



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 14, 2020

DATE: March 13, 2020
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Ben Jesch, P.E., Licensed Engineer, Engineering and Capital Projects, Community Services Department, 954-4635, bjesch@washoecounty.us
THROUGH: Dwayne Smith, P.E., Division Director, Engineering and Capital Projects, Community Services Department, 328-2043, desmith@washoecounty.us
SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a Phase II Agreement for Professional Services between Washoe County and Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) in support of the Lake Tahoe Clarity Protection Program Support Services project in the amount of \$52,000 and authorize an increase up to \$25,000 for additional services that may be required. (Commission District 1.)

SUMMARY

This item requests approval for a second professional services agreement (Phase II) for an existing project with NCE for the Lake Tahoe Clarity Protection Program (Program) Support Services project. Specifically, the agreement provides additional scope of work and budget to finalize the development of Program branding and perform initial outreach to key stakeholders and potential partners.

The initial phase of the project included understanding and definition of the Program. A total of \$81,491.05 has been expended on this project to date. This request recognizes Washoe County policy requiring approval by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for projects that cumulatively exceed \$100,000. The total project budget will be in an amount not-to-exceed \$158,491.05 unless additional required funding is approved by the Board.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of our Community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

October 11, 2016 - The Board approved an update to an ILA between Washoe County and NDEP, which was originally approved in July 2013. The ILA affirms Washoe County's commitment to participate in an urban stormwater pollutant reduction program at Lake Tahoe. The ILA is a cooperative implementation of water quality improvement actions as opposed to a regulatory permit. The ILA explicitly requires the County to implement pollutant control projects and pursue external funding sources for the projects. The current Agreement is valid through 2021.

As part of the same Board item, the Board also directed staff to initiate a preliminary study to address future program costs and funding alternatives.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

Washoe County's commitment to achieve the scheduled load reduction milestones associated with the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and the Inter-Local Agreement (ILA) between Washoe County and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) require the ongoing implementation of stormwater capital projects, registration of stormwater treatment projects and road operations, and continued maintenance and operations of the facilities reducing stormwater pollutants. Due to a lack of sustainable grant funds that have previously provided the bulk of capital funding for these efforts, staff recognizes Washoe County's commitment will require increased financial resources directly from the general fund to maintain compliance with each five-year pollutant load reduction milestone during the 65-year TMDL program.

In response to the October 11, 2016 Board directive, Washoe County entered into a professional services agreement with NCE in May 2017 to provide consulting support services for a finance initiative project to assist the County in gauging the level of support for securing dedicated local revenue for the County's Program. The original contract amount was \$44,700.

In the process of the project, the County recognized that additional support was needed in defining and developing the financial analysis for the program. In response, in February 2018, Washoe County issued Change Order #1, in the amount of \$49,710, bringing the approved contract budget to \$94,410.

Through the course of the project, additional discussions, meetings, and tasks related to the financial analysis were necessary; as a result, the County expended \$64,491.05 of the \$94,410 budget associated with the development of the financial analysis, and the existing contract was closed out. In February 2020, a supplementary purchase order was approved in the amount of \$17,000 to complete outstanding tasks, bringing the total project amount to \$81,491.05. This item requests approval of \$52,000 for the Phase II agreement, plus authority to increase the amount up to \$25,000 for additional services, if required.

FISCAL IMPACT

Budget authority for this contract, including the funds that may be needed for additional work, are available in the Community Services Department FY20 budget in Engineering and Capital Projects (C105501), Professional Services (710100).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve a Phase II Agreement for Professional Services between Washoe County and Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) in support of the Lake Tahoe Clarity Protection Program Support Services project in the amount of \$52,000 and authorize an increase up to \$25,000 for additional services that may be required.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be. "Move to approve a Phase II Agreement for Professional Services between Washoe County and Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) in support of the Lake Tahoe Clarity Protection Program Support Services project in the amount of \$52,000 and authorize an increase up to \$25,000 for additional services that may be required."