



Office of the County Manager

Federal Legislative Activity Report – 1st Quarter 2026

As specified in the *Washoe County Federal Legislative Principles and Lobbying Practices for the 119th United States Congress* approved by the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners on January 14, 2025, the following is a summary of the federal legislative activities of Washoe County staff, contract lobbyists and elected officials during the first quarter of calendar year 2026.

January 2026

- Vice Chair Garcia participated in a site visit to the Debbie Smith CTE Academy with Senator Rosen.
- Washoe County staff and contract lobbyist (Porter Group) communicated with our congressional delegation members regarding potential impacts to Washoe County and our community partners from the termination of grant awards issued on January 14, 2026, by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). Notice of reinstatement/rescindment of the termination of the grants was issued by SAMSHA on January 15, 2026.
- A letter was sent under Manager Thomas' signature to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) expressing Washoe County's support for the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority's application for terminal modernization funding available through the USDOT's Airport Terminal Program.
- Washoe County was a signatory to a letter sent under Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program letterhead to Senator Cortez Masto and U.S. Representative Kevin Kiley (I-CA) expressing support and gratitude for their introduction of the Santini-Burton Modernization Act, [S.3695/H.R. 7255](#). The bill received a hearing in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining on February 12, 2026.

February 2026

- Testimony for the Record was submitted under Chair Andriola's signature on February 10, 2026, to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining in support of Senator Rosen's Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act, [S. 462](#). The bill received a hearing in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining on February 12, 2026.
- Chair Andriola and Washoe County staff attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference in Washington D.C.
- Chair Andriola and Washoe County staff participated in meetings with Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Rosen, and Congressman Amodei and the Nevada Association of Counties Executive Committee.
- Washoe County staff and contract lobbyist (Porter Group) communicated with our congressional delegation members regarding impacts to Washoe County from the shutdown of the Department of Homeland Security, particularly impacts to Washoe County's emergency management functions.

March 2026



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- Washoe County’s requests for Federal Fiscal Year 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending/Community Project Funding (Appropriations) were submitted to Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Rosen, and Congressman Amodei. Washoe County contract lobbyist (Porter Group) met with Senator Rosen’s staff and from Congressman Amodei’s office to review the details of the requests. Washoe County staff and contract lobbyist (Porter Group) met with Senator Cortez Masto’s staff to review the details of the requests.

The following three (3) requests were submitted:

- I. Updated floodplain risk mapping for Hidden Valley and Sun Valley \$620,000
 - II. Carcione-Canepa Ranch Recreation Access Plan Phase II \$2,950,200
 - III. Washoe County Sheriff’s Office Special Operations Division hangar renovation \$3,200,968
- A letter of support under Manager Thomas’ signature was submitted to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Ways and Means expressing Washoe County’s support for a package of bills to modernize the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood. Included in the bill package are proposals that would:
 - I. Strengthen coordination between child welfare systems and housing programs to address housing instability;
 - II. Expanding access to education and training opportunities;
 - III. Improving support for expectant and parenting foster youth;
 - IV. Expanding access to legal services and other critical supports; and
 - V. Enhancing state flexibility and utilization of Chafee funds to better address unmet needs, updating allowable uses, reduces administrative barriers and empowering states and local jurisdictions to tailor services to current challenges foster youth are facing.
 - A letter under Manager Thomas’ signature was provided to the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) expressing Washoe County’s support for the RTAA’s request to Senator Cortez Masto and Senator Rosen for Federal Fiscal Year 2027 Community Project Funding for the Reno-Tahoe International Airport More RNO Terminal Reconstruction Program.