



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 28, 2022

**DATE:** May 25, 2022  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**FROM:** Jamie Hemingway, Interim Library Development Officer  
327-8360 – [jhemingway@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jhemingway@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Jeff Scott, Library Director

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve Federal 2021 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Formula Digital Collection Development Grant-In-Aid Award Funds from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$28,500.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for the augmentation of Digital Library Collections to meet the pandemic-driven demand of Washoe County residents; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and the Director to sign the grant award documents. (All Commission Districts.)

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### **SUMMARY**

The Library is requesting Board's approval of Federal 2021 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Formula Digital Collection Development Grant-In-Aid Award Funds from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$28,500.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for the augmentation of Digital Library Collections to meet the pandemic-driven demand of Washoe County residents; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and the Director to sign the grant award documents.

County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of our community.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

No Previous Action Taken.

### **BACKGROUND**

Grant funded activities shall provide digital materials as outlined in the approved grant application. Grant funds must be used to meet Nevada State Library Archives and Public Records Five Year Plan and Federal Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan (ARP) goals. Funds may not be obligated or encumbered after September 30, 2022.

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

In March 2022, the State of Nevada announced additional ARP grant opportunities. The application was due by March 30, 2022. These non-competitive grant award monies are formula based. The Washoe County Library System, based on community needs, submitted an application to enhance and expand their digital collection through the purchase of digital materials that would meet the need for increased digital content, which aligns with ARP priorities set by the Federal government. ARP funds fall under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) umbrella. Funding for these opt-in grant monies were formula based.

If approved, these grant awards will allow the Washoe County Library System to purchase additional digital materials that will meet the needs of children, teens, and adults. The goal is to purchase downloadable ebooks and audiobooks that are new to the system. This will expand upon existing materials and will meet the increased need for digital content that came about during the onset of the pandemic.

The reason for a retroactive approval is because the award documents were received on April 8, 2022, and were submitted at the earliest available BCC meeting.

### **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** Increasing Digital Editions

**Scope of the Project:** These funds are non-competitive, opt-in federal passthrough grant monies used to supplement budgets for public libraries throughout the State of Nevada. The \$28,500.00 awarded to the Washoe County Library System will be used for the purchase of additional digital titles that will meet the needs of children, teens, and adults in Washoe County.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** With COVID-19 forcing the closure of libraries Washoe County Library System saw the demand for digital content rise significantly. Even as in-person services have resumed patron demand for digital editions of books has remained constant.

Grant funds will help to supplement the existing digital collection with downloadable audiobooks and ebooks that are not yet available to Washoe County Library patrons. Selected titles purchased through the grant will represent all types of readers, including children, teens, and adults. These monies will help to build the Washoe County Library System's capacity to meet evolving digital needs.

Providing access to updated and relevant library materials to the residents of Washoe County is the responsibility of the Washoe County Library System. These grant funds will help the library fulfill that responsibility.

**On-Going Program Support:** N/A: Grant funds will not be used to support costs of ongoing programs.

**Award Amount:** \$28,500.00

**Grant Period:** July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

**Funding Source:** Institute of Museum and Library Service

**Pass Through Entity:** State of Nevada

**CFDA Number:** 45.310

**Grant ID Number:** ARP-32

**Match Amount and Type:** None

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** None

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY22 adopted budget will be increased by \$28,500.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<b>Cost Object</b>	<b>G/L Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
IO 12001 – LSTA ARPA Grant	431100 - Federal Grant-Revenue	28,500.00
IO 12001 – LSTA ARPA Grant	710314 – Library Materials	\$28,500.00

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve Federal 2021 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Formula Digital Collection Development Grant-In-Aid Award Funds from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$28,500.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for the augmentation of Digital Library Collections to meet the pandemic-driven demand of Washoe County residents; direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and the Director to sign the grant award documents.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be:

*“Move to approve the recommendation to approve Federal 2021 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Digital Collection Development Formula Grant-In-Aid Award Funds from the State of Nevada in the amount of [\$28,500.00, no local match required] for a retroactive term of July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for the augmentation of Digital Library Collections to meet the pandemic-driven demand of Washoe County residents; direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments; and the Director to sign the grant award documents.”*