



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *May 24, 2022*

DATE: Thursday, May 19, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager
genfield@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager
kthomas@washoecounty.gov

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Sharing of Costs for COVID-19 Research and, in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve a subgrant of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), to the City of Sparks in an amount not to exceed \$504,258.66 for Washoe County's regional share of the research and monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 presence in wastewater and community prevalence monitoring due to the COVID-19 pandemic; with a grant period retroactive from September 1, 2021 through December 30, 2022, and if approved, authorize the County Manager to sign the Washoe County Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the City of Sparks; and approve the Resolution necessary for same. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF), provides for subaward relationships among local government units for the purpose of recovering from the public health emergency and negative economic impacts resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Sparks subgrant will support the interlocal cost share agreement to the University of Nevada, Reno to investigate and monitor SARS-COV2 presence and prevalence in wastewater. Commissioners must approve a grant of public funds by a resolution, per NRS 244.1505.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Innovative Services:
Promote Experimentation and Innovation

PREVIOUS ACTION

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On May 10, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved amended allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following projects:

1. Safe Camp Capital project in a total amount of \$4,693,132 (an increase of \$193,132 over the \$4,500,000 allocated and approved by the Board on July 20, 2021)
2. Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$926,477 (an increase of \$476,477 over the \$450,000 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), and
3. Our Place Community Garden Fencing project in a total amount of \$164,377 (an increase of \$34,377 over the \$130,000 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021),

and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers.

On January 11, 2022, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approved subgrants of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, to the Children's Cabinet in the amount of \$100,000 and to The Great Reno Balloon Race in the amount of \$100,000.

On January 11, 2022, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approved an amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in a total amount of \$7,971,644 for the Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project to fund additional staff positions to support homeless shelter operations.

On December 14, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approved allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in a total amount of \$40,201,764.00, to support 23 projects.

On July 20, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners accepted Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocation from the United States Department of the Treasury in the amount of [\$91,587,038; no county match], authorized the County Manager to sign award documents and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

On December 15, 2020, the Board of Commissioners approved funding to the City of Sparks to support the first phase of the Regional Wastewater Surveillance Project. \$421,099

BACKGROUND

In coordination with the City of Sparks and City of Reno, the Interlocal Agreement for the Sharing of Costs for COVID-19 Research. The two jurisdictions have submitted the agreement to their respective governing bodies for approval of the agreement. On May 9th, 2022, the City of Sparks Council approved its share of the interlocal agreement. On May 12th, 2022, the City of Reno Council approved its share of the interlocal agreement.

On December 15, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved funding for the first phase of the research proposal to conduct environmental surveillance of wastewater at the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) and in the collection systems by monitoring of SARSCOV2 marker during the pandemic in the Truckee Meadows region. The monitoring data was used to develop models that can indicate community prevalence of COVID19 in the population. The modeling tools include the COVID19 epidemiological testing data from local health agencies used to develop a predictive ability for incidences of increase or decrease in COVID19. These tools help decision makers in development of management actions to deal with the pandemic in the region.

Phase two of the research will include ongoing monitoring of the prevalence of SARS-COV-2 marker in local wastewater.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board approve the Interlocal Agreement and this subaward of ARPA-SLFRF funds, the FY22 SLFRF COVID Recovery budget (Fund 270, Fund Center 270-8) will be adjusted with the following cross-functional net-zero appropriation transfers:

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
	Revenue:		
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	431100-Federal Grants	(\$504,258.66)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Health	IO-12003 ARPA-SLFRF	431100-Federal Grants	\$504,258.66
	Expenditures:		
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	710500-Other Expense	(\$504,258.66)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Health	IO-12003 ARPA-SLFRF	710119-Subrecipient Payments	\$504,258.66

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Sharing of Costs for COVID-19 Research and, in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve a subgrant of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), to the City of Sparks in an amount not to exceed \$504,258.66 for Washoe County's regional share of the research and monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 presence in wastewater and community prevalence monitoring due to the COVID-19 pandemic; with a grant period retroactive from September 1, 2021 through December 30, 2022, and if approved, authorize the County Manager to sign the Washoe County Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the City of Sparks; and approve the Resolution necessary for same.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Sharing of Costs for COVID-19 Research and, in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve a subgrant of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), to the City of Sparks in an amount not to exceed \$504,258.66 for Washoe County's regional share of the research and monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 presence in wastewater and community prevalence monitoring due to the COVID-19 pandemic; with a grant period retroactive from September 1, 2021 through December 30, 2022, and if approved, authorize the County Manager to sign the Washoe County Subgrant Agreement between Washoe County and the City of Sparks; and approve the Resolution necessary for same.”*