



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service
www.washoecounty.gov

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 11, 2022

DATE: Thursday, January 06, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager
Office of the County Manager
775-328-2009, genfield@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager
775-328-2008, kathomas@washoecounty.gov

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve an amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in a total amount of \$7,971,644 for the Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project (including \$1,861,112 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), with a period from January 11, 2022 through December 31, 2023, the performance period includes additional months to allow for the hiring process; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, authorize the creation of 28 new full-time positions funded 100% by the SLFRF grant funds for up to 18 months, and as such when grant funding is eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions will be abolished accordingly unless additional funding is secured; direct the Human Resources Department to make the necessary staffing adjustments as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee. If approved, this will result in an additional allocation of \$6,110,532 in ARPA funds (on top of the \$1,861,112 already allocated by BCC action on 12/14/21) in order to fund additional staff positions to support homeless shelter operations. Manager's Office. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in a total amount of \$7,971,644 for the Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project (including \$1,861,112 allocated December 14, 2021), and direction to the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, as well as authorization to Human Resources, per Job Evaluation Committee (JEC) evaluation as applicable, to create necessary positions. The Board of County Commissioners will approve all ARPA-SLFRF over \$500,000.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Addressing Homelessness with a Regional Approach

PREVIOUS ACTION

On December 14, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approved allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in a total amount of \$40,201,764.00, directed the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, as well as authorized Human Resources, per Job Evaluation Committee (JEC) evaluation as applicable, to create necessary positions to the 23 proposed projects. The Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project was approved in the amount of \$1,861,112.

On July 20, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners accepted Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocation from the United States Department of the Treasury in the amount of [\$91,587,038; no county match], authorized the County Manager to sign award documents and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

On July 20, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners authorized Washoe County Manager Eric Brown to enter all necessary professional services agreements and construction contracts in support of the Nevada Cares Campus, Safe Camp and Homeless Housing Sprung Facility Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$8,500,000, inclusive of \$3,500,000 in previous authority granted May 25, 2021, to be funded with Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as allowable; directing the Manager to provide periodic updates to the Washoe County Board of Commissioners regarding project status, project costs and budget for the Cares Campus; directing that all such agreements and contracts shall conform and be let in compliance with Nevada law as applicable including Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 332 "Purchasing: Local Governments," NRS Chapter 338 "Public Works," Washoe County purchasing and procurement policies, and all associated Federal guidelines; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary cross-fund, cross-function budget appropriation transfers. Community Services.

On August 17, 2021, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approved Amendment #1 to the Agreement between Washoe County and Well Care Services Reno to support the pilot program for supportive housing of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities or mental health conditions that impede their ability to live with complete independence retroactive August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 for [\$612,000] to be funded with Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as allowable; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute Amendment #1; direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary cross-fund, cross-function budget appropriation transfers.

BACKGROUND

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. Washoe County has been awarded a grant of \$91,587,038 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). On May 17, 2021, Washoe County received payment from the Department of

Treasury in the amount of \$45,793,519, fifty percent of the award funds. The SLFRF provide a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Eligible Uses of the Funds:

1. Support Public Health Response & Address Negative Economic Impacts:
 - a. Support Public Health Response: Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff.
 - b. Address Negative Economic Impacts: Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector.
 - c. Disproportionately Impacted: Addressing disparities for populations, households, or geographic areas disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
2. Premium Pay for Essential Workers: Provide premium pay to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who performed essential work.
3. Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss: Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic.
4. Water and Sewer Infrastructure & Broadband:
 - a. Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water and invest in wastewater and storm water infrastructure.
 - b. Make necessary investments to provide unserved or underserved locations with Non-Federal Match: SLFRF may not be used as non-federal match for other Federal programs whose statute or regulations bar the use of Federal funds to meet matching requirements.

The Nevada Cares Campus is the region's primary emergency shelter for County residents experiencing homelessness. The Campus opened in May 2021 and has quickly grown in an attempt to meet the ever-growing need for housing and homeless services. Many of the County residents that seek services at the Campus have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Nevada Cares Campus is still in the process of developing after its launch in May 2021. Oversight and management of the Campus also recently transferred from the City of Reno to Washoe County. As the County fully transitions into its new regional role, the Cares Campus will be implementing several evidence-based interventions and other identified best practices for providing homeless and housing services that use multi-interdisciplinary approaches that target at-risk populations. Those interventions and practices will include: the Housing First service provision model, low-barrier model emergency shelter, trauma informed care, and person-centered case management including motivation interviewing and the creation of individualized housing plans.

Additional staff are needed, though an amendment to Project #3: Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22, in order to implement these evidence-based approaches at The Nevada Cares Campus.

Office of the County Manager – Housing and Homeless Services			
Project #3 12-14-2021	Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22	\$1,861,112	BCC Approved 12-14-21
Description:	Increased facilities capacity and an additional position at Nevada Cares Campus to ensure more robust and effective emergency homeless shelter services and case management. The identified amount includes medical support on campus, additional provider staff, unanticipated operational expenses and one new position that will support staff training and volunteer/partners.		
Positions:	1 – Homeless Services Analyst		
Positions will be funded from the SLFRF grant funding provided through the American Rescue Plan Act only for the period of December 14, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Ongoing funding beyond the grant award will need to be secured via the annual budget process through reallocation of existing budget or submission of an above base budget request for the appropriate fiscal year.			
Category:	Services to Disproportionality Impacted Communities		
Requested Amendment	Cares Campus – Facilities Operations	\$6,110,532	Approval Recommended
Description:	Additional staff are needed in order to implement evidence-based approaches at The Nevada Cares Campus (Specifically, Case Managers and Mental Health Counselors to support: a Housing First service provision model, low-barrier model emergency shelter, trauma informed care, and person-centered case management including motivation interviewing and individualized housing plans.)		
Additional Positions:	1 – Medical Billing Specialist 1 – Mental Health Counselor Supervisor 3 – Case Manager Supervisor (Pending Korn Ferry Evaluation) 18 – Homeless Services Case Manager 5 – Mental Health Counselor II 18 months of ARPA grant funding for all positions		
Amended term of support for approved position	1 – Homeless Services Analyst Amendment would extend term of ARPA grant support for this position from six months to 18 months. Total Staff = 29		
Positions will be funded from the SLFRF grant funding provided through the American Rescue Plan Act only for the period of January 11, 2022, through December 31, 2023. The performance period includes additional months to allow for the hiring process. Ongoing funding beyond the grant award will need to be secured via the annual budget process, through reallocation of existing budget or submission of an above base budget request for the appropriate fiscal year. Grant will provide a total of up to 18 months of ARPA funding for all 29 positions.			

Category:	Services to Disproportionality Impacted Communities	
	Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22	\$7,971,644 Total Project Costs

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board approve the requested project amendment, the FY22 SLFRF COVID Recovery budget (Fund 270, Fund Center 270-8), will be adjusted with the following cross-functional net-zero appropriation transfers:

Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
Revenue:			
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	431100-Federal Grants	(\$6,110,532)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Welfare	IO 11949 - SLFRF-Cares Campus Operations	431100-Federal Grants	\$6,110,532
Expenditures			
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ General Government	CC 270800 – SLFRF COVID Recovery	710500-Other Expense	(6,110,532)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Welfare	IO 11949 - SLFRF-Cares Campus Operations	701412-Salary Adjustment	\$3,942,279
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Welfare	IO 11949 - SLFRF-Cares Campus Operations	705360-Benefit Adjustment	\$2,168,253

As this allocation funds personnel, when grant funding is eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions abolished accordingly, unless additional funding is secured.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve an amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in a total amount of \$7,971,644 for the Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project (including \$1,861,112 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), with a period from January 11, 2022 through December 31, 2023, the performance period includes additional months to allow for the hiring process; and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make necessary net zero cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, authorize the creation of 28 new full-time positions funded 100% by the SLFRF grant funds for up to 18 months, and as such when grant funding is eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions will be abolished accordingly unless additional funding is secured; direct the Human Resources Department to make the necessary staffing adjustments as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee. If approved, this will result in an additional allocation of \$6,110,532 in ARPA funds (on top of the \$1,861,112 already allocated by BCC action on 12/14/21) in order to fund additional staff positions to support homeless shelter operations.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to approve an amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in a total amount of \$7,971,644 for the Cares Campus – Facilities Operations FY22 project (including \$1,861,112 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), with a period from January 11, 2022 through December 31, 2023, the performance period includes additional months to allow for the hiring process; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-functional budget appropriation transfers, authorize the creation of 28 new full-time positions funded 100% by the SLFRF grant funds for up to 18 months, and as such when grant funding is eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions will be abolished accordingly unless additional funding is secured; direct the Human Resources Department to make the necessary staffing adjustments as evaluated by the Job Evaluation Committee. This will result in an additional allocation of \$6,110,532 in ARPA funds (on top of the \$1,861,112 already allocated by BCC action on 12/14/21) in order to fund additional staff positions to support homeless shelter operations.”*