Other key general fund revenues

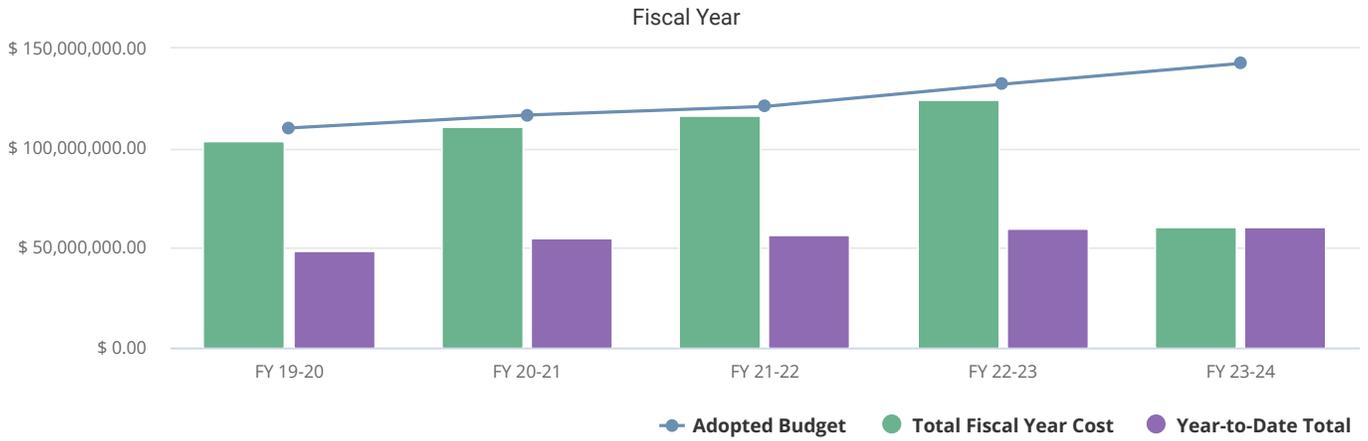


Transient Occupancy Tax

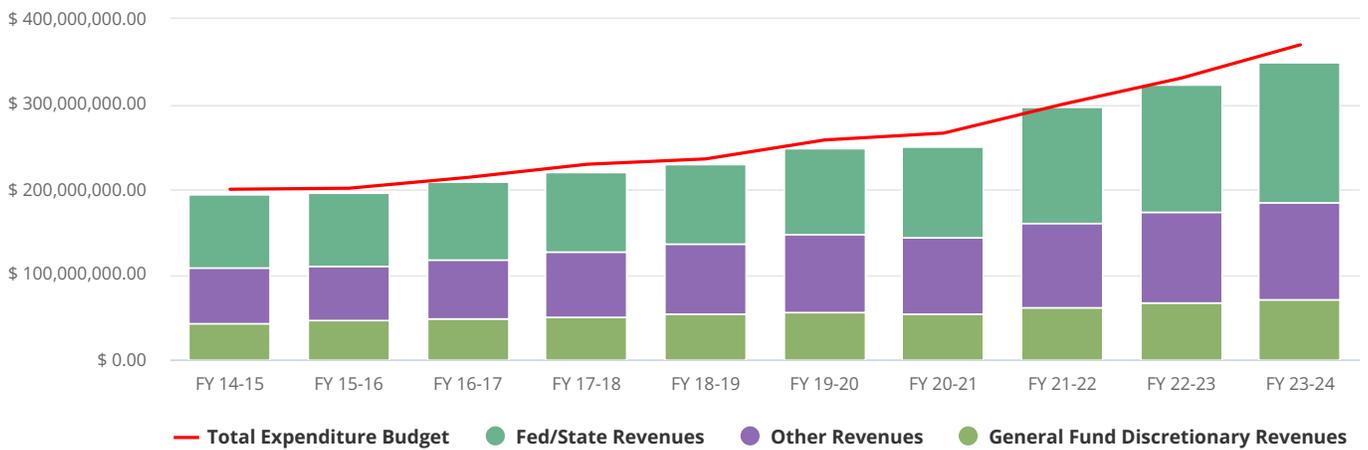
Other key general fund revenues



Salaries and Benefits Costs YTD vs. Actual vs. Adopted Budget
Salaries and Benefits Costs



Adopted Budget
Adopted Budget



Owner

MP Martin Polt (CEO)

Lead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire. Do this by focusing on improving countywide evacuation safety, continuing to strengthen early alert and warning systems; creating more defensible space around properties and roadways, engaging residents in emergency preparedness and fire-safe land stewardship, leading the community in recovery from Federally declared disasters and by mitigating the impact of Public Safety Power Shutoff Events.



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October-December 2023) include:

- Presented Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Wildfire Risk Assessment to CAL FIRE NEU leadership.
- Planned and held the fourth *Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meeting* virtually (planned for Truckee but moved to virtual based on weather), which focused on the Nevada County Evacuation Study.
- Created and disseminated winter storm focused messaging and outreach materials.
- Sent a countywide mailer reminding the public to prepare for the 2023/2024 winter snow/rainy season.
- Presented the Roadmap to Resilience at the 10th International Fire Ecology and Management Conference.
- Finalized Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) stewardship agreement with USFS; USFS submitted to their management for consideration.
- Accepted funds from the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for the Woodpecker Ravine Shaded Fuel Break Project Phase II (\$3.9M), United States Forest Service (USFS) for the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Phase 1 Maintenance Project (\$750,000), and the Wildlife Conservation Board for the Sierra Foothill Forest Climate Resilience Project (\$2.4M).
- \$1.8 million dollars in small business loans were approved for residents affected by the February/March 2023 Winter Storms. (cumulative number)
- \$490K in Individual and Household Program funds were approved for 107 individual residents affected by the February/March 2023 Winter Storms.
- \$475K in Housing Assistance funds were approved for 70 individual residents affected by the February/March 2023 Winter Storms.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 (January-March 2024) include:

- Bring qualified vendor list recommendations for Environmental Consulting Services and Registered Professional Forester to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
- Prepare and circulate scopes of work with qualified vendors for pending projects including Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1 and Roadside Vegetation Abatement to complete necessary planning for fuel mitigation activities.
- Contract with Sierra Nevada Conservancy and FEMA HMGP for the South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project (anticipated, but dependent on FEMA timeline)
- Continue to push out winter preparedness messaging to the public.
- Finalize *2024 Outreach and Engagement Strategy*.
- Develop draft *2024 Outreach and Engagement Calendar* of opportunities to discuss wildfire and disaster preparedness topics in the community.
- Plan and conduct County-wide CodeRED test.

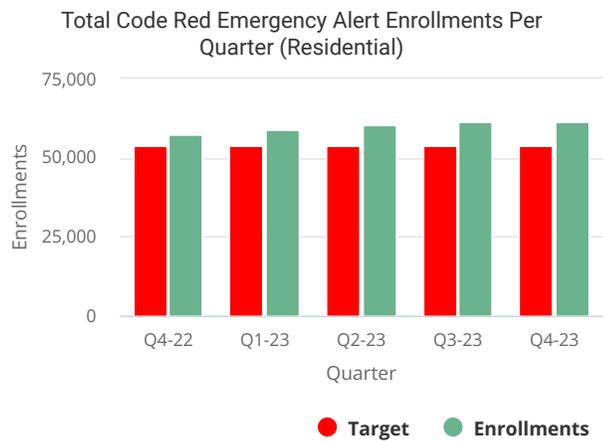
Initiatives

- 
Reduce Hazardous Vegetation on County-Maintained Roads and County Owned Property
 Information and General Services | 10/1/23 - 12/31/23
- 
Hazard Mitigation
 Office of Emergency Services 2023 | 10/1/23 - 12/31/23
- 
Recovery
 Office of Emergency Services 2023 | 10/1/23 - 12/31/23

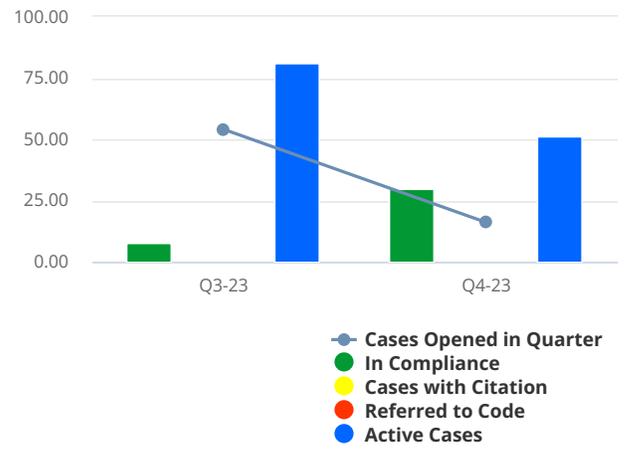
Measures

- 
Improve Early Warning Systems and Emergency Communications to Reach Everyone
 Office of Emergency Services 2023
- 
Roadside Vegetation Treatment
 Office of Emergency Services 2023
- 
Emergency Response Activation
 Office of Emergency Services 2023
- 
DSI Inspection Program
 Office of Emergency Services 2023

Total Code Red Emergency Alert Improve Early Warning Systems and Emergency Communications to Reach Everyone

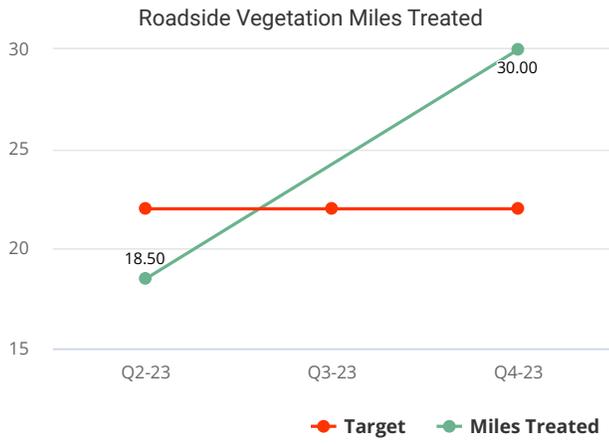


DSI Inspection Program Case Status DSI Inspection Program

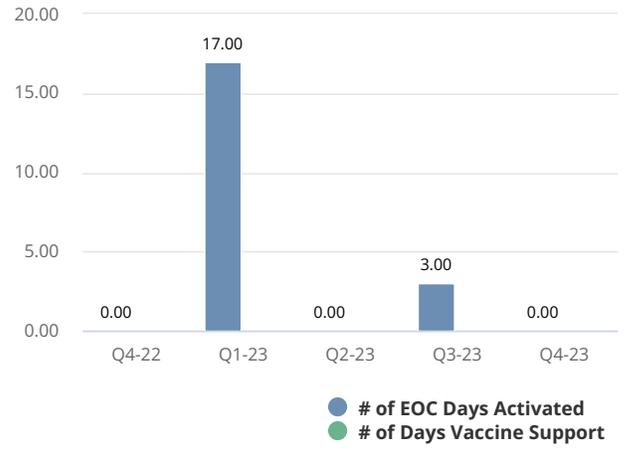




Roadside Vegetation Treatment
Roadside Vegetation Treatment



Emergency Response Activation
Emergency Response Activation



Promote economic development by emphasizing resiliency and entrepreneurship; retaining and attracting high quality jobs; investing in major infrastructure projects; and working with local, state and federal partners to support our small business, nonprofit, and tourism sectors.



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- Engaged in 25 business meetings including entrepreneurs interested in a start-up, new businesses and established businesses working through county processes. In addition, Sierra Business Council Small Business Development Center counseled 62 businesses, provided 146.25 hours of free technical assistance and conducted 12 workshops.
- Early indicators suggest the CA Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Agriculture Land Conservation (SALC) program grant submitted by the Resource Conservation District will be awarded with the Economic Development Office serving as the county lead. Funds will support the creation of an Agricultural Working Landscape Conservation Plan which will focus on the sustainability of the agricultural working lands in our rural county.
- Serving on the Visit California Regional Tourism Advisory Committee's strategic Gold Country tourism plan, initial work is being conducted on a Tourism Readiness Index Framework that will provide data to help guide tourism decisions going forward.
- The first two-year economic development workplan draft completed in December 2023 includes participation from local and regional economic partners, chambers, jurisdictions, arts and education, workforce agencies, contractor associations, business leaders, and county staff.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:

With the current air of economic uncertainty, it is important to remember that Nevada County and its Economic Development Office can play an important role by focusing on initiatives to stimulate local businesses and attract new investments. Through targeted support programs, financial incentives, and collaboration with key stakeholders, the office can help shape the path for community well-being during challenging economic times.

- Staff will launch a marketing and promotion campaign for the Donner Summit region to encourage visit to the area amenities and businesses.
- With approval of the Nevada County Economic Development Two-Year Action plan, conduct the first economic partner meeting and set a charter and collaborative course of action forward.
- The Nevada County Cannabis Division and the Economic Development Office, working with the Sierra Business Council, will launch the equity program and make applications available.
- A warming shelter to protect the unhoused in Truckee at the Joseph Center will be established.
- The Economic Development Program Manager shall begin her term on the Valley Vision Leadership Council representing an eight-county region of the California Jobs First program. Work will include accumulating and reviewing data, identification of high priority sectors, and review and determinations of applications coming through the various subregional convener effort.
- Staff will begin work on a "How to Do Business in Nevada County" feature for the website.

Initiatives

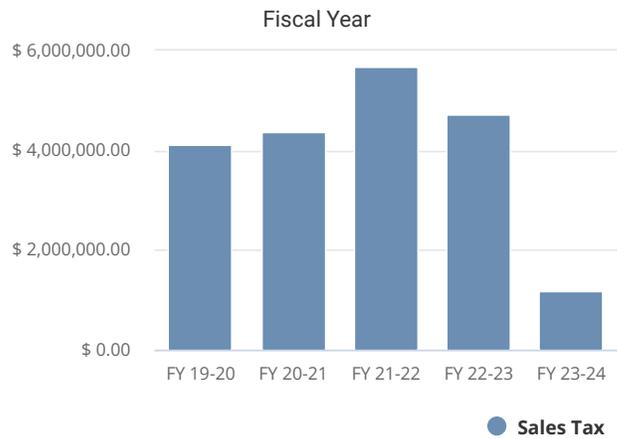
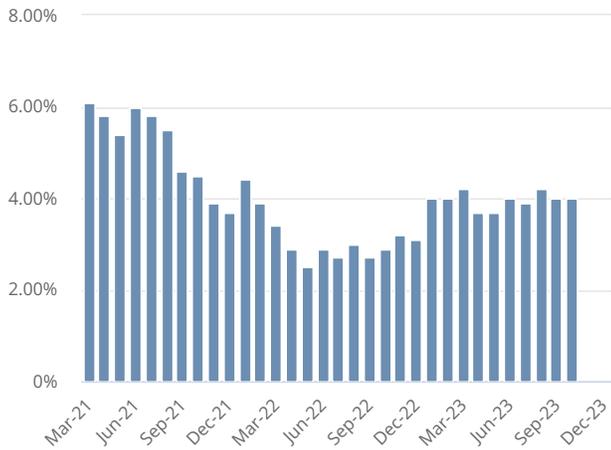
- ↑ **Support potential high growth sector development**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23
- ↑ **Cultivate economic diversification, sustainability and equity**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23
- ↑ **Establish infrastructure, further projects and plans to support economic vitality**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 1/31/23
- ↑ **Seek funding and advocate for economic development priorities**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23
- ↑ **Support business attraction, retention and growth**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/23 - 12/31/23

Unemployment Rate

Nevada County unemployment rate

Sales Tax

Other key general fund revenues



Owner

 Kimberly Parker (Community Development Agency, Office of Economic Development)

Equitably expand broadband to support economic development, distance-learning, telework, telemedicine, and general quality of life for all residents by championing the implementation of Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan policies and last-mile infrastructure projects.



Progress Update Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- Pending review and application of the County's Golden State Connect Authority Nevada County Broadband Network proposal via California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and advancing digital equity via the Affordability Convectively Program.

Next Steps Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- Expect Golden State Connect Authority to notice its grant in February 2024.
- Develop recommendations for the Last-Mile Grant Program Round 3.
- Study possible amendments to the zoning ordinance to allow for easier permitting of small towers specific to wireless broadband installation.

Initiatives

-  **Complete the Programmatic EIR and expand the permitting "tool kit" to facilitate broadband.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Manage the "Last-Mile" Broadband Grant program with Sierra Business Council.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Update the County's "Broadband Strategy."**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Fund and implement the "Dig-Once" policy.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Engage and inform the community about County efforts to expand broadband.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Seek grant funding and advocate at state and federal level for broadband.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/22
-  **Establish partnerships to advance and undertake broadband construction projects.**
Board of Supervisors 2023 | 10/1/22 - 2/1/23

Owner

 Steve Monaghan (IGS)

Coordinate with local jurisdictions, developers, and other partners to facilitate development of, and access, to affordable and workforce housing development.



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- Behavioral Health Community Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) funds were awarded to purchase a property on Sutton Way, **The Commons Resource Center**, to be used as a day center and navigation center. Housing and Community Services is currently in planning for remodeling of the building for a fully operational program.
- **Empire Mine Courtyard** has made substantial progress towards 19 units of permanent housing for homeless individuals. The project currently houses a total of 21 people, including 3 children and one transitional age youth. The office space/case management area has been renovated. Health and Human Services agency staff are currently looking for funding to renovate an additional 4 units in an existing building on the property.
- **The Ranch House:** No Place Like Home Round 2 funding in the amount of \$1,412,000 is being used to convert an existing three-bedroom, two bath County owned property into six individual units of permanent supportive housing with estimated completion of January of 2025. The project received \$2,700,000 in additional funding for construction from the Community Care Expansion grant. Construction began in October 2023. Estimated completion is in September 2024.
- **Pacific Crest Commons** is a collaboration between HCS staff, Regional Housing Authority, developer The Pacific Companies (TPC), and the Town of Truckee to secure financing for the California Highway Patrol surplus site in Truckee. Round 4 No Place Like Home funding has been awarded. The project will incorporate 10 supportive housing units into the project. The project has also secured \$2M in local soft financing for development costs. The project is waiting for additional funding through federal tax credits.
- **Lone Oak Phase II** is in planning for 31 units of low income Senior housing. Nevada County awarded funds from the Western Nevada County Regional Housing Trust Fund to developer Pacific West Communities to support the project. The project will continue to seek federal tax credit funding with a new application in the spring.
- The **Affordable Workforce and Housing Team** is a collaboration between the Community Development Agency and Health and Human Services to advance development of affordable and workforce housing through coordination on projects and policies. The Team meets monthly.
- Habitat for Humanity was selected to construct an **owner occupied home** for a low income family. This project aligns with the County's 5 year plan for Permanent Local Housing Allocation funding.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CV1 subsistence grant provided **rent, mortgage, or utility assistance** to 38 households. Of the 37 households served to date, 28 households had pay or quit notices or evictions or foreclosure processes threatening and were able to remain in their homes.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- Continue Affordable and Workforce Housing Team monthly meetings.
- Administer Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) once the state releases the funds.
- Continue towards construction on the Commons Resource Center.

Initiatives

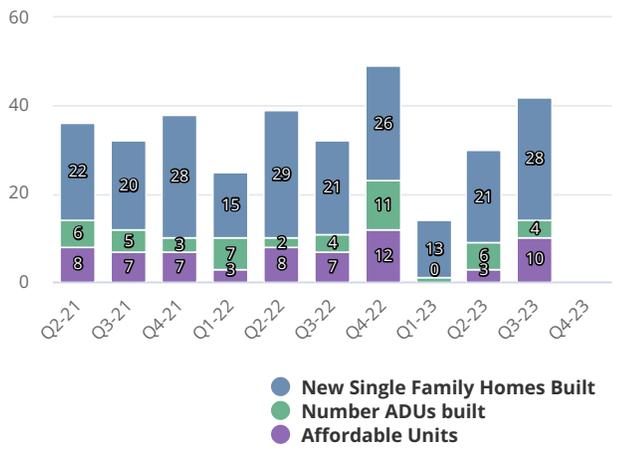
- ✓ **Housing Master Plans Project**
 Board of Supervisors 2023 | Completed 4/14/23
- ↑ **Facilitate and promote partnerships for the development of affordable and supportive housing**
 Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 6/30/24
- **Implement a centralized Landlord Liaison Program (LLP)**
 Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/22 - 6/30/24

Measures

- **New Housing Units Built in Unincorporated Areas**
 Community Development Agency
- ↑ **Housing Units**
 Homeless Plan Phase 1
- ↑ **Allocations and Grants**
 Housing and Community Services

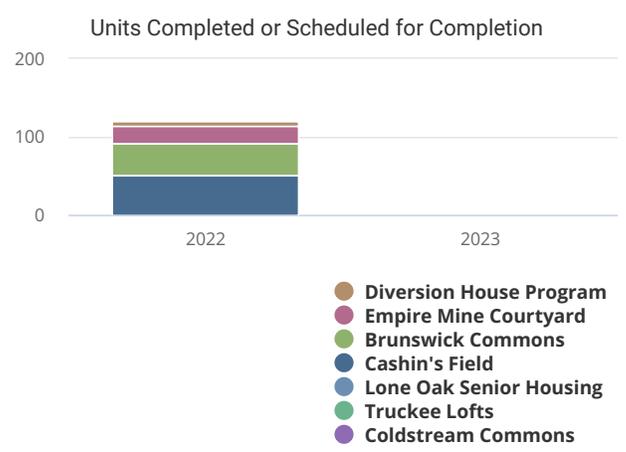
New Housing Units Built

New Housing Units Built in Unincorporated Areas



Affordable Housing Units

Housing Units



Leverage partnerships, housing first, and sustainable reforms in order to continue efforts to prevent homelessness, provide emergency shelter, expand supportive services, secure housing, and enhance coordination to address the needs of the homeless population and to mitigate impacts on the community



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- Behavioral Health Community Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) funds were awarded to purchase a property on **Sutton Way** to be used as a day center and navigation center. The property is currently open with limited staff and hours. The Enhanced Care Management Team is currently working out of the building. Housing and Community Services and HHSA staff are working on pre-development and construction is expected to begin in March at the earliest.
- **Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) grant** was awarded \$3.6 million over 3 years, which will provide 25-30 new beds to serve as transitional housing for chronically homelessness individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders. In total, the program aims to serve approximately 150-200 individuals with the grant. The goal of the funding is to bridge **temporary and interim shelter** to permanent, sustainable housing.
- The **Campaign to End Veterans Homelessness** continues to make progress. Currently, 3 veterans are homeless. Achieving Functional Zero requires that 3 veterans or less are homeless at any time with this number maintained for a minimum of three months.
- Collaborated with the local Continuum of Care (CoC) to complete a **Homeless Action Plan** (pursuant to new state regulations governing allocations of Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) funding to address homelessness). The plan has been accepted by the state. Administration of HHAP funding has transferred to the CoC and the county and the CoC continue to collaborate on performance metrics to address homeless as outline in the Homeless Action Plan.
- Worked to expand **permanent supportive housing (PSH)** by 28 units through Brunswick Commons, Pacific Crest Commons, and the Ranch House. Units are currently in construction, planning, or have been completed. Brunswick Commons is complete, the Ranch House began construction in October and Pacific Crest Commons is awaiting a federal tax credit award.
- Behavioral Health launched the **Enhanced Care Management Team** to improve connectivity to Nevada County Behavioral Health treatment. The ECM Team hired 5 staff members, including a clinical consultant, a peer support staff member, and lead care managers to serve over 260 clients this past year.
- **Emergency weather shelter** contract is in progress with Sierra Roots for Western County shelter. Contracts for Hospitality House low barrier sheltering, North San Juan warming shelter, and Sierra Guest Home interim housing will transfer to the CoC with administration of the HHAP grant funding. Locations and program providers for the Eastern County shelter in Truckee are currently being considered.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- Develop a process to quickly identify low vulnerability individuals, newly homeless, or at risk of homelessness households on the by-name list to prevent homelessness.
- Work with CoC and youth providers to identify a project for HHAP Rounds 1, 2 and 3 youth set-aside funding with a focus on interim and permanent supportive housing.
- Continue to consider options for expanding family shelter.

Initiatives

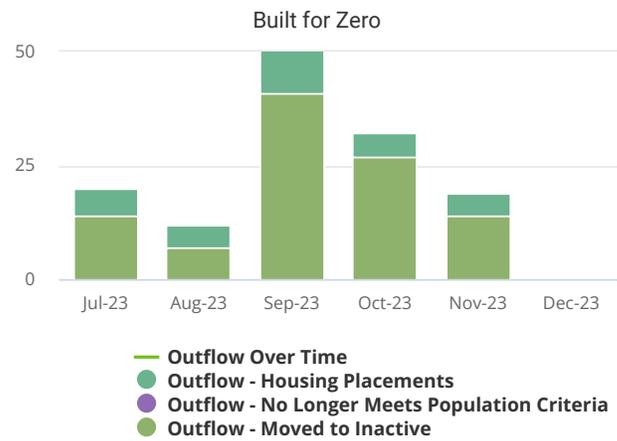
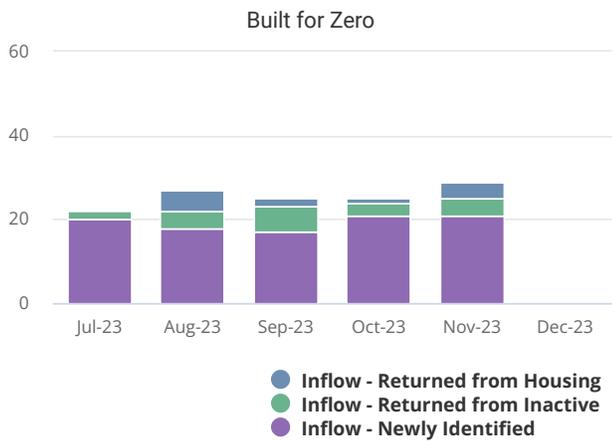
- **Increase availability of rental and mortgage assistance funding to prevent individuals and families from slipping into homelessn...**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 6/30/24
- **Expand services and housing opportunities to transition aged youth and families with children to prevent entry into the adult ho...**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 12/31/22
- ↑ **Continue to support and strengthen outreach, engagement, and case management**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 6/30/24
- ↑ **Strengthen housing focused case management and post housing supportive services**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 6/30/24
- ↑ **Expand year-round shelter capacity**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 12/31/22
- ↑ **Expand and strengthen non-congregant, navigation-based, interim housing options**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/22 - 6/30/24
- ↑ **Support system wide improvement to data collection measures, collaboration on funding opportunities, and implementation of ...**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 7/31/22
- ↑ **Strengthen the coordinated multi-disciplinary case conferencing team (Homeless Resource Team)**
Homeless Plan 2023 | 1/1/21 - 6/30/24

Measures

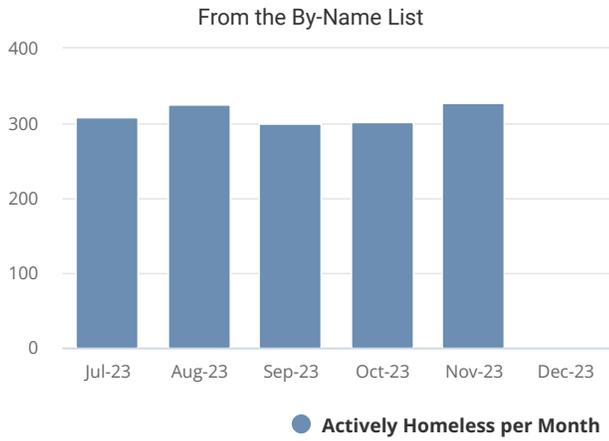
- **Point in Time Homeless Count**
Homeless Plan Phase 1
- ↑ **Built for Zero and Functional Zero**
Homeless Plan 2023

↑ **Inflow** Built for Zero and Functional Zero

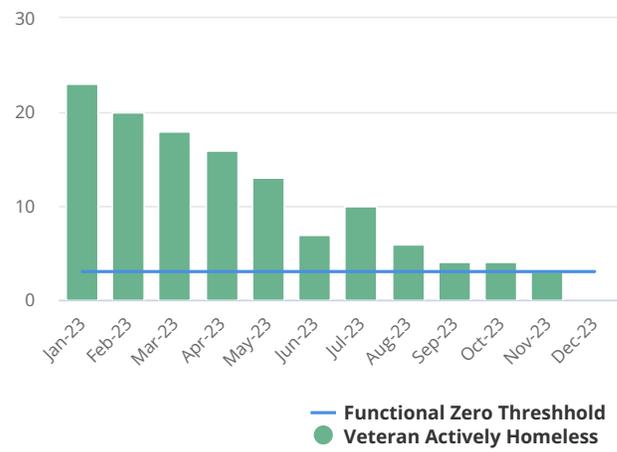
↑ **Outflow** Built for Zero and Functional Zero



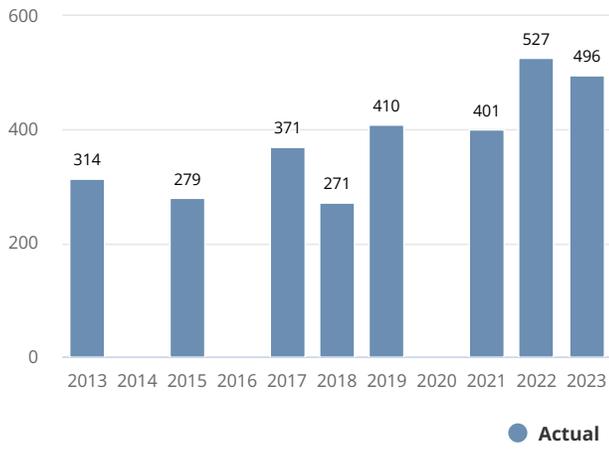
Actively Homeless
Built for Zero and Functional Zero



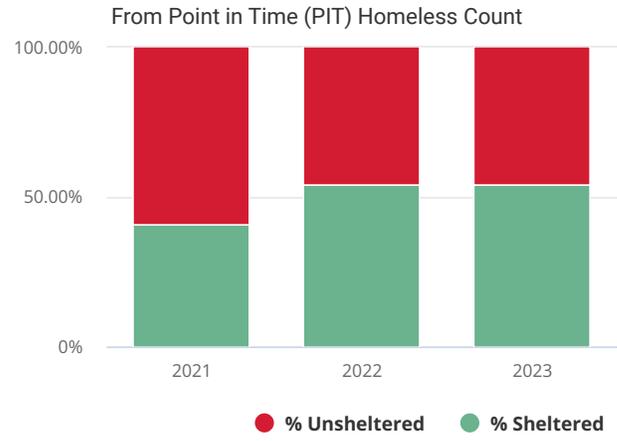
Veteran Progress to Functional Zero
Built for Zero and Functional Zero



Point in Time Homeless Count
Point in Time Homeless Count



Sheltered Versus Unsheltered
Point in Time Homeless Count



Owner

 Mike Dent (Housing and Community Services)

Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets.



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- Nevada County was recognized by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) with a 2023 **Challenge Award** for "Collaborative Solutions for Visitor Safety and Outdoor Recreation." The honor was extended to 14 of the 389 entries received and recognizes the commitment of County leadership and community partners working together in support of this Board Objective.
- Hosting the **Heart of Gold Gravel Race and Festival**, with positive fundraising and economic activity from 250 participants, vendors and community partners supporting youth mental wellness;
- **Award of ~\$85,000 by the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District** for improving trail connectivity, parking, and signage at the Rood Center and piloting of a County electric bike fleet;
- **Completion of County-funded recreation projects** including parking, signage and trailhead improvements at Adam Ryan Preserve, Scott's Drop Trail and Hirschdale Road;
- **Submission of over \$12 million in projects for grant programs** with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife, California Natural Resource Agency, Strategic Growth Council Regional Climate Collaborative and Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grant;
- **Community capacity building by County Staff** led recreation collaboratives, newly established Internship position, resource development and technical assistance and project management for partners; and
- **Preparation of the Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan draft** overview and recommendations for stakeholder and Board review.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- **Lead completion and adoption of the Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan** by March, with a focus on project implementation;
- **Focus on Master Plan implementation through grant writing and contracting services** for a suite of shovel-ready projects that are identified;
- **Manage Visitor Safety and Outdoor Recreation** strategies and solutions by coordinating phase 2 of Visitor Intercept peak season campaign development and completion of select Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund projects;
- **Analyze recreation policy and impacts** including low-intensity camping ordinances and outdoor recreation economic impact studies;
- Coordinate and develop **one central Nevada County Recreation Resource Hub and Open House** event, in partnership with the Nevada County Library, in support of western county recreation partners;
- **Provide administrative support** for grant solicitation, project management, advocacy and convening collaboratives.

Initiatives



Finalize and approve the Nevada County Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 3/15/24



Promote health and safety at river crossings, lakes, trailheads, and other high-use or high-risk areas.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/23



Enhance recreation access, health and safety, economic development, and resource conservation.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/23



Support capacity and sustainability of Western Nevada County organized recreation.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/23



Identify funding mechanisms and act on advocacy priorities to sustain recreation.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/23



Staff recreation collaborative(s) to promote countywide coordination.

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 1/1/22 - 12/31/23

Safeguard Nevada County's economic durability, environmental integrity, and public health and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating changing climate conditions in a way that reflects our rural quality of life.



Progress Update

Q4-23

Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:

- In partnership with Nevada County Resources Conservation District (RCD) as the lead applicant, our partnership received a notice to **award \$500,000 from the SALC Grant program** to work on agricultural economic development strategy; land use policy development in support of agriculture; climate resiliency strategy with natural and working lands focus; education and awareness for farmers and ranchers on sustainability and succession planning.
- **Awarded Air Quality Management District Grant in the amount of \$88,958** to improve Rood Center wayfinding and bike infrastructure and pilot a pedal assist electric bike fleet program for County Staff.
- In partnership with Sierra Nevada Alliance (lead applicants) and partners including SYRCL, Sierra Streams, and CHIRP, we submitted a proposal for the **Regional Climate Collaboratives Grant** opportunity. The funds would be used for Nevada County Climate Action Plan, workforce development to support forest health, Nisenan capacity, and more.
- **Civic Spark Fellow** started with Nevada County on October 16th, working to increase community and staff capacity advancing County climate objectives.
- Entered into an MOU with Grass Valley for the implementation of SB1383.
- Met with Sierra Nevada Energy Watch to identify options and possible funding strategies for energy efficiency in County buildings, and for the development of a Climate Action Plan.
- In partnership with Cal Fire, the USFS, and Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, we hosted Congressman Kiley for a tour of the forest health work being completed near the town of Washington.

Next Steps

Q4-23

Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:

- Present updated Climate Objective Initiatives to the BOS at the annual workshop.
- Further energy efficiency assessments for identified County buildings.
- Identify Climate Action Plan framework and resources for development.
- Coordinate plan with existing County plans to realize efficiencies and leverage existing initiatives.
- Identify and pursue additional funding and or financing opportunities.
- Partner with Resource Conservation District to implement the Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation grant.
- Monitor and evaluate options for Community Choice Aggregation participation for Nevada County.

Initiatives



Community Coordination

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 3/1/23 - 3/31/23



Climate Strategic Plan

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 4/1/23 - 4/30/23



Harden Critical Infrastructure

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 4/1/23 - 4/30/23



Enhance Carbon Storage and Sequestration

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 4/1/23 - 4/30/23



Funding and Advocacy

Board of Supervisors 2023 | 4/1/23 - 4/30/23

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
OBJECTIVES		
 Financial Stability and Core Services		
 Monitor economically sensitive revenues	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property and Transfer Taxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property taxes are the largest source of discretionary revenues for the County, and continue to grow in FY 23-24, though at 5.3% vs the budgeted 5.5% • Transfer Taxes on the other hand continue to show a softening trend, with results through December lower than the same timeframe in FY 22-23 • Transfer Taxes have historically been a leading indicator of trends on Property Tax revenues. However, COVID-19 pandemic driven market activity makes it difficult to predict what the data means for the future • Sales Tax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales tax revenues are performing approximately equivalent to FY 22-23 through December. • While FY 22-23 was down as compared to FY 21-22, FY 21-22 was somewhat anomalous as compared to the previous several fiscal years • FY 22-23 is ended 8% higher than FY 20-21, which may indicate a return to more typical performance going forward • Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOT) revenues continue to show strength, outperforming previous fiscal years through December • Business Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building fees are performing approximately equivalent to FY 22-23 through December • Recording fees are performing approximately equivalent to FY 22-23 through December. However, it is important to note that FY 22-23 was down as compared to previous years • Similar to transfer taxes, these fees have historically been a leading indicator of trends on Property Tax revenues. However, COVID-19 driven anomalies make it difficult to predict what the data means for the future • Gas Tax revenues are slightly outperforming FY 22-23 through December, indicating no significant slowing in this area of economic activity 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor key revenue streams for indicators of recession • Monitor State and Federal budgets and forecasts for potential issues related to those key revenue streams
 Ensure healthy fund balances in major operating funds	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiscal Year 22-23 year-end analysis confirms positive results for most funds, including the General Fund 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on year-end position in all major funds will be presented at the Board's January Workshop • Strategic direction regarding General und balance received during the Workshop to be incorporated into FY 23-25 budget development

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 Prepare and implement long-term financial plans	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Facilities to obtain a timeline for projects remaining on Capital Facilities Master Plan • Worked with Information and General Services to receive an update to 5-year technology expenditure plans • Incorporated updated plans and financial forecasts into an updated a 5-year General Fund forecast in advance of Board's January Workshop 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate long term plans into FY 24-25 Budget
 Develop and manage County budget	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October through December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from September Senior Executive Workshop provided insight into staffing needs and priority development for FY 24-25 budget • Requests for Staffing Changes received and evaluated for potential incorporation into FY 24-25 budget • Initial analysis conducted on year-to-date performance as compared to adopted budget, in preparation for January Board Workshop 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January through March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive and incorporate key strategic direction from the Board's January Workshop • FY 24-25 budget kickoff and departmental submissions
<p>OBJECTIVES</p>		
 Emergency Preparedness		
 Reduce Hazardous Vegetation on County-Maintained Roads and County Owned Property Information and General Services	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October-December 2023) include:</p> <p>In Q4 2023 the Roads Department completed 16.623 lane miles of vegetation management. No weed abatement spraying were conducted.</p> <p>Roads began work on the CDBG grant this quarter and completed 13.704 lane miles of vegetation management.</p> <p>Total lane miles for Q4 = 30.327</p>	<p>Plans for Q1 (January-March 2024) include:</p> <p>The roads department has set a goal of 22 lane miles of vegetation management.</p>

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 <p>Hazard Mitigation Office of Emergency Services 2023</p>	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October-December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for Environmental Consulting Services and Registered Professional Foresters (RPF) for wildfire mitigation projects including the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Phase II, Ponderosa West Grass Valley Phase 1 Maintenance, and Woodpecker Ravine Phase I and II projects; evaluated responses to create qualified vendor lists. Participated in site tours of key OES projects including the Ponderosa West Grass Valley and South County shaded fuel breaks to brainstorm multi-jurisdictional partnerships and grant funding for wildfire mitigation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepted funds from the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for the Woodpecker Ravine Shaded Fuel Break Project Phase II (\$3.9M), United Stated Forest Service (USFS) for the Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Phase1 Maintenance Project (\$750,000), and the Wildlife Conservation Board for the Sierra Foothill Forest Climate Resilience Project (\$2.4M). Contracted with Sierra Streams Institute to begin implementation of the Sierra Foothill Forest Climate Resilience Project. In partnership with Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, continued work on the <i>South County Shaded Fuel Break Project</i> (\$952K), a 339-acre, 150-foot-wide roadway shaded fuel break funded by CAL FIRE. Continued work with qualified consultants to lead three strategic planning efforts: the <i>Nevada County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update</i> (funded by CWDG), the <i>Evacuation Study</i> (funded by CAL FIRE), and the <i>Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update</i> (funded by FEMA) Prepared a FY25 Congressionally Directed Spending Request for a \$750,000 ask to support education and implementation of community green waste objectives. Submitted a \$250,000 by invitation proposal to the <i>Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program</i>. Finalized Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) stewardship agreement with USFS; USFS submitted to their management for consideration. Completed Requests for Information (RFIs) to FEMA for the <i>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Project</i>, the <i>Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Phase 2 Projects</i>, and the <i>South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project</i>; RFIs from FEMA are typically the final step before funds are obligated. 	<p>Plans for Q1 (January-March 2024) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring qualified vendor list recommendations for Environmental Consulting Services and Registered Professional Forester to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Prepare and circulate scopes of work with qualified vendors for pending projects including Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1 and Roadside Vegetation Abatement to complete necessary planning for fuel mitigation activities. Contract with Sierra Nevada Conservancy and FEMA HMGP for the South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project (anticipated, but dependent on FEMA timeline). Be responsive to ongoing Requests for Information for pending grants including the Lower Deer Creek/Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project (\$5 Million Dollars). Submit proposal to the CAL FIRE Wildfire Mitigation Grant Program. Seek Nevada County Board of Supervisors approval for a contract with the Sierra Business Council to administer a second round of Firewise Microgrants.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p> Recovery Office of Emergency Services 2023</p>	<p><u>Highlights from Q4 (Oct-Dec 2023) include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Cal OES recovery staff to move projects from the January 2022 Winter Storm forward. • Worked with FEMA on the Federal Presidential Declaration (DR-4699) for public costs stemming from the February/March 2023 Winter Storms. Met with FEMA and CAL OES representatives to scope out public projects the county would be claiming. • \$1.8 million dollars in small business loans were approved for residents affected by the February/March 2023 Winter Storms. (cumulative number) • \$490K in Individual and Household Program funds were approved for 107 individual residents affected by the February/ March 2023 Winter Storms. • \$475K in Housing Assistance funds were approved for 70 individual residents affected by the February/March 2023 Winter Storms. 	<p><u>Plans for Q1 (January-March 2024) include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move forward the December 2021 Winter Storm California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) Recovery Claim as well as the CDAA & FEMA February/March 2023 Winter Storms Recovery Claim. • Continue to work on an evergreen recovery website that residents can reference year-round for disaster recovery information.
<p>OBJECTIVES</p> <p> Economic Development</p>		

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="94 157 316 226">  Support potential high growth sector development </p>	<p data-bbox="358 157 862 184">Highlights from Q4 (October - December 2023) include:</p> <p data-bbox="358 201 971 405"> Tourism serves as a crucial economic driver for Nevada County, contributing significantly through visitor expenditures on accommodations, dining, and recreational activities, thereby fostering business growth and creating employment opportunities. The county's natural beauty, cultural attractions, and outdoor recreational offerings make it a desirable destination, further enhancing its role as a thriving tourism hub. </p> <p data-bbox="358 422 532 447">Activities included:</p> <ul data-bbox="358 464 993 930" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="358 464 993 575">• The gonevadacounty.com site focused on highly searched topics such as Halloween inspired experiences, and Victorian and Cornish Christmas celebrations. A winter experience article on the Soda Springs area was covered by several media outlets. <li data-bbox="358 579 993 722">• The Economic Development Office pushed out a Visit California Stakeholder Survey for the Gold Country Regional Strategic Tourism Plan to help identify the highest and best needs for tourism activities in the Gold Country with results to be reviewed in early 2024. <li data-bbox="358 726 993 842">• The Economic Development Program Manager participated in two Visit California Gold Country Tourism focus groups, one specific to economic development and one to destination marketing. <li data-bbox="358 846 993 930">• An influencer from Beautiful Destinations visited Nevada County in October to capture content for social media for Nevada City and Grass Valley. <p data-bbox="358 947 971 1121"> An Agriculture Department within a county plays a pivotal role in fostering sustainable local development and growth. It serves as a crucial liaison between farmers, policymakers, and the community, promoting effective communication, implementing agricultural policies, and addressing issues to ensure the resilience and prosperity of the county's agricultural activities. </p> <ul data-bbox="358 1138 993 1577" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="358 1138 993 1312">• The Ag Commissioner presented the 2022 Annual Crop and Livestock Report to the Board of Supervisors. The report included the total value of agriculture produced in Nevada County for 2022 (excluding legal cannabis), which was valued at \$18.7 million. This represents a decrease of 12% which was largely due to the winter storm impacts. <li data-bbox="358 1316 993 1400">• The Ag Commissioner also prepared a supplemental report that focused on the total value of cannabis that was produced in Nevada County, which was valued at \$6.9 million. <li data-bbox="358 1404 993 1577">• In November, the Economic Development Office gave a presentation at the Nevada County Agricultural Advisory Commission meeting to open a dialogue on developing an economic strategy for agriculture that will foster sustainability and contribute significantly to job creation, poverty alleviation and socio-economic progress. <p data-bbox="358 1593 993 1736"> The Cannabis Division finalized its processes to launch its equity program. Cannabis, and Economic Development staff will provide educational opportunities within the industry and move forward with the development of sensible regulations that address concerns, while promoting responsible cannabis, cultivation, and consumption. </p> <ul data-bbox="358 1753 993 1864" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="358 1753 993 1864">• On November 7, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution accepting \$275,000 Local Jurisdiction Retail Access grant from the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) to create an ordinance addressing retail options for the unincorporated 	<p data-bbox="1029 157 1468 214">Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:</p> <p data-bbox="1029 231 1110 256">Tourism:</p> <ul data-bbox="1029 273 1523 741" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1029 273 1523 415">• Launch a small campaign to promote and market the Donner Summit amenities and surrounding businesses that have been struggling due to winter storms, fires, smoke, and road blockage over the last couple of years. <li data-bbox="1029 420 1523 535">• Participate in two Visit California Gold Country Tourism activities as part of their strategic planning process: 1) a digital assessment tool, and 2) a resilience and sustainability scorecard. <li data-bbox="1029 539 1523 741">• Provide ongoing leadership to facilitate a unified effort with tourism and hospitality partners in Nevada County to improve the overall competitiveness of the area within three specific areas: 1) economic optimization, 2) Destination appeal of amenities and attractions, and 3) Historic significance. <p data-bbox="1029 758 1138 783">Agriculture:</p> <ul data-bbox="1029 800 1523 974" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1029 800 1523 974">• The Economic Development Office in collaboration with the Ag Department will offer a grant training opportunities for local farmers interested in applying for the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Farm to School Incubator grant program. <p data-bbox="1029 991 1122 1016">Cannabis:</p> <ul data-bbox="1029 1033 1531 1560" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1029 1033 1531 1148">• The Nevada County Cannabis Division and the Economic Development Office, working with the Sierra Business Council, will launch the equity program and make applications available. <li data-bbox="1029 1152 1531 1268">• In January of 2024, Nevada County Nevada Cannabis Division working with the Sierra Business Council, will hold an Equity Workshop for perspective equity applicants. <li data-bbox="1029 1272 1531 1446">• In March of 2024, Nevada County Cannabis Division and the Economic Development Office, working with the Sierra Business Council, will award grant recipients Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) and Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) funding. <li data-bbox="1029 1451 1531 1560">• The Cannabis and Planning Divisions will prepare an amendment to the Cannabis Ordinance based on direction provided to staff at the January 2023 Board Workshop.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
	<p>areas of Nevada County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this quarter the Cannabis Division worked with Sierra Business Council (SBC) to develop and finalize the Nevada County Equity Program application and questionnaire which will be rolled out in early 2024. • On December 12, 2023, the Economic Development Office applied for an additional \$500,000 grant funding from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), Local jurisdiction Access grant to assist local equity applicants and future local equity licensees to gain entry to and successfully operate in the state and locally regulated cannabis marketplace. 	
<p> Cultivate economic diversification, sustainability and equity</p>	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October - December 2023) include:</p> <p>Economic development plays a pivotal role in fostering economic diversification by encouraging the growth of various sectors, reducing dependence on a single industry, and promoting resilience in the face of economic downturns. Additionally, a well-planned economic development strategy contributes to sustainability and equity by ensuring inclusive growth, addressing social disparities, and promoting environmentally conscious practices. Work included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultants with Integrated Communication Strategies continued their independent interviews and stakeholder meetings with jurisdictions, business, agencies, and organizational representatives to identify priority areas of economic work that will be brought forward in a two-year Economic Development action plan draft due in December. This process also resulted in an Opportunities, Assets and Constraints (OAC) analysis with recommendations. • The Community Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF) renamed California Jobs First subregional conveners (NC Economic Resource Council and Tahoe Prosperity) continued to meet with community groups to identify top projects for consideration in the 2024 funding stage of the project. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An informational presentation of the Economic Development action plan draft will be presented to the Board of Supervisors by Integrated Communications Strategies in January with a goal of having a final document approved by March 2024. • The Economic Development Program Manager has been selected to serve on the eight county CA Jobs First Leadership Council to be seated in January 2024. This group will have the responsibility of reviewing data provided by Brookings Institute and determining the top five priority issues the region will focus on for funding applications anticipated to be submitted in the second quarter of 2024.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="94 157 326 275">  Establish infrastructure, further projects and plans to support economic vitality </p>	<p data-bbox="358 157 862 184">Highlights from Q4 (October - December 2023) include:</p> <p data-bbox="358 199 943 256">The North San Juan Fire Suppression project continues to make progress. Recent work includes:</p> <ul data-bbox="358 273 997 625" style="list-style-type: none"> • Two community meetings and presentations were held as part of the project's public outreach. • An updated engineering study, including updating potential fees was finalized and presented to USDA for completion of the funding application. • The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process was completed, including addressing all public comments and presenting it to the Board. • The Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved applying for the formation of a new County Service Area for this system to define the zone of benefit and establish a fee assessment mechanism for the property owners. <p data-bbox="358 640 691 667"><u>Donner Summit Visitor Association:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="358 682 976 915" style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff continued to engage with the Donner Summit Association on their Visitor Center project that is currently seeking funding for their concept design and construction plan. • In August, \$20,000 from the Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund was directed for marketing and promotion for the Donner Summit businesses and attractions that suffered through storms, fire, smoke, road closures and more. Next steps and the timing of those next steps is being developed. <p data-bbox="358 930 516 957"><u>County Facilities:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="358 972 984 1117" style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundbreaking for a 20,000 square foot County Storage facility has taken place. • The County acquired a 22-acre parcel on La Barr Meadows for a potential new Animal Shelter, green waste and transit program expansion. 	<p data-bbox="1029 157 1471 214">Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:</p> <p data-bbox="1029 228 1406 256"><u>North San Juan Fire Suppression Project:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="1029 273 1528 535" style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply to the Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCo) to begin establishment of a County Service Area that will include a LAFCo public hearing to review the application. • Complete an operation and maintenance agreement between the County and the NSJ Fire Protection District. • Apply for additional Community Development Block Grant Funds for community facilities. <p data-bbox="1029 550 1308 577"><u>Donner Summit Visitor Center:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="1029 592 1528 737" style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene Donner Summit stakeholders to advance the Soda Springs area plan and proposed west hub Visitor Center concept; stakeholders to provide concept plan for inclusion in the Recreation Resiliency Master Plan. <p data-bbox="1029 751 1187 779"><u>County Facilities:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="1029 793 1476 963" style="list-style-type: none"> • Start construction on the 20,000 square foot County storage facility. • Award a \$1.8 million architecture contract to design a new County animal shelter. • Establish a warming shelter to protect the unhoused in Truckee at the Joseph Center.
<p data-bbox="94 1257 302 1375">  Seek funding and advocate for economic development priorities </p>	<p data-bbox="358 1257 862 1285">Highlights from Q4 (October - December 2023) include:</p> <ul data-bbox="358 1299 997 1822" style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the current impediments to new housing development is the cost of fire insurance. County staff and our Board of Supervisors have begun to proactively participate in dialogue with regional, state and federal representatives to bring these challenges to their attention with a goal of getting these elevated in California and Washington. • The Economic Development Office is engaging with the Clerk of the Board Office to identify economic projects to be considered for the 2024 Nevada County Legislative Platform. • The Cannabis Division and Economic Development Office secured Board approval to accept the CA Department of Cannabis Control Retail Access program grant focused on developing an ordinance for retail in the unincorporated areas of Nevada County. • In September, through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nevada County Resource Conservation District (RCD), the County and the RCD applied for a Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Grant. 	<p data-bbox="1029 1257 1471 1314">Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:</p> <ul data-bbox="1029 1329 1528 1524" style="list-style-type: none"> • Working within the county and with local partners, begin to identify projects for submission through the CA Jobs First grant program. • Identify specific areas of focus for economic development in the 2024 Legislative Platform and coordinate with the Clerk of the Board office on how to move those issues forward.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p> Support business attraction, retention and growth</p>	<p>Highlights from Q4 (October - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-two Nevada County staff and Board members attended the Nevada County Economic Resource Council 2023 Summit. • The Economic Development Program Manager presented to several groups (e.g. Nevada County Economic Resource Council, the Penn Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Nevada County Ag Commision, and the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce Merchants group) on the role of the office and the ways we can assist them in their business development, can connect them to resources, and can work with them as they navigate through county processes. • In the past 40 days, the office was engaged in 25 business meetings which included warm handoffs to our economic partners and over 62 through the Small Business Development Center. • Staff participated on the Nevada Joint Union High School District Career Technical Advisory Committe that is looking at what can be done to create opportunities for youth interested in career technical education. • There is significant collaboration focused on youth workforce through the Nevada County CEO Youth Entrepreneur program, the Nevada Joint Union High School Career Technical Advisory Committe (NJUHS), and youth internship efforts. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March 2024) plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build out the funding/grants and About Nevada County sections of the economic development page on the mynevadacounty.com website and work with the Public Information Officers on strategies to push the site out for greater use by businesses. • Launch the first official meeting of a Nevada County Economic Partners group and begin work to develop a charter and define its purpose and activities for 2024/2025. • Begin work on a "How to Do Business in Nevada County" feature for the website and with an electronic version.
<p>OBJECTIVES</p>		
<p> Broadband</p>		
<p> Complete the Programmatic EIR and expand the permitting "tool kit" to facilitate broadband.</p>	<p>The final Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the development of Broadband was completed in February 2023. The EIR will assist ISPs and developers with environmental analysis and legal compliance for the development of broadband throughout the county, thereby decreasing some associated costs of development.</p> <p>Staff is currently conducting comparative research across other jurisdictions on the development of a permitting "toolkit" to promote the expansion of broadband development. County staff have developed preliminary permitting flowcharts and decision trees that could be incorporated into the "toolkit".</p>	<p>Conduct comparative research across other jurisdictions on the development of a permitting "toolkit" to promote the expansion of broadband development with aim to have a draft toolkit by early 2024.</p>
<p> Manage the "Last-Mile" Broadband Grant program with Sierra Business Council.</p>	<p>Nevada County Fiber completed its Last-Mile grant application with the project complete. Currently Northern Sierra Broadband Last-Mile grant is still under development.</p>	<p>The next round of the Last-Mile Grant Program will be aimed ad launching in March of 2024 with the goal of awarding by July of 2024. The next round of the program will leverage American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds which are requested to be allocated next calendar year and used by 2025.</p>
<p> Update the County's "Broadband Strategy."</p>	<p>The County's Broadband Workgroup continues to regularly connive and advise the county's strategy on the development of broadband on an ongoing basis that includes representatives from Information General Services Agency, the County's Chief Information Officer, County Executive Office, Community Development Agency, Public Works, Nevada County Planning Department, Economic Development and the Board of Supervisors. Key updates were incorporated into the Nevada County Broadband Strategy Plan.</p>	<p>The county's consultant, Sierra Business Council (SBC) shall work and partner with the County on any updates as needed and going forward.</p>

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 Fund and implement the "Dig-Once" policy.	<p>There has been minimal use of the County's Dig-Once Policy. Public Works is holding monthly meetings with PG&E to advance future opportunities for the use of the program. In addition, Public Works is ensuring any applicable projects are flagged that could use the program.</p>	<p>Continue to promote the use of the program to applicable developers. Current reasons for challenge on its implementation include the factor that the majority of projects are relatively small.</p>
 Engage and inform the community about County efforts to expand broadband.	<p>The County continues to issue press releases to the public on key updates on the development of broadband. The Broadband Workgroup raised caution on how communication is conducted to prevent misleading expectations on the county's work that can raise false hopes, as much of the work is dependent on outside funding, state and federal approval and ISP participation. That being said, the issue continues to be a high-requested agenda item for townhall and community meetings. In August, Supervisor Hall held a community meeting that included an update on broadband. In addition, the Broadband Community Workgroup, County Executive Officer and Supervisor Hall provided a broadband briefing to Congressman Kiley and congressional staff.</p>	<p>Staff will continue to work with the the Public Information Officer (PIO) team for communication consultation and support.</p>
 Seek grant funding and advocate at state and federal level for broadband.	<p>Nevada County submitted a project for the development of a municipal broadband network through the Golden State Connect Authority on September 28, 2023 for funding through the Federal Funding Account first round. If approved, the project would advance a broadband network in western Nevada County that could impact 4,694 homes with last-mile broadband access. The areas selected for the grant application were based on eligible priority areas, per connection costs, proximity to existing middle mile, network sustainability, and network expansion, among other scoring criteria. The project as proposed will be built, owned, and operated by GSCA.</p>	<p>Golden State Connect Authority anticipate to receive notice on the grant in February 2024. The decision will impact the Broadband Workgroup's recommended strategies and next steps.</p>
 Establish partnerships to advance and undertake broadband construction projects.	<p>The Broadband Workgroup is considering bringing forward an agenda item to the Board Workshop regarding the issue of wireless internet cellular towers in the County and the pros and cons associated with alleviated permitting and guideline standards.</p>	<p>Staff is currently conducting research on the issue of wireless internet cellular towers in the County and the pros and cons associated with alleviated permitting and guideline standards to help promote the development and expansion of wireless internet throughout the county as a part of the county's blended strategy as outlined in the Nevada county Broadband Strategy.</p>

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p>OBJECTIVES</p> <p> Housing</p>		
<p> Housing Master Plans Project</p>		
<p> Implement a centralized Landlord Liaison Program (LLP) Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently two housing navigators work with the Housing Resource Team (HRT) to coordinate acquiring subsidies and connecting subsidies to landlords. The program needs work on mediation and the rapid response process for landlords. • Partnering with Regional Housing Authority (RHA) and the Continuum of Care (CoC) to preserve vouchers within the community has been highly successful. Nevada County maintains high performance across the region and in the state for preserving vouchers in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a mediation and rapid response process for landlords participating in the Landlord Liaison Program. • Develop standardized procedures
<p> Facilitate and promote partnerships for the development of affordable and supportive housing Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioral Health Community Infrastructure Program funds were awarded to purchase a property on Sutton Way to be used as a day center and navigation center. Escrow closed on the property on September 15 and staff are currently working to pull down grant funding and begin renovations. • Empire Mine Courtyards acquired through Homekey funds has been converted into permanent affordable housing. Units are complete and residents are moved in. Funding possibilities for converting another 4 units on the property to permanent housing are under consideration. • Ranch House approvals and permits are complete and construction began in October. Estimated completion is September 2024. • Pacific Crest Commons will provide 10 supportive housing units in Truckee. Round 4 No Place Like Home funding has been awarded and the project has also secured \$2M in local soft financing for development costs. Federal tax credits will be applied for in March. • The Affordable Workforce and Housing Team meets monthly and is a collaboration between the Community Development Agency and Health and Human Services to advance development of affordable and workforce housing through coordination on projects and policies. • A Request for Proposal (RFP) was released through the Western Nevada County Regional Housing Trust Fund for 60% AMI or below affordable rental housing in January 2023. A developer was selected to complete phase 2 of Lone Oak Senior Apartments in Penn Valley for 31 units of low income senior housing. • Habitat for Humanity has been selected to construct an owner occupied house in Grass Valley. • An application was submitted for Local Housing Trust Fund in May to support the Western Nevada County Regional Housing Trust Fund. The application process is very competitive and Nevada County's application was not funded. • Round 3 PLHA allocations in the amount of \$928,837 were awarded in November 2022. Awarded funds will be used for development of owner occupied housing and for construction costs for the Commons Resource Center navigation center. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Affordable and Workforce Housing Team monthly meetings. • Continue to consider possible Homekey projects. • Work towards an executed Program Funding Agreement (PFA) for the Community Care Expansion (CCE) Preservation funding. • Submit application for PLHA Round 4 once application is released. • Apply for LHTF application in May of 2024 and explore ways to have a more competitive and successful application.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p>OBJECTIVES</p> <p> Homelessness</p>		
<p> Increase availability of rental and mortgage assistance funding to prevent individuals and families from slipping into homelessness and implement a CoC-wide diversion strategy Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CV1 Subsistence Program began distributing rental, mortgage, and utility assistance to individuals financially affected by the pandemic in November of 2022. Of the 38 households served to date, 28 households had pay or quit notices or evictions or foreclosure processes threatening and were able to remain in their homes. A total of \$171,921.22 has been administered to households, which was the total grant for housing assistance. The program is now closed. Rental Assistance through the CalWORKS Housing Support Program (HSP) is dispersed through a contract with AMI Housing since FY 21/22. AMI has leveraged Housing Support Program (HSP) funds with other available housing funds through the Continuum of Care (CoC) and other sources. CalWORKS continues to contract with Connecting Point to leverage the Family Stabilization Program funds. HCS staff and the HMIS administrator developed a process for a "prevention by-name list" that identifies individuals at risk of homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a process to identify low vulnerability individuals quickly and to quickly refer individuals at risk of homelessness to housing services as a first step in preventing homelessness. Continue to work with the state for accessing Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) and administer funds once the state releases the funds.
<p> Expand services and housing opportunities to transition aged youth and families with children to prevent entry into the adult homeless system and long-term homelessness. Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CoC Youth Committee met and outlined activities to benefit homeless youth. The CoC and the County are collaborating to disburse youth set aside funding allocated to the County through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) program; projects selected will be in line with goals for youth outlined in the Homeless Action Plan. The provider selection process will begin in December. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate with CoC process to identify providers of youth set aside funds, including availability of interim and supportive housing.
<p> Strengthen housing focused case management and post housing supportive services Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empire Mine Courtyard is fully leased and is providing 18 units of Affordable Housing, 6 of which are PSH. Pacific Crest Commons (Truckee) is beginning demolition and pre-development work on site. The project was not awarded CTAC funding at the last application period but will apply for the 1st round of 9% tac credits Spring 2024. The Housing Support Team is fully staffed with 3 Post Housing Support Specialists who regularly serve over 70 households across supportive housing projects and including 18 households housed at the new Empire Mine Courtyard. Ranch House project will add 6 units of PSH upon completion in 2024, construction was started in Q3 2023, and construction is ongoing. Badger Lane will also provide up to 7 units of PSH once renovations are completed, located adjacent to the Home Key project. We are currently exploring funding sources to move forward with this project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working on finding a sustainable funding source for a successful post-housing program. PHLA grant funding is ending this year and we will need to find a way to sustain this. Locate funding source for the Badger Lane project. Apply for CTAC funding in Spring 2024 for the Pacific Crest Commons Project.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 <p>Expand year-round shelter capacity Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County of Nevada, Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, AMI Housing, and the USFS continue conversations around opening the Hobart Mills location as a seasonal workforce Housing Pilot in the coming months. Eastern County warming center operations will be transferring to the CoC for funding support and locations and program providers for the shelter are currently being considered. Contract is in place for Western County shelter through Sierra Roots. Contract is in place to support Truckee Day Center operations for FY 23/24. Continued to provide family housing and shelter options through the CalWORKS Housing Support Program and domestic violence shelter services through Community Beyond Violence. Ongoing work is being done with Hospitality House to best use expanded capacity and limit amount of time in shelter. Funding opportunities for expanding shelter capacity are continuously considered. The Youth Committee met and outlined activities to benefit youth in the homeless response system. The CoC and the County are collaborating to disburse youth set aside funding allocated to the County through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) program; projects selected will be in line with goals for youth outlined in the Homeless Action Plan and activities identified by the Youth Committee. The process for identifying projects will begin in December. Nevada County received \$3.6 million dollars in funding to create 30 beds of transitional housing through the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program, funds have been contracted to Hospitality House and the project is being implemented in Q4 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with CoC and youth providers to identify a project for HHAP Rounds 1, 2 and 3 youth set-aside funding with a focus on interim and permanent supportive housing. Continue to consider options for expanding family shelter.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="94 222 120 254">↑</p> <p data-bbox="138 157 310 296">Expand and strengthen non-congregate, navigation-based, interim housing options Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p data-bbox="358 163 472 191">Q4 updates:</p> <ul data-bbox="347 195 997 1041" style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity in the shelter has been created through the opening of Brunswick Commons and the support of 20 bed units at Sierra Guest House. We continue to support the use of hotel rooms for medically vulnerable people in the community. Conversations continue towards the goal of maximizing all beds in the homeless response system for emergency shelter, interim housing, and then permanent housing. A contract is in progress to expand shelter and interim beds through Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding. • All providers are currently using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to track all hotel/motel stayers. All contracted providers are required to capture data on anyone entering the homeless response system. • Actively working with the Housing Resource Teams (HRT) and coordinated entry to refine, update, and ensure accuracy of all people on the By-Name List. We have achieved the quality data marker and the Built for Zero Data portal is real-time. • Integration of congregate and non-congregate operations has been successful through continued support of hotel rooms for medically vulnerable people in the community, increased capacity in the shelter through opening of Brunswick Commons, and the support of 20 bed units at Sierra Guest Home. Sierra Guest Home is currently converting to permanent housing with recuperative care and services to align with CalAIM funding; funding for pre-development on the Sierra Guest Home conversion has been secured through previous rounds of PLHA funding with the County. • Behavioral Health has secured \$3.6 million in funding over 3 years to expand interim and non-congregate shelter, successfully leveraging funds to expand shelter and reduce unsheltered homelessness. 	<ul data-bbox="1040 170 1528 369" style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Connecting Point and HMIS administrator to develop a process to quickly identify newly homeless people and connect them to services. • Continue to explore additional options to expand non-congregate interim shelter to reduce unsheltered homelessness.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="94 268 118 300">↑</p> <p data-bbox="138 159 315 407">Support system wide improvement to data collection measures, collaboration on funding opportunities, and implementation of the County-CoC joint strategic plan Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p data-bbox="358 159 467 184">Q4 updates:</p> <ul data-bbox="370 199 992 1430" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="370 199 992 516">• Homeless Action Plan was created in collaboration with County and CoC and outlines shared goals and priorities through 2024. The Plan identifies disparities among subpopulations found through HMIS and the coordinated entry system. Measurable goals were developed to address these disparities. Specific policies to address disparities and and contracted deliverable need to be developed. The CoC is now administering HHAP funding tied to the shared goals and will be working to include performance measures related to the goals in provider contracts. Data is currently being reviewed to understand successes and gaps in meeting outcome goals <li data-bbox="370 527 992 844">• Built for Zero reports are available through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and ClearPoint graphs are available for reporting. Quality data for all groups on the by name list have been achieved. Reports are submitted monthly to Built for Zero for verification of quality data; Nevada County has met the benchmark for the past year. Data quality standards are implemented into all service provider and data provider contracts. Achieved quality By-Name data and can track Built for Zero metrics. Built for Zero metrics are tracked and reported through the HMIS administrator and in ClearPoint. A reporting mechanism as a function of the CoC is in development. <li data-bbox="370 854 992 905">• The 2023 PIT count was conducted and the CoC and the County will continue to collaborate on PIT counts. <li data-bbox="370 915 992 1077">• An executive director for the CoC was hired to increase administrative capacity within the CoC. Working with the Executive Director of the CoC, Built for Zero has been brought in as a financial partner with \$375,000 in funds committed to add capacity, align systems, create coordinated entry processes, and maintain functional zero. <li data-bbox="370 1087 992 1249">• The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) subcommittee has changed to the Future of the Coordinated Entry System (FoCES). Work completed in the previous committee will roll over into the FoCES committee and also include updating the inactive policy, assessing the vulnerability tool, and developing vulnerability tools for different populations. <li data-bbox="370 1260 992 1430">• The CoC score given by HUD score has been raised from previous years but are still slightly below median. The Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras (HRCS) implemented a method of engaging service providers on the application questionnaire. The score affects the CoC's ability to compete for federal funding. 	
<p data-bbox="94 1528 118 1560">↑</p> <p data-bbox="138 1463 315 1625">Strengthen the coordinated multi-disciplinary case conferencing team (Homeless Resource Team) Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p data-bbox="358 1463 467 1488">Q4 Updates:</p> <ul data-bbox="370 1503 992 1665" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="370 1503 992 1665">• Multiple Housing Resource Teams (HRT) spanning Truckee, Veterans, Families, and Chronic Homeless have been implemented. Information is tracked through the coordinated entry system and all Housing Resource Teams have access. The Built for Zero dashboard is accurate according to the By-Name list and reflects subpopulation for chronic and veterans. 	

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p> Continue to support and strengthen outreach, engagement, and case management Homeless Plan 2023</p>	<p>Q4 Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Forensic Liaison is operational and is providing clients leaving incarceration with resources and housing support upon re-entry into the community. Justice and Mental Health Collaboration meetings continue. this position is currently contracted but will be shifting to a benefitted county position in FY 23/24 to support better retention and recruitment for this position. Through the BHBH program the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) team supports connecting vulnerable individuals who are justice-involved to housing and case management services upon release from incarceration. Additionally, Behavioral Health was approved to provider ECM services to Justice involved clients. The ECM Team remains fully staffed through this quarter and is on track to provide services to over 300 households annually. Planning to use the new day center operation as a service location for clients in need of Public Defender and Probation services. Center will be open and operational by October 2024. Hospitality House was contracted Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) grant funds and is providing 25-30 new beds to serve as transitional housing for chronically homeless individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders. In total, the program aims to serve approximately 150-200 individuals with the grant. The goal of the funding is to bridge temporary and interim shelter to permanent, sustainable housing. Nevada County Behavioral Health (NCBH) hired 2 peers to enhance case management capacity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to utilize outreach and collaboration with the HOME Team to reach vulnerable Nevada County residents where they're at and bring them into services and shelter. Continue to utilize the day center as a central hub for operations and outreach between ECM and HOME Team to implement and expand interim housing operations for serving unsheltered clients and complete the center in order to provide a wider array of services.
<p>OBJECTIVES</p> <p> Recreation</p>		
<p> Finalize and approve the Nevada County Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched third engagement window and hosted interviews with partner agencies and community partners to confirm project portfolio and connect projects with project leads, partnerships, and funding strategies; Began internal review and refinement of draft Project Matrix 2.0 with projects, grants, partnerships, financing, and implementation strategies; and Hosted one-on-one meetings with each Board Supervisor to provide updates and receive feedback. Visit www.nevadacountyrecreation.com/plan to view the story map and sign up for notifications 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present draft plan overview to Board of Supervisors at January Board Workshop; Launch Engagement Window #4 "Sharing Outcomes" to include public input from surveys and community meetings; Prepare final documents for completion and Board adoption by March 2024; and Initiate up to \$50,000 in grant writer contracts to advance projects identified through Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p> Promote health and safety at river crossings, lakes, trailheads, and other high-use or high-risk areas.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Hirschdale Road parking access and signage improvements, led by Nevada County Dept of Public Works; Submitted \$100,000 grant application to the CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife ("CDFW") Boating Access program to support recreation improvements and increased Truckee River access; Provided strategic analysis and input for Visit California - Gold Country Regional Focus Group on tourism resilience and sustainability; and Received California State Association of Counties 2023 Challenge Award (one of 14 awarded of 389 entries), showcasing county-led initiatives for Visitor Safety and Outdoor Recreation Management and recognizing the leadership of the South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund round 1 and 2 project progress reports; Initiate procurement of changeable message signs for 2024 season; Continue analysis of parking citations and enforcement at South Yuba River State Park and Yuba River crossings; and Provide staff analysis and recommendations for road and safety improvements at Purdon Crossing.
<p> Enhance recreation access, health and safety, economic development, and resource conservation.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with U.S. Forest Service and Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access teams for consulting on countywide trail system sign planning; Preparation of the final Environmental Assessment for the Pines to Mines Trail by the U.S. Forest Service was published on November 18, 2023 with a Finding of No Significant Impact; more information is available here; Established County of Nevada Trail Club focused on volunteer trail maintenance and vegetation management on area trails, and hosted a fall workday at Hirschman Trail; and Hosted <i>Heart of Gold Gravel Race and Festival</i> on October 7th with 250 riders with over \$40,000 raised for nonprofits focused on youth mental health awareness and services; the 4th annual event will take place on October 5, 2024. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline workplan for the historic California Trail route and roadside signage with the National Park Service and county's Department of Public Works; Convene Donner Summit stakeholders to advance Soda Springs area plan and proposed west hub visitor center concept; and Provide analysis of low-intensity camping ordinances.
<p> Support capacity and sustainability of Western Nevada County organized recreation.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted meetings with Western Nevada County recreation and park districts ("RPD") to review Master Plan inventory analysis, project recommendations and 2024 priority focus areas with consultants from Design Workshop; Co-hosted ribbon cutting for Bear River Recreation and Park District with Board, Staff and community members; and Submitted \$1,334,576.00 grant application to CA Natural Resource Agency's ("CNRA") Urban Greening Grant Program for the <i>Penn Valley Parkway Beautification and Visitor Safety Project</i>. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute surveys for each RPD to receive public input on desired service levels and program/event offerings; Review draft Memorandum of Understanding to enlist county administrative support, as provided by recreation consultant; Initiate gap loan request agreement with Western Gateway RPD to support project cashflow for reimbursable Per Capita and Rural Recreation and Tourism grants; and Continue development of Nevada County Recreation Resource Guides for County Recreation website and Go Nevada County platforms.

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
<p> Identify funding mechanisms and act on advocacy priorities to sustain recreation.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported mapping and grant submission for the Regional Climate Collaboratives ("RCC") program with climate/conservation partners for \$1.749M; project would fund development of a county Climate Action Plan plus Nevada County staff capacity for climate objective; Submitted over \$8 million in Natural and Working Lands projects for consideration by the regional climate action plan steering committee, led by Sacramento Air Quality Management District, for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program; Convened Q&A with Radbridge agency and county staff to review case studies on outdoor recreation economic impact analysis and how that may be beneficial to Nevada County; Awarded ~\$85,000 by Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (NSAQMD) Rood Center recreation improvements for public parking, wayfinding, connectivity and county staff ebike fleet; Staff attended Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition Annual Meeting with western rural states and Sierra Consortium Annual Strategic Planning meeting with Sierra Nevada watershed partners; and Provided recommendations for FY24-FY25 Nevada County Legislative platform and FY25 federal earmark projects. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with the U.S. Forest Service and National Forest Foundation to review grant application for the Innovative Finance for National Forests program; Submit EPA CPRG Implementation grant applications for Natural and Working Lands projects; Initiate scope of work for NSAQMD grant project, to be completed by December 2024. Convene meeting with CDFW, State representatives and District 5 Supervisor and Staff regarding Truckee River access, high water mark and possible solutions between various interests.
<p> Staff recreation collaborative(s) to promote countywide coordination.</p>	<p>Highlights for Q4 (October 2023 - December 2023) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convened monthly meetings with South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort and Convene Champion and Catalyze collaboratives; Hosted biannual Nevada County Recreation Coalition; Continued focused grant strategy meetings for review of multi-benefit project opportunities; Hosted Skillbridge intern for Recreation and Resiliency Internship program; and Prepared for 2024 Board Workshop, with completion of two year funding and staffing plan for Recreation and Climate Resilience Board objectives. 	<p>Plans for Q1 2024 (January - March) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch Nevada County Recreation quarterly newsletter; Convene Recreation Coalition partners for planning inaugural Nevada County Recreation Fair, in partnership with the Nevada County Library; Continue convening monthly collaboratives and grant strategy sessions; Host Ghidotti High School student for Recreation and Resiliency Internship program; and Support Climate Resilience and Economic Development objectives and shared priorities.
OBJECTIVES		
 Climate Resilience		
<p> Community Coordination</p>	<p>Nevada County's Energy Action Plan (EAP) community workgroup convened monthly with County staff support, furthering initiatives including public education and pilot project planning to connect income-eligible residents with energy saving benefits. Additionally, worked with members of the EAP community workgroup to provide feedback on Pathway Document on strategies to advance the EAP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete stakeholder analysis for Western County Climate Collaborative Work in partnership with employee Climate Resilience Microbusiness Team to improve County sustainable practices
<p> Climate Strategic Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with Sierra Nevada Energy Watch to identify options and possible funding strategies for energy efficiency in County buildings, and for the development of a Climate Action Plan. Discussed funding and scope options with consultants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete County Policy Inventory and Gap Analysis Evaluate the risk/benefits of CEQA versus non-CEQA certified plan Outline Phased Approach with contractors

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 Harden Critical Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nevada County Transit Services has begun the process of transitioning its medium and heavy-duty bus fleet to zero emission vehicles with the purchase of two 35ft low-floor battery electric transit buses and the related charging equipment. The completion of this initial implementation phase is expected to be done by March of 2025. The time lag from the receipt of the buses and completion of initial phase is due to the delay in being able to obtain the required electrical panel equipment, which currently has a production queue of 12-18 months. Constructing Electric Bus Charging Station Project, NCOC Phase-1. The purpose of the Project is to construct an electric vehicle charging station for charging the two new 35-foot electric buses at the NCOC. Working with Momentum to develop the County's Zero Emissions Bus Rollout Plan as required by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to comply with the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation requiring all California public transit agencies to gradually transition their bus fleets to zero emission technologies. Presented the results of the Impact Assessment Study for Pioneer Community Energy as a possible Community Choice Aggregation provider to the Board of Supervisors. Convened Drought Resilience Task Force planning committee including lead county departments and key community stakeholders. <i>Note: Climate-aligned progress related to Broadband and Emergency Preparedness is not duplicated; please see those objectives.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Submit grant application and begin Drought Resilience Plan and Water Shortage Task Force per SB552</i> <i>Enhance access to energy efficiency resources for income eligible residents</i> <i>Connect and identify incentives for building electrification and decarbonization / Connect SNEW resources with existing businesses</i>
 Enhance Carbon Storage and Sequestration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with Cal Fire, the USFS, and Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, we hosted Congressman Kiley for a tour of the forest health work being completed near the town of Washington to improve resiliency. Entered into an MOU with City of Grass Valley for the implementation of SB1383. (reference 12/5/23 BOS Mtg) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Work Economic Development office to identify workforce development opportunities within forest health</i> <i>Begin implementation of Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) grant in partnership with Nevada County Resource Conservation District</i>

Initiatives	Progress Update	Next Steps
 Funding and Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with Sierra Nevada Alliance (lead applicants) and partners including SYRCL, Sierra Streams, CHIRP, we submitted a proposal for the Regional Climate Collaboratives Grant opportunity. The funds will be used for Nevada County Climate Action Plan, workforce development to support forest health, Nisenan capacity, and more. • Submitted grant proposal to Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Award Program to provided funding for technical assistance to explore creating a biomass composting facility that can power the County public transportation fleet. • Participating in Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program to advocate for priority projects for Nevada County in a regional approach. • Applied for SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant to continue development and an education/outreach campaign in 2024 for both commercial and residential customers, purchasing kitchen pales which can be given away at events with organics recycling information, and to contribute payment for consultant work with SB1383. • Applied for State Drought Resilience Grant to fund development of County Drought Resilience Plan and Water Shortage Task Force per SB552. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Develop Grants Plan - Identify State and Federal funding opportunities and submit applications where opportunities align with goals and objectives</i> • <i>Engage in advocacy opportunities aligned with County priorities</i>