Resolution 2021-60

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-60 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEARLAKE APPROVING THE CANNABIS EQUITY DRAFT AND ADOPTION OF THE EQUITY PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the members of the California Legislature have recognized the need for cannabis equity grant funding;

WHEREAS, funding has been provided to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to provide grant funds to local governments pursuant to AB 97 (Stats. 2019, Ch. 40);

WHEREAS, there is a high barrier to entry into the legal cannabis industry in the State of California and local jurisdictions.

WHEREAS, there is a need to encourage entrepreneurship and equity in attaining cannabis licenses in the City of Clearlake; and

WHEREAS, past criminalization of cannabis has had an impact on City of Clearlake community and residents and there is a need for the creation of an equity program that provides assistance to qualifying local equity applicants; and

WHEREAS, an equity program in the City of Clearlake may provide an opportunity for applicants, residents and businesses to create a sustainable income contribute back to the community.

WHEREAS, the City of Clearlake was awarded grant funding from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to create an Equity Assessment, and

WHEREAS, the Clearlake City Council, on March 18, 2021, approved the integration of those funds into the FY 2020-2021 budget, and

WHEREAS, the California Cannabis Equity Act (SB 1294) was enacted to ensure that persons most harmed by cannabis criminalization and poverty be offered assistance to enter into the multibillion dollar cannabis industry; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clearlake desires to use grant funds from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to assist local equity applicants and licensees through a new local equity program for commercial cannabis activities as described in the application for grant funds.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on December 2, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

Mayor, City of Clearlake

ATTEST: _____

Deputy City Clerk, City of Clearlake