



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 26, 2026

DATE: Wednesday, May 20, 2026

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Steve Johnson, Forensic Science Division Director
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Brad Taylor, Supervising Criminalist
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THROUGH: Darin Balaam, Sheriff

SUBJECT: Recommendation to (1) approve a new FY26 Capital Improvement Project – FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement approved by the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) committee March 30, 2026; (2) accept the FY 2026 Office of Traffic Safety award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [\$400,000.00, 25% In-Kind county match required] as administered through the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety, to support the purchase and replacement of an LC-MS-MS, for the purpose to provide drug screening on 100% of DUI cases for the agencies we serve for one year and share that data with the State. This is for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, and if approved, direct Finance to make the necessary net zero budget appropriation transfer and budget amendments [net impact to the general fund \$0.00] and authorize Sheriff Balaam to retroactively execute grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

SUMMARY

The State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety awarded the Washoe County Sheriff's Office a pass-through grant [\$400,000, 25% in-kind county match required], funded by the National Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) to reduce deaths and serious injuries by motor vehicle crashes, through the implementation of programs that address driver behavior and/or improve roadway safety or data collection. Grant ID: TS-2026-WCSO-1036 has been awarded to provide 100% DUI drug screening for the agencies we serve and share that data with the State, and as part of this project to purchase and replace an LC-MS-MS instrument for DUI drug testing to implement and provide an enhanced screening and confirmation process. The lab services all of northern and central Nevada.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability – Efficient delivery of regional services, Economic Impacts – Meet the needs of our

AGENDA ITEM # _____

growing community, and Innovative Services – Leverage technology to streamline and automate

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 11, 2023, The Board approved Item 4.H.1., additional funding to FY 2023 Office of Traffic Safety award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [amount not to exceed \$72,990.00, 25% In-Kind County match required] as administered through the State of Nevada.

On December 13, 2022, The Board approved Item 9.F.2., the FY2023 Office of Traffic Safety award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [amount not to exceed \$55,000.00, 25% In-Kind County match required] through the State of Nevada.

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners has accepted the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety funding in support of other Washoe County Sheriff's Office Patrol initiatives since 2013.

BACKGROUND

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division will utilize these funds to:

- Purchase and replace an LC-MS-MS to provide an enhanced screening and testing for DUI drug testing
- Increase efficiency for drug toxicology processes for training and testing
- Perform 100% drug screening on all DUI samples from our agencies for one year
- Share that testing DUID data with the State of Nevada for statistics concerning Northern Nevada.

Reason for retroactive submittal: Item was submitted to the first available BCC meeting once all paperwork was received and processed.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: FY26 OTS LC-MS-MS Replacement & Data Exchange

Scope of the Project: To provide 100% DUI drug screening for the agencies we serve and to share that data with the State to better understand the drug-impaired driving problem in Northern Nevada. To accomplish this a new LC-MS-MS instrument will be purchased to replace the current aging one.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Evidence-based decisions made by the State to increase traffic safety and reduce deaths and serious injuries by motor vehicle crashes caused by DUID driving, Enhanced DUID testing that will provide more information, while increasing efficiency around DUI cases.

On-Going Program Support: N/A

Award Amount: \$400,000.00

Grant Period: 10/1/2025-09/30/2026

Funding Source: US Department of Transportation

Pass through From: State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety

CFDA Number: 20.608

Grant ID Number: TS-2026-WCSO-1036

Match Amount and Type: 25%, In Kind (total \$100,000.00) 25% In-Kind and cash match will be met with a cost share for the total equipment purchase using personnel and supplies.

Sub-Awards and Contracts: None

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted FY26 Capital Improvement Fund (F402) budget will be increased by \$400,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures and include a net zero appropriation transfer in the following accounts:

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 402)/Public Safety	IO 19181 FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement	431100 – Federal Grants	\$400,000.00
Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 402)/Public Safety	IO 19181 FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement	818000 – Transfer to Intrafund	\$400,000.00
Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 402)/Public Safety	PW TBD FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement	818000 – Transfer to Intrafund	(\$400,000.00)
Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 402)/Public Safety	PW TBD FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement	781004 - Equipment Capital	\$400,000.00

This is a reimbursement grant. No indirect costs are allowed.

- *25% match required*
 - *Personnel (Cost Center 150651, G/L 701110): \$88,323.00*
 - *Equipment (Cost Center 150651, G/L 711504): \$1,677.00*

- *Other direct costs (Cost Center 150651, G/L 710300): \$10,000.00*
- *Funds will be drawn as a reimbursement*
 - *General funds are source of the upfront cash*
- *No indirect costs*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to (1) approve a new FY26 Capital Improvement Project – FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement approved by the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) committee March 30, 2026; (2) accept the FY 2026 Office of Traffic Safety award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [\$400,000.00, 25% In-Kind county match required] as administered through the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety, to support the purchase and replacement of an LC-MS-MS, for the purpose to provide drug screening on 100% of DUI cases for the agencies we serve for one year and share that data with the State. This is for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, and if approved, direct Finance to make the necessary net zero budget appropriation transfer and budget amendments [net impact to the general fund \$0.00] and authorize Sheriff Balaam to retroactively execute grant award documents. Sheriff. (All Commission Districts.)

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to (1) approve a new FY26 Capital Improvement Project – FY26 OTS FSD LC MS MS Replacement approved by the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) committee March 30, 2026; (2) accept the FY 2026 Office of Traffic Safety award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety [\$400,000.00, 25% In-Kind county match required] as administered through the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety, to support the purchase and replacement of an LC-MS-MS, for the purpose to provide drug screening on 100% of DUI cases for the agencies we serve for one year and share that data with the State. This is for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, and if approved, direct Finance to make the necessary net zero budget appropriation transfer and budget amendments and authorize Sheriff Balaam to retroactively execute grant award documents [net impact to the general fund \$0.00]."