



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 22, 2018

**DATE:** April 20, 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](mailto:bjesch@washoecounty.us)

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

**SUBJECT:** Approve Amendment #1 to Sub-grant DEPS 14-022 from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, extending the grant's expiration date from June 30, 2018 to December 31, 2019 to allow Washoe County additional time to satisfy the grant's requirement that the County expend funds matching the grant amount. (Commission District 1.)

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### SUMMARY

In 2014, Washoe County applied for and was awarded a Section 319(h) grant for the purchase of two bulk material spreaders with advanced controls to apply abrasives and deicing liquid on roadways in the Lake Tahoe Basin during winter operations. As part of the grant agreement, the County is required to provide \$175,300 of in-kind match via operation and maintenance of the spreaders. The spreaders were purchased in September 2014 and have been in use since February 2015.

Due to an abbreviated operation timeline (Washoe has operated the spreader units for three winters instead of the originally planned five), below average winters requiring less abrasive application, and mechanical issues with the truck(s) carrying the spreaders, the County has yet to meet its in-kind match requirements for the grant. Therefore Washoe County staff is requesting the Boards consideration for approving the submission of an extension to Sub-grant DEPS 14-022 through December 31, 2019. The extension will give the County the opportunity and time to meet match requirements.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item: Stewardship of our Community.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On May 13, 2014, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) approved an item to accept a 319(h) subgrant award from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) [in the amount of \$175,000] for the period of May 13, 2014 through June 30, 2018 for the purchase of two bulk material spreaders with advanced controls for use in the Lake Tahoe area, with County in-kind match [in the amount of \$175,300] via operation and maintenance of the spreaders.

On September 9, 2014, the Board approved the purchase of one Epoke S4902 Sirius Combi AST [\$111,319.40] and one Epoke Igloo [\$60,700.90] (bulk material spreaders

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

with advanced controls) for use in the Lake Tahoe area utilizing a State of Ohio bid dated September 1, 2011.

## **BACKGROUND**

Washoe County Community Services Department (CSD) continues its efforts to meet the Lake Tahoe TMDL requirements established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The goal of the TMDL is to reduce the pollutant load in urban stormwater runoff that reaches Lake Tahoe. Within Nevada, the TMDL is implemented through an interlocal agreement (ILA), and in 2016, Washoe County updated its ILA with NDEP to comply with obligations and commitments towards achieving the identified load reduction milestones and associated credit targets.

One of the ways in which the County achieves its TMDL load reduction milestones and associated credit targets is through enhanced road operations procedures on County-maintained roads within the Lake Tahoe Basin; this includes using best-available technology (BAT) for winter abrasives application and road sweeping. The bulk material spreaders purchased through this grant represent BAT, with advanced controls, which allows the equipment operators to better regulate the amount of material applied to Washoe County roadways during winter operations. Washoe County has observed significant reduction in use of abrasives due to the way the BAT equipment meters application of wetted sand/salt material. The more efficient use of materials reduces the amount of sand that can be pulverized into fine particles that are carried by stormwater into Lake Tahoe and diminish clarity. Additionally, less material spread on roadways before and during snowstorms reduces the amount of material that need to be swept up after the event.

These types of enhanced road operations with BAT currently account for 69 credits (approximately 40%) of the County's 174 required credits. These operations and equipment will continue to play a key role in the County meeting its increasing credit requirements.

## **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

### **Project/Program Name:**

Washoe County Tahoe Basin Bulk Material Spreaders

### **Scope of the Project:**

Washoe County purchased two (2) BAT bulk material spreaders with advanced, in-cab controls and GPS automation and tracking. The spreaders are used on County-maintained roads within the Lake Tahoe Basin. The BAT spreaders are designed and operated specifically to apply abrasives more efficiently for stormwater quality improvement purposes. Minimizing the application of abrasive materials means less material on the roadway that can be pulverized and potentially mobilized in stormwater runoff prior to sweeping. The project purpose is to reduce the loading of pollutants in stormwater runoff and improve the clarity of Lake Tahoe.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:**

The project provides for the safety of the driving public during snowstorms, while continuing to improve water quality and clarity of Lake Tahoe. The project helps Washoe County meet the Federal and State requirements of the Lake Tahoe TMDL.

**On-Going Program Support:**

Washoe County continues to provide in-kind match via operation and maintenance of the bulk spreader equipment.

**Award Amount:** Original award amount - \$175,000. This amendment is for a time extension only.

**Grant Period:** May 22, 2014 – June 30, 2018  
Seeking extension to December 31, 2019

**Funding Source:** Nevada Division of Environmental Protection 319(h) Funds

**Pass Through Entity:** N/A

**CFDA Number:** N/A

**Grant ID Number:** DEPS 14-022

**Match Amount and Type:** Washoe County In-Kind Match      \$175,300

**Sub-Awards & Contracts:** N/A for this amendment

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Washoe County Community Services Department has met \$165,330.31 of the required \$175,300 match as of March 31, 2018 through operation, maintenance and grant administration. By extending the grant period through December 31, 2019 the remaining match of \$9,969.69 will be reached. There are no additional outlays required; the balance of the matching funds will be met through equipment operation and maintenance, and grant administration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve Amendment #1 to Sub-grant DEPS 14-022 from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, extending the grant's expiration date from June 30, 2018 to December 31, 2019 to allow Washoe County additional time to satisfy the grant's requirement that the County expend funds matching the grant amount.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve Amendment #1 to Sub-grant DEPS 14-022 from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, extending the grant's expiration date from June 30, 2018 to December 31, 2019 to allow Washoe County additional time to satisfy the grant's requirement that the County expend funds matching the grant amount."