



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 23, 2019

DATE: March 22, 2019

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Joanne Lowden, Natural Resources Planner,
Community Services Department, 328-2039, jlowden@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Eric Crump, Operations Division Director
Community Services Department, 328-3624, ecrump@washoecounty.us

Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Assistant County Manager
Community Services Department, 328-3600, dsolaro@washoecounty.us

SUBJECT: Recommendation to: 1) accept the Community Foundation of Western Nevada "Truckee River Fund #220-Weed Treatment and Revegetation Project along the Truckee River grant" [in the amount of \$45,000 with a Washoe County cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$17,800]; and 2) approve the Grant Award Letter with a grant period from issuance of the notice to proceed through June 30, 2020; and 3) authorize the Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Grant Award Letter and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and 4) direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

This item recommends acceptance of a Truckee River Fund grant in the amount of \$45,000, with a County match of \$17,800 from the Community Foundation of Western Nevada awarded on March 26, 2019. The funding would be used to remove noxious weeds and re-establish native vegetation in Washoe County parks and open space areas along the Truckee River and its tributaries. The project includes weed inventory, GIS mapping, chemical and mechanical treatments, re-vegetation, and monitoring.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

BACKGROUND

Washoe County Parks does not currently have dedicated funding in the budget to address noxious weed issues in parks and open space areas. In the past five years, a majority of the noxious weed inventory and treatment that occurred was conducted by the Nevada Land Trust using Truckee River Funds and in partnership with the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) using Medusahead Grant funds. The Nevada Land Trust weed program

ended in 2018, and Washoe County Parks would like to continue with noxious weed monitoring and treatments to improve fish and wildlife habitat, enhance recreational opportunities, improve water quality through soil stabilization, reduce fire hazard, and increase the visual quality of parks and open space areas.

This funding would be used to remove noxious and invasive weeds and re-establish native vegetation in Washoe County parks and open space areas along the Truckee River corridor. Priority treatment areas identified for 2019 include Crystal Peak Park, Riverbend Open Space, Mayberry Park, Dorostkar Park, Betsy Caughlin Donnelly Park, Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Anderson Park, Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, and Lockwood Park. Project implementation would include weed inventory, GIS mapping and reporting, chemical and mechanical treatments, re-vegetation, and monitoring. A combination of Washoe County staff time, contracts, and volunteer efforts would be used to implement the project.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Washoe County Parks -Weed Treatment and Revegetation Project along the Truckee River

Scope of the Project: Conduct weed inventory, GIS mapping, chemical and mechanical treatments, re-vegetation, and monitoring in parks and open space areas.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Implementation of the project would improve fish and wildlife habitat, enhance recreational opportunities, improve water quality through soil stabilization, reduce fire hazard, and increase the visual quality of parks and open space areas.

On-Going Program Support: Washoe County Parks will continue to seek weed management funding through future year Truckee River Fund grant requests and other potential funding sources identified through the Washoe Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area group. Washoe County Parks will also continue to work with partners including the Nevada Land Trust, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Nevada Division of Forestry, and the Nevada Department of Wildlife to pursue and leverage funding sources for weed treatments as they become available.

Award Amount: \$45,000

Grant Period: Issuance of notice to proceed through June 30, 2020

Funding Source: Community Foundation of Western Nevada

Pass Through Entity: N/A

CFDA Number: N/A

Grant ID Number: TRF #220

Match Amount and Type: \$17,800, cash and in-kind match

Sub-Awards and Contracts: Contracts will likely be awarded to implement portions of the project including weed inventory and chemical/mechanical treatments. All contracts and supply purchases will follow Washoe County procurement guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted budget will be increased by \$45,000 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object	G/L Account	Amount
Increase Revenue IN11569	484195-Non-Governmental Grants	\$45,000
Increase Expense IN11569	710200-Service Contracts	\$45,000

There is a \$17,800 cash/in-kind match associated with this grant which includes \$16,200 of staff time, native seed mix, nursery grown container plants and \$1,600 of volunteer hours for planting/seeding projects.

The grant funds will be drawn on a reimbursement basis.

No indirect cost is included in this grant.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners: 1) accept the Community Foundation of Western Nevada “Truckee River Fund #220-Weed Treatment and Revegetation Project along the Truckee River grant” [in the amount of \$45,000 with a Washoe County cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$17,800]; and 2) approve the Grant Award Letter with a grant period from issuance of the notice to proceed through June 30, 2020; and 3) authorize the Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Grant Award Letter and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and 4) 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: 1) accept the Community Foundation of Western Nevada “Truckee River Fund #220-Weed Treatment and Revegetation Project along the Truckee River grant” [in the amount of \$45,000 with a Washoe County cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$17,800]; and 2) approve the Grant Award Letter with a grant period from issuance of the notice to proceed through June 30, 2020; and 3) authorize the Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Grant Award Letter and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and 4) direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments.”