



# Office of the County Manager

## Federal Legislative Activity Report – 4th Quarter 2024

As specified in the *Washoe County Federal Legislative Principles and Lobbying Practices for the 118<sup>th</sup> United States Congress* approved by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners on December 12, 2023, the following is a summary of the federal legislative activities of Washoe County staff, contract lobbyists and elected officials during the fourth quarter of calendar year 2024. The 118<sup>th</sup> United States Congress adjourned on January 3, 2025; this will be the final report for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

### October 2024

- Chair Hill and Washoe County staff met with Congressman Amodei and Nevada Insurance Commissioner Scott Kipper to discuss the issue of availability and affordability of property insurance for Washoe County homeowners, with a focus on fire insurance.
- The County Manager sent a letter to Senator Cortez Masto expressing the County's gratitude for her having introduced the Crisis Care Act, which would improve access to critical mental health services and remove barriers for Medicare recipients in accessing mental health services.
- Washoe County staff communicated with staff from Senator Rosen's office regarding potential amendments to the Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act, including potential amendments to the provisions of the bill designating how the proceeds of any sales of lands included in the measure would be distributed.
- Washoe County staff provided information to our Congressional delegation on the Lemmon Valley water main break.

### November 2024

- On the night of the general election, Washoe County staff provided information in response to inquiries from Senator Cortez Masto's office as to the status of polling place operations, including wait times and anticipated closure times for certain polling locations.
- Washoe County received a notice of grant award from the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Community-Driven Safe Routes to School for All in the amount of \$1,906,695. The project will be a collaboration between Washoe County, the Washoe County School District, and the University of Nevada, Reno.
- Washoe County staff and contract lobbyist (Porter Group) provided information to Senator Rosen's office regarding the Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act, including the potential addition of parcels in the Mt. Rose Foothills/Meadows to the act; the parcels in question had been identified by the U.S. Forest Services for inclusion in the legislation.
- The Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act passed out of the Senate Natural Resources Committee on November 19. Chair Hill provided a quote for inclusion in a press release from Senator Rosen on the bill's passage out of committee.
- Washoe County staff provided information to Congressman Amodei's office in response to a resident's inquiry with the Congressman's office about trenching adjacent to the resident's home.
- Commissioner Garcia and Washoe County staff participated in a virtual meeting coordinated by Washoe RTC with staff from Senator Cortez Masto and Senator Rosen's



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offices about the Sun Valley Community Gateway project. It is anticipated that Washoe RTC will submit the project to the Senators for consideration for Congressionally Directed Spending (appropriations) for Federal Fiscal Year 2026.

### **December 2024**

- Washoe County staff and contract lobbyist (Porter Group) monitored the final actions of Congress for the 118<sup>th</sup> Session, including potential impacts to Washoe County if a Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the federal government operating beyond December 20, 2024, were not to have been passed. A CR was passed early in the morning on December 21, 2024, extending funding rough March 14, 2025. The CR also included approximately \$110 billion in additional disaster relief intended to address relief and restoration expenses for the numerous significant natural disasters that occurred in the latter part of calendar year 2024.



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