



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 17, 2020

DATE: October 19, 2020

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Mitchell Fink, P.E., Utility & Civil Project Inspector, Engineering and Capital Projects, Community Services Dept., 328-2050,
mfink@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Dwayne Smith, P.E., Division Director, Engineering and Capital Projects Community Services Department, 328-2043, desmith@washoecounty.us

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a donation [\$12,000.00] from DR Horton for the Community Services Department to improve school zone pedestrian safety on Zolezzi Lane; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (Commission District 2)

SUMMARY

DR Horton has donated \$12,000.00 to Washoe County through its Community Services Department (CSD) for school zone and pedestrian safety improvements at the Mountain View Montessori School (School) located at 565 Zolezzi Lane in the South Truckee Meadows.

In response to concerns from the school and DR Horton and supported by traffic data developed by Washoe County Engineering, staff implemented the Washoe County Traffic Calming & Traffic Engineering Request Policy, an engineering policy approved by the Board of County Commissioners on December 10, 2019. The analysis concluded that this area meets the criteria for upgrades to the existing school zone and to the pedestrian crossing.

The estimated cost for equipment is \$24,266.00 and includes solar-powered flashing school zone signs and rapid flasher beacons at the crosswalk. Funding for the equipment is provided through this donation, as well as a donation in the amount of \$12,266.00 from the Mountain View Montessori School. Washoe County CSD's contribution to the project will be in-kind, through installation of the improvements. The estimated total project cost including in-kind installation is \$37,500.

Washoe County appreciates the donation by DR Horton because this support makes possible the purchase and installation of the identified pedestrian safety improvements.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

AGENDA ITEM # _____

There has been no previous action regarding this item.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County's annual traffic safety budget is funded at \$50,000 and this budget is applied for various safety improvements including the safety of pedestrians and multi-modal users. Improvements generally consist of signage, rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs), striping, temporary speed humps, traffic counters, etc. Following Washoe County policies and utilizing priority lists developed based on field studies, each year staff recommends and implements various pedestrian safety improvements throughout unincorporated Washoe County.

Recognizing the challenges with funding all the requests, staff partners with groups such as the Washoe County School District, area developers, homeowner associations as well as other groups on an annual basis to advance safety projects.

These projects and improvements are often in addition to the required improvements made as a condition of new development. All new development is reviewed, and conditions placed to mitigate their impacts including impacts associated with increases in traffic movements, additional pedestrian activity, and increases to multi-modal use. For example, the Washoe County School District consistently includes traffic and pedestrian safety elements associated with public school zones for new projects such as signalized intersections and bike paths. As done by the public schools, private schools also contribute financially to pedestrian safety associated with school zones and other impacted areas. Examples are recent school projects in the South Truckee Meadows as well as in Spanish Springs where private schools have funded signalized intersections and pedestrian improvements such as RRFBs and speed humps.

DR Horton has generously donated \$12,000.00 toward these improvements and Washoe County thanks them for their support of our public pedestrian safety.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board accept the mentioned donation, the FY21 budget will need to be amended in the following accounts:

IN20490-484000	Zolezzi Lane Pedestrian Safety-Donations	\$12,000.00
IN20490-710571	Zolezzi Lane Pedestrian Safety-Safety Expense	\$12,000.00

Equipment for this pedestrian safety project is also funded with an additional donation from the Mountain View Montessori School in the amount of \$12,266. Washoe County will be responsible for the maintenance of the school zone pedestrian safety improvements on Zolezzi Lane. Maintenance costs will be minimal and covered in the existing CSD Engineering and Capital Admin (C105500) Repairs and Maintenance (710205) budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a donation [\$12,000.00] from DR Horton for the Community Services Department to improve school zone pedestrian safety on Zolezzi Lane; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation a possible motion would be: "Move to accept a donation [\$12,000.00] from DR Horton for the Community Services Department to improve school zone pedestrian safety on Zolezzi Lane; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments".