



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** May 27, 2025

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager  
Office of the County Manager  
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**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager  
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**SUBJECT:** Recommendation in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve Community Support grant award to:

1. Artown, a nonprofit corporation organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, in the amount of [\$55,000], to support the month-long summer arts festival for two years, [\$30,000] 2025 and [\$25,000] 2026; approve Resolution 25-41 for the same; and
2. City of Reno, a government entity, Wildlife Protection Fence South, in the amount of [\$20,000] to support the removal of exiting fence that is failing, installation of new Nevada 4-wire and NDOT 4-strand fence, installation of new NDOT and Type 2T cattle guards, and installation of pedestrian gates in south Reno. The project area is from Toll Road to just north of Geiger Grade Road; approve Resolution 25-42 for the same;

direct Finance to make the budget disbursements. Manager. (All Commission Districts.) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

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### SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve community support grant awards for Artown, a nonprofit corporation organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, in the amount of [\$55,000], to support the month-long summer arts festival for two years, [\$30,000] 2025 and [\$25,000] 2026, and City of Reno, Wildlife Protection Fence South, in the amount of [\$20,000] to support the removal of exiting fence that is failing, installation of new Nevada 4-wire and NDOT 4-strand fence, installation of new NDOT and Type 2T cattle guards, and installation of pedestrian gates in south Reno. This fencing aims to protect both the horses and the public. All grant awards to other entities must be approved through a resolution approved by the Board of County Commissioners, NRS 244.1505.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** *Innovative Services*

**AGENDA ITEM #** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On September 10, 2024 the Board of County Commissioners approved, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, community support grant awards for FY25 Sun Valley General Improvement District in the amount of [\$90,000] to support general parks and recreation operation and maintenance and/or Silver State Fair Housing Council in the amount of [\$10,000] to support Silver State Fair Housing Council in providing services to encourage fair housing standards.

On December 19, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, Community Support grant awards to: Sun Valley General Improvement District in the amount of \$90,000 for FY24.

June 12, 2023, Silver State Fair Housing Council in the amount of \$20,000 to support fair housing for two years; Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 to support Confluence, an artwork in Reno; Gerlach General Improvement District in the amount of \$10,000 to support the restoration of the historic Water Tower; and Artown in the amount of \$50,000 to support the month-long summer arts festival for two years.

March 22, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved, pursuant to NRS 244.1505, a Community Support grant award to Artown, a nonprofit corporation organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, in the amount of \$25,000 to support the month-long summer arts festival.

On December 14, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved a grant award for FY22 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) to support fair housing in the amount of \$10,000, and approved resolution necessary for same.

On May 11, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved a grant award for FY21 for Silver State Fair Housing Council (SSFHC) in the amount of \$10,000, and Gerlach General Improvement District, for the historic water tower in the amount of \$12,000, and approved resolution necessary for same.

Washoe County has been providing funding to support Silver State Fair Housing Council and Artown most years 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.

### **Artown**

Artown is a nonprofit that works to encourage local artist and creative participation to highlight the best performers in northern Nevada. They exist to market and promote arts events locally, regionally, and nationally as a premier arts festival. The month-long summer arts festival features nearly 500 events at over 130 locations countywide. Anchor events continue to be expressions of regional, national, and international artistic excellence. Most events are free or low cost. This award will support the month-long summer arts festival for two years, [\$30,000] 2025 and [\$25,000] 2026. The funding for Artown 2025 includes one-time additional \$5,000 due to an unexpected reduction in federal funding for this summer's festival.

### **Wildlife Protection Fence Project – South Phase**

The wildlife protection fence is primarily designed to prevent wild horses, particularly the Virginia Range Mustangs, from entering busy roadways and areas with high traffic, reducing the risk of collisions between horses and vehicles. This fencing aims to protect both the horses and the public. The award will assist with the work on the South Phase of the project. This phase includes removal of exiting fence that is failing, installation of new Nevada 4-wire and NDOT 4-strand fence, installation of new NDOT and Type 2T cattle guards, and installation of pedestrian gates in south Reno. The project area is from Toll Road to just north of Geiger Grade Road. This project also includes a bid alternate to install fence adjacent to properties from Ravazza road to US 395.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Sufficient budget authority exists in the Community Support fund 181-0 in the Office of the County Manager's FY25 and FY26 adopted budgets. This action requests approval and distribution of a total of \$75,000 as outlined below:

<b>Cost Object &amp; Description</b>	<b>G/L Account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
IO60849 Artown	710400 - Payment to Other Agencies	\$55,000
IO61157 COR - Wildlife Protection Fence South	710400 - Payment to Other Agencies	\$20,000

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation in accordance with NRS 244.1505, to approve Community Support grant award to:

1. Artown, a nonprofit corporation organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, in the amount of [\$55,000], to support the month-long summer arts festival for two years, [\$30,000] 2025 and [\$25,000] 2026; approve Resolution 25-41 for the same; and
2. City of Reno, a government entity, Wildlife Protection Fence South, in the amount of [\$20,000] to support the removal of exiting fence that is failing, installation of new Nevada 4-wire and NDOT 4-strand fence, installation of new NDOT and Type 2T cattle guards, and installation of pedestrian gates in south Reno. The project area is from Toll Road to just north of Geiger Grade Road; approve Resolution 25-42 for the same;

direct Finance to make the appropriate budget disbursements.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board accept staff's recommendation a possible motion would be: "Approve in accordance with NRS 244.1505, Community Support grant award to:

*1. Artown, a nonprofit corporation organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, in the amount of [\$55,000], to support the month-long summer arts festival for two years, [\$30,000] 2025 and [\$25,000] 2026; approve Resolution 25-41 for the same; and*

*2. City of Reno, a government entity, Wildlife Protection Fence South, in the amount of [\$20,000] to support the removal of exiting fence that is failing, installation of new Nevada 4-wire and NDOT 4-strand fence, installation of new NDOT and Type 2T cattle guards, and installation of pedestrian gates in south Reno. The project area is from Toll Road to just north of Geiger Grade Road; approve Resolution 25-42 for the same;*

*direct Finance to make the appropriate budget disbursements."*