



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 12, 2021

DATE: December 20, 2020

TO: Board of County Commissioners

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

THROUGH: Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and HDR Engineering for the Phase 1 – Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation to provide engineering analysis and recommendations to address flood impacts associated with the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch [at a cost of \$169,576 which will be 100% reimbursed for a net-zero fiscal impact]. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The purpose of the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation project is to evaluate a portion of Steamboat Irrigation Ditch through urbanized areas within the jurisdictions of Washoe County and the City of Reno, between Hunter Creek and Evans Creek. The effort is intended to provide support to Washoe County and the City of Reno for assessment of contributing watershed areas and how those surface water flows are intercepted by the Steamboat Ditch allowing for various recommendations including water routing and flood control outlet improvements.

Washoe County secured funding for this engineering analysis with the assistance of the Western Region Water Commission who is fully funding this effort. All invoices will be reviewed and submitted to the WRWC who will fully reimburse the County.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 22, 2020 the Washoe County Commission approved an Interlocal agreement, retroactive to June 1, 2020, to provide engineering analysis and recommendations to address flood impacts associated with the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch [at a cost of \$169,576 which will be 100% reimbursed for a net-zero fiscal impact].

On June 17, 2020, the Western Regional Water Commission approved a proposal for the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation in an amount not to exceed \$169,576 utilizing Regional Water Management Funds.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

On June 11, 2020, the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (NNWPC) met and approved a request to partially fund Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation project to be conducted by Washoe County, not to exceed \$170,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund for reimbursement of costs related to the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation.

There has previously been an inventory of pipes and roadside ditches that contribute storm water flows to certain portions of the irrigation ditch but no upstream watershed analysis or ditch capacity analysis in those contributing areas has been performed. This analysis will identify recommendations to reduce flood impacts based on these surface water flow inputs and working collaboratively with the ditch company, it is anticipated that design and construction activities will be developed for this section of ditch which will both reduce the downslope risk and the downstream impacts. It is also anticipated that this analysis will develop the basis and approach to address flood risk improvements along other sections of the irrigation ditch as well as for other area irrigation ditches.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board approve the regional Agreement for the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation between Washoe County and HDR, expenditures will be accounted for in the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation (IO 60678). Invoices will be submitted to WRWC monthly for reimbursement, resulting in a net-zero impact to the Community Services Department (105).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and HDR Engineering for the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation to provide engineering analysis and recommendations to address flood impacts associated with the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch [at a cost of \$169,576 which will be 100% reimbursed for a net-zero fiscal impact].

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve the Agreement for Professional Consulting Services between Washoe County and HDR Engineering for the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch Evaluation to provide engineering analysis and recommendations to address flood impacts associated with the Steamboat Irrigation Ditch [at a cost of \$169,576 which will be 100% reimbursed for a net-zero fiscal impact]."