



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

www.washoecounty.gov

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 25, 2026

DATE: July 28, 2026

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Francisco Ceballos, Emergency Management Program Coordinator
(775) 224-4109, FCeballos@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a 2027 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission, Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment grant for [\$36,000.00, no County match required] including funds to be used for food purchases. The grant aims to further capabilities to prevent, mitigate or respond to hazardous material incidents. Grant term is retroactive to July 1, 2026, through July 1, 2027. If approved, authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or her designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements to NRS 244.1505 between Washoe County and (i) Reno Police Department, in the amount of [\$17,360.00] for two (2) self-contained breathing apparatus and (2) psi cylinders; and (ii) Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, in the amount of [\$14,640.00] for thirteen (13) cyanokits; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Washoe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is requested to accept a 2027 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) grant for [\$36,000.00, no County match required]. Grant term is retroactive from July 1, 2026, through July 1, 2027. The BCC is further requested to authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or her designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements between Washoe County and Reno Police Department, and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. Direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will utilize and subgrant these funds to member entities to provide equipment to local first responders and first receivers. Equipment will allow local first responders to be better prepared, as well as efficiently respond to hazardous material related incidents within the region.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Staff is requesting a retroactive approval due to timing of new fiscal year and timing of BCC meeting opportunities.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Economic Impacts
Support a thriving community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

August 26, 2025 – The BCC accepted a 2026 SERC OPTE grant for \$36,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

August 20, 2024 – The BCC accepted a 2025 SERC OPTE grant for \$34,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

July 11, 2023 – The BCC accepted a 2024 SERC OPTE grant for \$34,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

July 12, 2022 – The BCC accepted a 2023 SERC OPTE grant for \$28,850.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

August 17, 2021 – The BCC accepted a 2022 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

August 8, 2020 – The BCC accepted a 2021 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

December 10, 2019 – The BCC accepted a 2020 SERC OPTE grant for \$28,789.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

September 11, 2018 – The BCC accepted a 2019 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

BACKGROUND

The source of funding is derived from fees collected from the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III facilities within the State that store and/or produce hazardous materials. The grant provides funding to the Washoe County LEPC for planning/training initiatives, equipment purchases, and operational costs. This grant allocation intent is to improve state and local governments planning and response capabilities to react to Hazardous Material emergencies and to provide access to information about Hazardous Materials to the public.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: *2027 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission, Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) Grant*

Scope of the Project: *Prevention, mitigation and/or response to hazardous materials incidents.*

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: *The grant will benefit our regional first responders and first receivers with the training necessary to conduct an effective response to Hazardous Materials incidents protecting the lives and properties of County residents.*

On-Going Program Support: *This annual grant opportunity is for specific deliverables. We will continue to apply for funding annually.*

Award Amount: *\$36,000.00*

Grant Period: *July 1, 2026, through July 1, 2027*

Funding Source: *Funding is derived from fees collected from SARA Title III Facilities within the State that store and/or produce hazardous materials in specific amounts.*

Pass Through Entity: *State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)*

CFDA Number: *Not applicable (State Grant)*

Grant ID Number: *27-SERC-16-01*

Match Amount and Type: *No County match required*

Sub-Awards and Contracts:

Washoe County will sub-grant \$32,000.00 of these funds to the Reno Police Department, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$17,360.00] for two (2) self-contained breathing apparatus and (2) psi cylinders; and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$14,640.00] for thirteen (13) cyanokits; and will contract for transcription services with Erin Etcheverria in the amount of \$2,000.00.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve the associated budget amendments, the FY 27 Office of the County Manager adopted budget will be increased by \$36,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Description	Cost Object - G/L Account	Amount
Revenue:		
Emergency Management: FY 27 OPTE – State Grant	IO 19182 - 432100	\$36,000.00
Expenditures:		
Emergency Management: FY 27 OPTE – Professional Services	IO 19182 - 710100	\$2,000.00
Emergency Management: FY 27 OPTE – Operating Supplies	IO 19182 - 710300	\$1,500.00
Emergency Management: FY 27 OPTE – Food	IO 19182 - 710872	\$500.00
Emergency Management: FY 27 OPTE – Subrecipient Payments	IO 19182 - 710119	\$32,000.00

All expenditures will be on a reimbursement basis. Initial funding will be provided by general fund. Indirect costs are not allowable on this grant as no salary or wages are included in the grant budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the BCC approve a FY 2027 OPTE grant from the Nevada State Emergency Response Commission. SERC is awarding [\$36,000, no County match required], with a grant term retroactive from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027. Staff further recommends that the BCC further authorize the LEPC Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or her designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements between Washoe County and the Reno Police Department and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. Authorize the County Manager or her designee to sign the grant award documents when received. Approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

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

“Move to approve the FY 2027 OPTE grant from SERC in the amount of [\$36,000.00, no County match required] with a grant term retroactive from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027. Authorize the (LEPC) Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or her designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements between Washoe County and Reno Fire Department, Reno Police Department and Sparks Police Department. Approve Resolution necessary for same; direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.”