



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE May 20, 2025

DATE: April 30, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dwayne Smith, Division Director, Engineering & Capital Projects
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THROUGH: Eric Crump, Director,
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a Cooperative Agreement between the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) and Washoe County for the Replacement of the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge (Agreement), which grants TRFMA and its contractors access to demolish the existing County-owned pedestrian bridge and construct a replacement pedestrian bridge, and to perform all other work necessary to complete the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project (Project), with no Project costs borne by Washoe County. The new pedestrian bridge will provide for safe movement of pedestrians across the Truckee River and will also reduce flood impacts along the Truckee River corridor in the Wadsworth area. (Commission District 5.)

SUMMARY

Working with Washoe County Engineering, the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) identified the need to demolish and replace the existing pedestrian bridge crossing the Truckee River in Wadsworth, Nevada. The purpose of the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge Project (Project) is to reduce flood impacts through this section of the Truckee River corridor by removing and replacing the existing pedestrian bridge and its associated abutments. The current bridge, owned by Washoe County, was determined to constrict floodwater flows through this area, potentially resulting in flood impacts. The Project also recognized that the existing bridge is in disrepair and in need of replacement to provide for safe crossing of the river by pedestrians.

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Agreement which grants TRFMA and its contractors access to the existing pedestrian bridge and its associated easements for demolition. The Agreement further allows for TRFMA to reconstruct the bridge and perform all other work and activities necessary to implement and complete the Project at no cost to Washoe County.

Following construction and final inspection by both TRFMA and Washoe County, Washoe County will assume full ownership of the new bridge which includes the Project "As-built" plans or "record drawings".

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability:
Efficient delivery of regional services.

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County owns and maintains a Pedestrian Bridge in Wadsworth, Nevada, which is in a significant state of disrepair and Washoe County Engineering has been coordinating with TRFMA to construct the replacement pedestrian bridge.

TRFMA is a body corporate and politic, and a public agency created by an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement dated March 11, 2011, between Washoe County, the City of Sparks, Nevada, and the City of Reno, Nevada (TRFMA ICA). TRFMA was created to regulate and control flooding on the Truckee River and its key tributaries.

Washoe County and TRFMA wish to cooperate to allow TRFMA to demolish the existing pedestrian bridge and its associated elements and then to construct a new replacement pedestrian bridge that is safe for the community and meets the expectations for flood conveyance, lowering the Truckee River flood water level and upstream flooding caused by the existing bridge during large, rare storm events.

TRFMA is authorized to expend funds to demolish the pedestrian bridge and construct a replacement bridge by NRS Chapter 377B; the Infrastructure Tax Plan Adopted November 17, 1998, for Public Safety and Flood Control Projects, as amended, the TRFMA ICA and related ordinances.

TRFMA and its contractors may commence work and access the existing pedestrian bridge effective per the dates of the Agreement. However, TRFMA shall not restrict access to, or use of, the pedestrian bridge by the public during the school year.

Demolition and construction work that would potentially interfere with the use of the pedestrian bridge or the new bridge will generally occur during the Washoe County School District summer break in either the summer of 2025 (June 7 to August 11, 2025) or the summer of 2026 (June 6 to approximately August 10, 2026).

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to Washoe County for the design, project management, and project costs which are all paid for by the Truckee River Flood Management Authority. Washoe County will be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs related to the new bridge. Budget authority for the estimated annual maintenance costs of \$2,000 exists in the Roads Fund (216), Roads Maintenance (216002).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners approve a Cooperative Agreement between the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) and Washoe County for the Replacement of the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge (Agreement), which grants TRFMA and its contractors access to demolish the existing County-owned pedestrian bridge and construct a replacement pedestrian bridge, and to perform all other work necessary to complete the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project (Project), with no Project costs borne by Washoe County. The new pedestrian bridge will

provide for safe movement of pedestrians across the Truckee River and will also reduce flood impacts along the Truckee River corridor in the Wadsworth area.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve a Cooperative Agreement between the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) and Washoe County for the Replacement of the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge (Agreement), which grants TRFMA and its contractors access to demolish the existing County-owned pedestrian bridge and construct a replacement pedestrian bridge, and to perform all other work necessary to complete the Wadsworth Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project (Project), with no Project costs borne by Washoe County. The new pedestrian bridge will provide for safe movement of pedestrians across the Truckee River and will also reduce flood impacts along the Truckee River corridor in the Wadsworth area."