



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 14, 2025

DATE: December 23, 2024

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Jamie Hemingway, Development Officer, Library
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THROUGH: Jeff Scott, Washoe County Library Director
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve and accept Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) Pitch Competition grant funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 [\$350.00 County match] for a retroactive term of June 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025, for the purchase and installation of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library; if approved, to authorize Finance to make the necessary amendments to the Washoe County Library System's Fiscal Year 25 budget to reflect the receipt and use of the grant funds. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve and accept Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) Pitch Competition grant funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 [\$350.00 County match] for a retroactive term of June 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025, for the purchase and installation of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library; if approved, to authorize Finance to make the necessary amendments to the Washoe County Library System's Fiscal Year 25 budget to reflect the receipt and use of the grant funds.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Economic Impacts

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action has been taken.

BACKGROUND

In April of 2024, the Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) announced the 2024 Pitch Competition. Public, school, special, and academic libraries from the United States and Canada were encouraged to apply. Grant monies from this competition are awarded annually to the top three libraries via a competitive process for projects or services that support entrepreneurship and workforce development.

In May of 2024, the Washoe County Library System pitched an idea to install bicycle repair stations at library locations to bolster the accessibility of bicycles as the primary mode of transportation for community members. Competition judges ranked the top three submissions, and the Washoe County Library System was awarded third place prize funds in the amount of \$1,000.00. This amount will cover the purchase of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library. The County match of \$350.00 will cover installation of the repair station and workshop materials for repair station users.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Ride, Repair, Read

Scope of the Project: The grant funds will cover the purchase of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library. The repair station will be installed on a concrete surface and will be equipped with essential tools and resources necessary for basic bicycle maintenance and repair, including tire pumps, wrenches, tire levers, and other commonly needed tools. Additionally, Sparks Library staff will develop workshops to educate bicycle commuters and increase usage of the repair station.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: The project seeks to remove transportation as a barrier to employment, increase library use, and position the library as a community resource and a participant in economic development. The project aims to support and encourage bicycle commuting as a sustainable and accessible mode of transportation, while also fostering a sense of community among cyclists within Washoe County. The project will also support planned cycling infrastructure improvements implemented by the City of Reno between 2023 and 2026.

Library staff will offer periodic workshops and training sessions led by experienced mechanics, covering topics such as basic bicycle maintenance, flat tire repair, and brake adjustments. These workshops will serve as educational opportunities and community-building events for bicycle commuters.

On-Going Program Support: N/A. Grant funds will not be used to support costs of ongoing programs.

Award Amount: \$1,000.00

Grant Period: June 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025

Funding Source: North Carolina Library Association

Pass Through Entity: Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) Pitch Competition

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: N/A

Grant ID Number: N/A

Match Amount and Type: A match of \$350.00 provided by CC130100

Sub-Awards and Contracts: None

FISCAL IMPACT

Washoe County will contribute a match of \$350.00 for the program. The County will provide \$350.00 in Public Library Administration (130100) Operating Supplies (710300) to fund the match for installation costs and supplies and materials.

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the Washoe County Library System's adopted budget for FY25 will be increased by \$1,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO-29063 – ELC Pitch Grant	431100-Federal Grants	\$1,000.00
IO-29063 – ELC Pitch Grant	710300-Operating Supplies	\$1,000.00

The estimated total to implement the project is \$1,350.00. The Washoe County Library System will be responsible for the matching funds and will contribute a total of \$350.00.

Sufficient budget authority exists in FY25 Public Library Administration (130100), Operating Supplies (710300) to fund the match of \$350.00 for installation and operating supplies and materials. The Library has sufficient budget to absorb any associated maintenance and replacement costs associated with the repair station purchase.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve and accept Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) Pitch Competition grant funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 [\$350.00 County match] for a retroactive term of June 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025, for the purchase and installation of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library; if approved, to authorize Finance to make the necessary amendments to the Washoe County Library System's Fiscal Year 25 budget to reflect the receipt and use of the grant funds.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"Move to approve and accept Entrepreneurship & Libraries Conference (ELC) Pitch Competition grant funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 [\$350.00 County match] for a retroactive term of June 1, 2024, to January 31, 2025, for the purchase and installation of a bicycle repair station at the Sparks Library; if approved, to authorize Finance to make the necessary amendments to the Washoe County Library System's Fiscal Year 25 budget to reflect the receipt and use of the grant funds."*