



## SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Willie Grayeyes	Chairman
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Angela Belden Martinez  
EDA, Regional Director  
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 431  
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(303) 844-4715

January 25, 2021

Ms. Martinez,

We from San Juan County, Utah, appreciate the opportunity to apply for the EDA Grant. According to the 2017 Poverty Data from the State of Utah- Department of Workforce Services, San Juan County, Utah has the highest percentage of Poverty at 27.6% in all of Utah.

The Per Capita Income for San Juan County, Utah, in 2019 was \$28,074, the lowest in the State of Utah, whose percent change decreased from 2018 at 5.0% to 4.5 % in 2019. In addition, the Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate for 2021 was 4% compared to the State of Utah at 2.1%.

The Event Center that we are proposing to construct with support from the EDA Grant will allow San Juan County to host revenue-generating events all throughout the year. San Juan County, Utah will provide \$1,000,000 in matching funds and the property owned by the County toward the Event Center. We will also provide all of the electricity, gas, water, and County equipment for this project. Increased business in the community will mean more employees hired in local businesses, and more development opportunities for entrepreneurs and small business owners.

In addition, it will provide the schools of San Juan County and the Navajo Nation a location to host other events such as Pow Wow's Graduation, Basketball, Wrestling, and other sporting events, even qualifying events for our students. There is no County facility available in San Juan County, Utah, of this type.

The Event Center will generate much-needed tax revenue for Monticello and San Juan County. This center will facilitate Rodeos, Mudbog, Health and Wellness, and many more revenue-generating events. The increase in Lodging and Sales Taxes will bolster our ability to provide more to the residents of San Juan County. The Community of San Juan County is looking forward to providing our residents with this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Willie Grayeyes  
San Juan County Commission Chair