



October 25, 2024

Secretary Gina M. Raimondo
U.S. Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230

To Secretary Raimondo,

The San Juan County Board of Commissioners supports the Southeastern Utah Economic Development District (SEUEDD) 's *Building a Regional Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Southeastern Utah* application for the U.S. Economic Development Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce's FY 2024 Build to Scale Program. The proposal titled *Building a Regional Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Southeastern Utah* proposal will significantly enhance economic development in our region by fostering the growth of technology-driven businesses while strengthening local innovation capacity.

The San Juan County Board of Commissioners has been a committed advocate for the region's economic growth and workforce development. As the governing body for one of Utah's most rural and geographically isolated counties, we focus on creating opportunities for our communities through targeted infrastructure projects, workforce training, and business support services.

As a local government entity, San Juan County's Economic Development Department commits to providing workforce training programs that align with this project's goals. We will also work to connect businesses to capital access support and technical assistance, leveraging our existing partnerships within the region. This commitment is valued at approximately \$50,000, which includes in-kind services and technical support for local business owners. These contributions align with the *Build to Scale* program's focus on scaling up high-growth, technology-focused startups and fostering innovation ecosystems. If the proposal submitted by SEUEDD is approved, San Juan County intends to collaborate and commit resources as detailed above. Formal agreements will be negotiated at the time of the award.

The San Juan County Board of Commissioners urges the U.S. Department of Commerce to give SEUEDD's proposal the strongest consideration. We are confident this initiative will strengthen Utah's workforce development resources, increasing job training availability and opportunities for the area's residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mack McDonald".

Mack McDonald

Chief Administrative Officer