



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: July 20, 2021

DATE: June 10, 2021

TO: Open Space and Regional Parks Commission

FROM: Sophia Kirschenman, Park Planner,
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THROUGH: Eric Crump, Operations Division Director
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan.
(Commission District 5.)

SUMMARY

Washoe County, through its Community Services Department, has been working with TSK Architects and their team to develop a Master Plan for the Regional Archery Facility in Lemmon Valley. The plan, founded on stakeholder input, identifies current challenges as well as a vision to guide future development. The recommended improvements include enhancing access to the facility, improving trail areas, expanding archery and hunter education facilities, installing additional support amenities, such as pit toilets and parking, and constructing an Olympic-style archery range.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

June 1, 2021 – The Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Commission recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan.

April 14, 2020 – The Board accepted a Nevada Department of Wildlife Shooting Range Grant in the amount of \$255,537.50 with a County cash/in-kind match of \$85,180 to develop a Master Plan for the Regional Archery Facility and to improve access and safety at the Regional Shooting Facility.

May 12, 2020 – The Board approved Amendment #1 to the Lease Agreement between Washoe County and the Silver Arrow Bowmen, a Nevada non-profit organization, effective June 15, 2020, to allow the Silver Arrow Bowmen Archery Club to directly allocate user fees toward improvements and repairs at the Regional Archery Facility in Lemmon Valley.

April 24, 2012 – The Board executed a 20-year Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act lease with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), for 110-acres in Lemmon Valley for continued use as a Regional Archery Facility; and executed a Lease Agreement (5-year sub-lease) with the Silver Arrow Bowmen Archery Club to operate the facility.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

April 10, 2007 – The Board executed a 5-year R&PP Act lease with the BLM for 110-acres in Lemmon Valley for use as a Regional Archery Facility; and executed a Lease Agreement (5-year sub-lease) with the Silver Arrow Bowmen Archery Club to operate the facility.

March 21, 2007 – The Washoe County Open Space and Regional Park Commission (Park Commission) recommended approval of an R&PP lease between Washoe County and the BLM for the Regional Archery Facility.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County, through its Community Services Department, has held a Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act lease for the Regional Archery Facility since 2007. The facility is operated and managed by the Silver Arrow Bowmen Archery Club, a local non-profit organization, under a sub-lease. In 2020, Washoe County staff applied for a grant through the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) for the purposes of developing a Master Plan for the Regional Archery Facility and improving access and safety at the Regional Shooting Facility. The grant was awarded by NDOW and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners.

In October of 2020, Washoe County hired the TSK Architects Team to develop the Master Plan. The plan development process included extensive stakeholder and community outreach. Key partners included the Silver Arrow Bowmen, the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Wasting Arrows and the broader archery community. In addition to numerous stakeholder meetings, two public meetings were held, an online public survey was conducted, and the plan process was featured on local news stations.

Through this process, several site challenges were identified, including difficulty accessing the facility at various times of the year due to the conditions of Silver Arrow Range Road, challenges related to finding the facility and navigating through a neighborhood, and limited amenities, such as water, power and permanent restrooms. Use of the facility over the years has also resulted in natural resource impacts and wayfinding can be difficult for those who are less familiar with the facility. A variety of opportunities were also identified, including improving the range trail area, developing a delineated service road, building hunter and archery education facilities, constructing an Olympic-style archery range, and installing additional support facilities.

Consistency with the 2019 Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan.

The Regional Archery Facility sits within the North Valleys Planning Area identified in the 2019 Regional Parks and Open Space Master Plan. One of the goals for this planning area is to look for opportunities to provide access to federal lands. The Regional Archery Facility does provide access to federal lands and the proposed improvements would include defined trail access to neighboring BLM properties.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:
"Move to adopt the Regional Archery Facility Master Plan."