



## Memo

**To:** City Council

**From:** Shannon Scott, Economic Development Manager

**Date:** 10/8/2021

**Re:** Build Back Better Regional Application Letter of Support

---

The Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado in conjunction with Region 10 would like to apply for a Phase I Economic Development Administration Build Back Better Grant. The Build Back Better Grant for Phase I is a \$500,000 award with no match for technical assistance in building new or expanding existing clusters. This grant can be used for engineering, concept planning, etc. In order to be eligible to apply for the grant, at least 6-8 projects must be identified that will benefit the entire Region. Currently, there are 7 applications across the State that will be submitted for Phase I, (all of those applications, except for ours, coming from the Front Range). Our Western Colorado grant application is the only one within the State that will be utilizing the carve out funding for the Coal Communities of which \$100 million of the \$300 million is available.

If awarded for Phase I of the grant, the Region would then be eligible to apply for Phase II. In Phase II, the Region would identify at least \$25 million (can be up to \$100 million) in fundable projects. A match is required for this Phase that is expected to be around 20%, but individual projects will also be funded at 100% depending on the needs assessment.

Below are some of the tentative projects that each Partner is wishing to submit on behalf of the grant application:

**Grand Junction:** Infrastructure to support a transloading facility to help alleviate supply chain issues.

**Delta:** Expanding an existing Industrial Park to help better incorporate light and flex manufacturing facilities.

**West End:** Working on creating an innovation center to help encourage entrepreneurship.

**Region 10:** Implementing and expanding broadband capabilities and enhancing transportation systems.

**CNCC:** Working on creating an innovation center to help encourage entrepreneurship while also working on coal to products research. Tri-State would also like to partner with CNCC on their proposal to include their hydrogen demonstration project at the Craig Station.

**Hayden:** Purchase land and build infrastructure to support a business/industrial park across from the Yampa Valley Regional Airport.

At this time, AGNC and Region 10 are asking each Regional Partner for support for the overall Build Back Better Grant application.

A draft Letter of Support is included.