



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *January 23, 2018*

CM/ACM	<u>JS</u>
Finance	<u>JB</u>
DA	<u>PL</u>
Risk Mgt	<u>n/a</u>
HR	<u>n/a</u>
Other	<u>-</u>

DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2018
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, County Grants Administrator, Manager's Office
775-328-2009, genfield@washoecounty.us
THROUGH: Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager
775-328-2016, cvuletich@washoecounty.us
SUBJECT: Approve to award Washoe County Bid No. 3036-17 for the development of the Gerlach Economic Development Plan to include inventory of assets, economic development strategy, and action plan; to Better City, in the amount of \$101,710 [project funded by Community Development Block Grant \$98,750 and Washoe County \$2,960]; and if approved authorize Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract. (Commission District 5.)

SUMMARY

Award Washoe County Bid No. 3036-17 for the development of the Gerlach Economic Development Plan to include inventory of assets, economic development strategy, and action plan in the amount of \$101,710 [project funded by Community Development Block Grant \$98,750 and Washoe County \$2,960].

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Proactive Economic Development and Diversification

PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 26, 2017 the Board of County Commissioners accepted a Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) from the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development in the amount of \$98,750 for the Gerlach Economic Development Plan.

On December 13, 2016 the Board of County Commissioners approved the submission of the following grants to the State of Nevada Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for funding including the Gerlach Economic Development Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Gerlach area currently has limited economic opportunity, but great economic potential. Gerlach is a very small rural community, over 100 miles northeast of Reno in the Black Rock desert. The most recent income survey of the town identified that over

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78% of Gerlach residents are low to moderate income (LMI.) In June of 2011 a Community Assessment was conducted by Nevada Rural Development Council. The assessment identified four major themes that need to be addressed. Residents prioritized Economic Development as their top priority. The 2011 Community Assessment recommended development of “several studies on what form of economic development should take in Gerlach.” This project will build on the work of the 2011 Community Assessment. The plan will include an inventory of existing assets, workforce analysis, regional traffic creation strategy for arts and tourism opportunities, and strategies for an economic development project implementation.

Washoe County is eligible to receive CDBG funds through the State of Nevada. Washoe County received a grant award for \$98,750 to support the Gerlach Economic Development Plan.

An Invitation to Bid was duly advertised in the newspaper and through the online services of www.demandstar.com resulting in the receipt of a three bid responses from Better City, Hansford Economic Consulting, and Wahlstrom & Associates. In addition to advertising, the bid was sent directly to four potential bidders. The evaluation committee selected Better City’s proposal in the amount of \$101,710.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this contract are included in the Office of the County Manager FY2018 budget - \$98,750 in the Grants Division in IO 11435 (CDBG funds) and \$2,960 in Community Support under cost center 181100.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to award Washoe County Bid No. 3036-17 for the development of the Gerlach Economic Development Plan to include inventory of assets, economic development strategy, and action plan; to Better City in the amount of \$101,710 [project funded by Community Development Block Grant \$98,750 and Washoe County \$2,960]; and if approved authorize Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board accept staff’s recommendation a possible motion would be: *“move to award Washoe County Bid No. 3036-17 for the development of the Gerlach Economic Development Plan to include inventory of assets, economic development strategy, and action plan; to Better City in the amount of \$101,710 [project funded by Community Development Block Grant \$98,750 and Washoe County \$2,960]; and if approved authorize Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the contract.”*