



STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority

From: Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Executive Director

Subject: Regional Housing Needs Assessment MOU and Cost-Sharing Agreement with Inyo County

Meeting date: February 26, 2025

Prepared on: February 15, 2025

Attachments: A) Memorandum of Understanding Among the County of Inyo, the County of Mono, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the City of Bishop and the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Authorizing the County of Inyo to Enter into and Administer a Contract for the Preparation of a Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan and Providing for Reimbursement to the County of Inyo for the Cost Thereof

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

The Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, City of Bishop, and Inyo County have partnered together to complete a Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Housing Action Plan (Report) with the goal of creating a clearer picture of the Eastern Sierra's current regional housing needs and to guide future housing decisions. The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) and SMR Development (under contract w/ Mono County) are providing technical assistance in the work effort.

An RFP was released in October 2024 seeking proposals from qualified firms to prepare the needs assessment and action plan, and two firms submitted proposals. Upon a review of the proposals by the group, BAE Urban Economics was selected.

In order to simply and streamline the contracting with BAE, it was determined that Inyo County would enter into, and administer, the contract with BAE, and the other three entities would then reimburse Inyo County for their proportional share of the costs. ESCOG is not making any financial contribution to the contract; ESCOG is a partner to the MOU to memorialize staff engagement for situational awareness of potential recommended regional actions and outcomes.

The timeline for completion is nine (9) months from the kickoff for the housing needs assessment and an additional four (4) months for the action plan.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None.

LEGAL REVIEW:

ESCOG Counsel Grace Chuchla has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the ESCOG Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding Among the County of Inyo, the County of Mono, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the City of Bishop and the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Authorizing the County of Inyo to Enter into and Administer a Contract for the Preparation of a Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan and Providing for Reimbursement to the County of Inyo for the Cost Thereof and authorize staff to participate in the regional housing needs assessment planning process in a technical assistance capacity.