



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 27, 2018

DATE: October 25, 2018
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Ben Jesch, P.E., Licensed Engineer, Engineering and Capital Projects,
Community Services Department, 954-4635, bjesch@washoecounty.us
THROUGH: Dwayne Smith, P.E., Division Director, Engineering and Capital Projects
Community Services Department, 328-2043, desmith@washoecounty.us
SUBJECT: Approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe
County and Tahoe Resource Conservation District for the “Stormwater
Compliance Monitoring” Project for the term January 1, 2019 through December
31, 2021 [in the amount of \$136,000]. (Commission District 1.)

SUMMARY

Washoe County Community Services Department (CSD) continues its efforts to comply with the requirements and commitments under the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for the benefit of clarity levels of Lake Tahoe through the implementation of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program. Lake Tahoe TMDL requirements were established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and all jurisdictions within the Tahoe Basin are subject to either a federal permit or state directed program.

As part of the TMDL, Washoe County must implement a stormwater monitoring program. To do so, Washoe County has partnered, since 2015, with other Lake Tahoe Basin implementing partners to contract with the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (TRCD) to collectively fulfill the requirements of the respective NPDES permits and ILAs; this program is known as the Implementers’ Monitoring Program (IMP). The partnership promotes cost savings through economies of scale associated with the basin-wide implementation of the program. The previous two-year contract (2017-2018) was funded 50-50 by U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act grant funds and the implementing partners. The grant with the USFS has expired, and future funding of this monitoring program rests upon the collective jurisdictions.

The next proposed contract between Washoe County and TRCD for Stormwater Compliance Monitoring is for three years (2019-2021) to fulfill the requirements of the remaining years of Washoe’s ILA with NDEP. TRCD is the proposed consultant for this project due to their familiarity with the existing program and nature and structure of the partnership between the other implementing jurisdictions and TRCD. TRCD has submitted a scope of work and budget for the three-year project in an amount not to exceed \$136,000, commencing January 1, 2019 and concluding December 31, 2021.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

October 11, 2016 - The Board of County Commissioners approved an update to an ILA between Washoe County and NDEP, which was originally approved in July 2013. The ILA affirms Washoe County's commitment to participate in an urban stormwater pollutant reduction program at Lake Tahoe. The ILA is a cooperative implementation of water quality improvement actions as opposed to a regulatory permit. The current Agreement is valid through 2021.

BACKGROUND

Within Nevada, the Lake Tahoe TMDL is implemented through an agreement approach, and in 2016, Washoe County updated an ILA with NDEP to comply with obligations and commitments towards achieving the identified load reduction milestones and associated credit targets. Specifically, one of the requirements of the ILA is to "implement, either individually or collaboratively, a stormwater monitoring program." Additionally, the ILA specifically acknowledges the existing collaborative effort to carry out the Implementers' Monitoring Program (IMP), and that, "continued implementation of the approved IMP over the term of [the] agreement shall fulfill the County's commitment."

IMP is a partnership between the California and Nevada implementing jurisdictions and was inspired by permit/ILA language that encouraged jurisdictions to comply collaboratively with regulatory requirements to promote cost savings through economies of scale associated with basin-wide implementation. Washoe County partners with Douglas County, Nevada Department of Transportation, the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, and Placer County to implement the program, and since the inception of the program in 2015, the partners have contracted with TRCD to collect, analyze, and report the necessary data to satisfy the objectives and requirements of the jurisdictions' respective permits/ILAs.

While Washoe County continues to work within the requirements of the TMDL program and under the terms of the ILA with the State of Nevada, increasing challenges associated with rising costs for implementation of program infrastructure, operation, maintenance, and replacement challenges will require the County to both assess capital project implementation strategies and new funding sources as we move into the future. New funding sources will need to be identified in the near term in order to continue to meet the TMDL program targets and requirements imposed by the regulators.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds and budget authority for this agreement exists in CSD Engineering cost centers 105500 and 105501 account 710200 (Service Contracts).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and Tahoe Resource Conservation District for the "Stormwater Compliance Monitoring" Project for the term January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 [in the amount of \$136,000].

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board of County Commissioner agree with staff's recommendation a possible motion would be: "Move to approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and Tahoe Resource Conservation District for the "Stormwater Compliance Monitoring" Project for the term January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 [in the amount of \$136,000]."