



March 7, 2022

Mr. John Edmond, Regional Representative Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
915 Second Avenue, Room 1890
Seattle, WA 98174-1001

RE: FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Build Back Better Regional Challenge Notice of Funding Opportunity EDA-HDQ-ARPBBB-2021-2006976 – Phase 2

Dear Mr. Edmond,

As the largest and broadest-based business organization in Nevada, the Vegas Chamber is focused on helping Nevada businesses succeed and grow. It has been part of the core mission of the Vegas Chamber to support employers, their employees, and the Southern Nevada community since its founding in 1911. The Vegas Chamber has a long history of engaging on economic development initiatives at the local, state, and federal levels of government. As you know, the majority of Nevadans call Southern Nevada home, and it is also the economic engine of our state.

We are proud to share our support for Southern Nevada's application to Phase II of the EDA's Build Back Better Regional Challenge! We are excited about what this important grant program can mean for our community, especially in terms of accelerating and expanding our progress toward a diverse, resilient, and inclusive Southern Nevada economy. Moreover, we look forward to partnering with the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance (LVGEA), who is spearheading the region's application along with all seven component project partners, to help achieve maximum impact and sustainability. For example, we are committed to helping our members, many of which are small businesses, learn about and participate in funded projects and the region's growing advanced manufacturing industry.

Notably, the Vegas Chamber is also committed to working alongside Workforce Connections (Southern Nevada's Local Workforce Development Board), fellow chambers of commerce, and scores of community and business organizations to support successful implementation of the Good Jobs Challenge, should it be funded. We believe that Southern Nevada is a prime location for the development of a robust advanced manufacturing sector and look forward to building on the exciting regional partnerships and collaboration spurred by the EDA's Build Back Better grant programs

If you have any questions or if I can provide any further assistance or information, please contact me at 702.575.8020. Thank you for your time and consideration as we work together to support Southern Nevada's employers, their employees, and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mary Beth Sewald'.

Mary Beth Sewald
President & CEO

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Las Vegas, NV 89106
702.641.5822 • VegasChamber.com