



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 11, 2021

DATE: Thursday, May 06, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, County Grants Administrator
genfield@washoecounty.us (775) 328-2009

THROUGH: Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: **Recommendation to approve community support grant awards for FY 20-21 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000; and for the Gerlach General Improvement District in the amount of \$12,000 for the historic water tower; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget appropriation transfers. (All Commission Districts.)**

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve a \$10,000 grant award to Silver State Fair Housing Council to affirmatively further fair housing in Washoe County, and a \$12,000 grant to the Gerlach General Improvement District for improvements to the Historic Water Tower. All grant awards to other entities must be approved through a resolution approved by the Board of County Commissioners per NRS 244.1505.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On December 10, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved a grant award for FY 2019-20 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000, and approved resolution necessary for same.

On June 19, 2018 the Board of County Commissioners approved a grant award for FY 2018-19 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000; and grant awards from FY2017-2018 funds for Artown in the amount of \$25,000; and Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation in the amount of \$10,000; and approved resolutions necessary for same.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

June 13, 2017, the Board of County Commissions approved grant award for FY 2017-2018 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000; and grant awards from FY2016-2017 funds for Artown in the amount of \$25,000; Reno-Tahoe Open Foundation in the amount of \$10,000; and Education Alliance of Washoe County in the amount of \$9,213.

Washoe County has been providing funding to support Silver State Fair Housing Council for more than 20 years.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Washoe County has made Community Support funds available to local community-based providers to support services that address diverse health and human service needs in the community or contribute to economic development and quality of life issues.

Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC)

SSFHC is a nonprofit that works to ensure equal housing opportunity for all residents of northern Nevada. Washoe County has provided funding to SSFHC, since 1998 to support a variety of services including development and dissemination of informational materials and education to increase community awareness of housing discrimination, Fair Housing Act protections, and fair housing rights and responsibilities.

As a recipient of federal grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washoe County is required to demonstrate efforts to further fair housing standards in our community. SSFHC seeks to increase community awareness of housing discrimination by providing community members with information to detect and report housing discrimination, and by educating housing providers about fair housing rights and responsibilities. Successful fair housing advocacy through community awareness provides a substantial benefit to residents of Washoe County by ensuring that equal housing opportunity is available to all residents.

Gerlach General Improvement District – Historic Water Tower

The Gerlach water tower was built in 1909 by the Utah Construction Company under contract to the Western Pacific Railroad Company. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981. It is also a stop on the [Washoe ArTrail](#) and includes a park owned and maintained by the Gerlach General Improvement District.

The water tank is supported by 12 - fifteen-foot 12"x12" timbers in the shape of a cruciform sitting on 16"x16" timber sills. The finish of the tank and its supports is barn red. One of the redwood timber sills is rotted and needs immediate replacement by a specialized contractor. Additionally, the tank needs to be scraped and repainted before significant wood degradation begins. The community and local businesses will volunteer labor for the painting and scraping. The funds would be to utilized hire the specialized contractor, replace the rotted redwood timber, purchase paint, and supplies.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for the SSFHC grant award funds have been included in the Community Support Program within the Office of the County Manager's FY20-21 approved budget under cost center 183110. Should the Board approve these grant awards, distribution of funds are needed as follows:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
183110- Community Events	710400 - Payment to Other Agencies	10,000
183110- Community Events	710400 - Payment to Other Agencies	12,000

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve community support grant awards for FY 20-21 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000; and for the Gerlach General Improvement District in the amount of \$12,000 for the historic water tower; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget appropriation transfers.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board accept staff's recommendation a possible motion would be:

"Recommendation to approve community support grant awards for FY 20-21 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000; and for the Gerlach General Improvement District in the amount of \$12,000 for the historic water tower; approve Resolutions necessary for same; and direct Comptroller's Office to make the appropriate budget appropriation transfers."