



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

[www.washoecounty.gov](http://www.washoecounty.gov)

## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 10, 2025

**DATE:** May 8, 2025

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Jennifer Hoekstra, Fiscal Compliance Officer  
Community Services Dept., 328-2045, [jhoekstra@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jhoekstra@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Samantha Turner, Division Director Finance and Customer Service,  
Community Services Dept. 328-3600, [sturner@washoecounty.gov](mailto:sturner@washoecounty.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for Fiscal Year (FY) 26 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to support FY26 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum. (Commission District 3.)

---

### SUMMARY

Accept donations in the amount of \$300,000 from the Wilbur D. May Foundation: \$200,000 restricted for FY25 general operating support and \$100,000 for temporary museum exhibits retroactive to date of receipt.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability: Long-term sustainability.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

Support in the form of cash donations has been provided by the Wilbur D. May Foundation and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) annually since FY84.

### BACKGROUND

Since FY84, the Wilbur May Foundation has generously donated sizable amounts of cash to Washoe County to subsidize Wilbur D. May Center operations and maintenance at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park in addition to site and programming improvements.

The contract between the Foundation and Washoe County contains a commitment to donate a total of \$200,000 each year to support operations at the May Center. Beginning FY04, the Foundation began providing an additional \$50,000 annually to bring high quality educational exhibits to the May Museum. Exhibit funding was increased to \$100,000 in FY08. In FY16, the Foundation made a three-year commitment to provide a \$20,000 per year funding to support staff retention in the Museum. The \$20,000

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

donation for the Museum staff support continued in FY19, FY20, FY21 and FY22 thus ending in FY23 as the position was vacant.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

All donations have been deposited in the “Wilbur D. May Museum Building Fund,” an independent account maintained by the Treasurer’s Office. The FY26 budget for the May Center includes this donation; \$200,000 of the total donation is restricted to the May Museum (640200) and \$100,000 for the May Arboretum (640300).

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for FY26 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to support FY26 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for FY26 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to support FY26 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.”