



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
www.washoecounty.gov

## 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](mailto:genfield@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager  
775-328-2008, [kathomas@washoecounty.gov](mailto:kathomas@washoecounty.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve 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 \$2,902,258.66 and possible approval of recommended allocations of the funds and direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, for the proposed projects as follows:

26. Washoe County Sheriff's Office Security Upgrade - \$2,000,000
27. Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research - \$504,258.66
28. Wilbur D. May Museum (assistance for recovery of lost revenue due to closure on account of the COVID pandemic) - \$200,000
29. Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program - \$150,000
30. Washoe Wellness Center (an on-site fitness facility for use by county employees in connection with work) - \$48,000

The proposed projects fall within the American Rescue Plan Act (and the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund) eligible uses, include a proposed implementation process, and come with extensive compliance and reporting requirements. Final allocations may vary from those proposed based on information developed during this item. (All Commission Districts.) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

---

### **SUMMARY**

Recommendation to approve 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 \$2,902,258.66 and direct Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget adjustments. This staff report provides summary information proposed ARPA- SLFRF projects. The Board of County Commissioners will approval all ARPA-SLFRF over \$500,000.

**AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities

**PREVIOUS ACTION**

On May 10, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved amended allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the 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 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 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 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.

**BACKGROUND**

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. Washoe County has been awarded a grant of \$91,587,038 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). On May 17, 2021, Washoe County received payment from the Department of Treasury in the amount of \$45,793,519, fifty percent of the award funds. The SLFRF provide

a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

**Eligible Uses**

As a recipient of an SLFRF award, Washoe County has substantial discretion to use the award funds in the ways that best suit the needs of county constituents – as long as such use fits into one of the following four statutory categories:

1. To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts;
2. To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the recipient that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
3. For the provision of government services, to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such recipient due to the COVID–19 public health emergency, relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the recipient prior to the emergency; or
4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

**ARPA-SLFRF Urgent Need Projects:**

<b>Washoe County Sheriff’s Office</b>			
<b>Project #26</b>	Security Control System Upgrade	\$2,000,000	Approval Recommended
Description:	The Washoe County Sheriff’s Office Detention Facility and Washoe County Courts at 1 South Sierra and 75 Court Street have security control systems that have been discontinued, reached end of life (vendor support) or will by October of 2023. These systems allow Sheriff Support Specialists to monitor and control access to some of the most secure and sensitive locations in the entire county. Currently, the software and hardware components operate poorly and are prone to intermittent failures that require repairs and impede the safe and timely flow of traffic through these facilities. An upgrade and replacement of components will ensure the continued reliable operation of these areas well into the future.		
Positions:	None		
Category:	Public Health - Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		

<b>Office of the County Manager</b>			
<b>Project #27</b>	Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research	\$504,258.66	Approval Recommended
Description:	The City of Sparks administers the regional contract with the University of Nevada Reno to conduct a regional investigation of SARS-CoV-2 presence in wastewater and community prevalence monitoring due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This research is to conduct environmental surveillance of wastewater at the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) and in the collection systems by monitoring of SARS-COV2 Marker during the pandemic in the Truckee Meadows region. Data is used to develop models that can indicate community prevalence of COVID19 in the population.		
Positions:	None		
Category:	Public Health: Other COVID Public Health Expenses		
<b>Washoe County Parks and Open Space</b>			
<b>Project #28</b>	Wilbur D. May Museum Operations	\$200,000	Approved (under \$500,000)
Description:	This SLFRF allocation will provide support for the Wilbur D. May Museum to implement programming and continue normal operations as it recovers from the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Museum was required to close its doors when COVID-19 public health emergency hit but was still required to provide payment to the vendor for a previously purchased exhibit. The Museum also lost revenue for wedding reservations, large events, small events, art shows and the Museum collection. This resulted in a significant revenue loss. The SLFRF support will allow for recovery as the Museum returns to self-sustainability. The Museum has been self-sustained since 2009, relying on and operating from exhibit revenues, facility reservation revenues until COVID-19.		
Positions:	None		
Category:	Public Health - Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		

<b>Human Resources Department</b>			
<b>Project #29</b>	Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program	\$150,000	Approved (under \$500,000)
Description:	The Washoe County Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program is used to assist with the recruitment and retention of employees in difficult to fill positions in the County that are impacted by a shortage of qualified labor in the region and/or to assist with the recruitment of positions into the County where the private sector has a competitive advantage with salary and retention incentive opportunities through 3 programs: Recruitment Incentive; Employee Referral Incentive; Retention Incentive.		
Positions:	None		
Category:	Public Health - Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity		

<b>Office of the County Manager</b>			
<b>Project #30</b>	Employee Wellness Center	\$48,000	Approved (under \$500,000)
Description:	To provide Washoe county employees with a modest fitness center on site to promote healthy work-life balance and living healthier lifestyles. The Employee Wellness Center at the 9 <sup>th</sup> and Wells Complex includes adjustments to existing facilities to increase airflow and the purchase of fitness equipment.		
Positions:	None		
Category:	Revenue Replacement		

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board approve projects as submitted, the FY22 SLFRF COVID Recovery (Fund 270, Fund Center 270-8) budget will be adjusted with the following cross-functional net-zero appropriation transfers:

**Project #26: WCSO Security System Upgrade**

<b>Fund/Function</b>	<b>Cost Object &amp; Description</b>	<b>G/L Account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
	Revenue:		
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	431100-Federal Grants	(\$2,000,000)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Public Safety	IO 19126 – OCM-SLFRF-WCSO Security	431100-Federal Grants	\$2,000,000
	Expenditures/Transfers:		
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	710500-Other Expense	(\$2,000,000)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Public Safety	IO 19126 – OCM SLFRF-WCSO Security	710500-Other Expense	\$2,000,000

**Project #27 Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research**

<b>Fund/Function</b>	<b>Cost Object &amp; Description</b>	<b>G/L Account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
	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 OCM-SLFRF-Sparks Wastewater	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 OCM-SLFRF-Sparks Wastewater	710119-Subrecipient Payments	\$504,258.66

The following projects have been approved and do not require board action at this time:

- IO 12002 – OCM-SLFRF ARPA Wilbur D. May Museum \$200,000
- IO 11966 – OCM-SLFRF ARPA Human Resources Recruitment and Retention \$150,000
- IO 11973 – OCM-SLFRF ARPA Washoe Wellness Center \$48,000

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve 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 \$2,902,258.66 and possible approval of recommended allocations of the funds and direction to the Comptroller’s Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, the proposed projects as follows:

- 26. Washoe County Sheriff’s Office Security Upgrade - \$2,000,000
- 27. Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research - \$504,258.66
- 28. Wilbur D. May Museum - \$200,000
- 29. Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program - \$150,000
- 30. Washoe Wellness Center - \$48,000

The proposed projects fall within the American Rescue Plan Act (and the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund) eligible uses, include a proposed implementation process, and come with extensive compliance and reporting requirements. Final allocations may vary from those proposed based on information developed during this item.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to Recommendation to approve 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 \$2,902,258.66 and possible approval of recommended allocations of the funds and direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, the proposed projects as follows:*

- 26. Washoe County Sheriff's Office Security Upgrade - \$2,000,000*
- 27. Regional COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Research - \$504,258.66*
- 28. Wilbur D. May Museum - \$200,000*
- 29. Recruitment & Retention Incentive Program - \$150,000*
- 30. Washoe Wellness Center - \$48,000*

*The proposed projects fall within the American Rescue Plan Act (and the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund) eligible uses, include a proposed implementation process, and come with extensive compliance and reporting requirements. Final allocations may vary from those proposed based on information developed during this item.”*