



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *May 12, 2026*

DATE: April 14, 2026

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Ryan Gustafson, Assistant County Manager
(775) 337-4401, rgustafson@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to award a contract resulting from Request For Proposal (RFP) 3287-25 for Safe Camp and Resource Center Operations to the most responsive and responsible bidder, The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE). The Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and Resource Center Day Use Center programs provide housing-focused environments that promote engagement in housing stability planning and wrap-around services including case management, job and housing placement and assistance with applications for public assistance. Under this contract, RISE will provide staffing, program management and administrative oversight for the Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center, which may include the use of Washoe County vehicles to conduct County HSA business activities. The contract will be awarded for the initial term of twenty-four (24) months plus two weeks, commencing June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2028 in an amount not to exceed [\$38,750] for the period of June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2026, [\$2,010,417] for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and [\$2,080,782] for the period of July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, with the provision for up to three (3), one (1) year renewals; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement and any subsequent amendments. (All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to award a contract resulting from Request For Proposal (RFP) 3287-25 for Safe Camp and Resource Center Operations to the most responsive and responsible bidder, The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE). The Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and Resource Center Day Use Center programs provide housing-focused environments that promote engagement in housing stability planning and wrap-around services including case management, job and housing placement and assistance with applications for public assistance. Under this contract, RISE will provide staffing, program management and administrative oversight for the

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center, which may include the use of Washoe County vehicles to conduct County HSA business activities. The contract will be awarded for the initial term of twenty-four (24) months plus two weeks, commencing June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2028 in an amount not to exceed [\$38,750] for the period of June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2026, [\$2,010,417] for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and [\$2,080,782] for the period of July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, with the provision for up to three (3), one (1) year renewals; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement and any subsequent amendments.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

There is no previous action for RFP 3287-25.

However, the Board previously approved and awarded an agreement for operator services at Safe Camp under RFP 3169-22 via agenda item 25 (TMP-5544) on December 14, 2021. That procurement and agreement are set to expire June 30, 2026, necessitating the new RFP 3287-25.

Other relevant previous action:

On November 18, 2025, the Board voted to continue authorizing the Human Services Agency (HSA) contractors, contracted staff, volunteers and hired temporary service employees to drive Washoe County vehicles to conduct Washoe County Human Services Agency business activities.

BACKGROUND

The Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center are two core programs operated by the Housing and Homeless Services Division of the Human Services Agency.

Safe Camp provides an individual secure shelter unit on a site that provides basic facilities including restrooms, handwashing facilities, and trash disposal. The goal of the program is to provide low barrier shelter, build relationships with service providers, engage clients in programs, and help facilitate the transition to appropriate permanent housing. Safe Camp is not intended to be a permanent destination, but rather a safe location with basic services from which housing referrals can be facilitated. The goal for all Safe Camp clients is to move into stable, independent housing as soon as possible.

The **Resource Center** provides a space for unhoused individuals who do not have a bed at an emergency shelter to find respite from the outdoor elements, access services and engage in programming. The Resource Center allows clients to access laundry, showers, and meals and provides a communal use dining space, client computer and phone stations, office space for staff and community partners to meet with clients, access to programming, and an open use space for clients in the drop-in center. The Resource Center is located within the gates of the Nevada Cares Campus but is a separately functioning building, which allows unsheltered, unhoused individuals to access services.

The Human Services Agency is seeking approval to establish an agreement with The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) to serve as the Operator of the Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center. Request for Proposal 3287-25 was released on November 25, 2025 and three responses were received. Of the three respondents, RISE's bid was found to be both comprehensive and consistent with currently established levels of service. As a result, it was determined to be the best overall bid, based on the RFP's evaluation factors, as determined by a committee of subject matter experts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board approve this agreement there will be no additional impact to the FY26 Human Services Agency, Homelessness Fund (F223) adopted budget as there is sufficient authority in cost center 223000 (Homelessness), and no additional impact to the FY27 Human Services Agency, Homelessness Fund (F223) adopted budget as there is sufficient authority in cost centers 223420 (Safe Camp), 223440 (Resource Center), 223460 (Cares Campus Resource Center Inclement Weather Overflow) and 223000 (Homelessness).

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to award a contract resulting from Request For Proposal (RFP) 3287-25 for Safe Camp and Resource Center Operations to the most responsive and responsible bidder, The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE). The Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and Resource Center Day Use Center programs provide housing-focused environments that promote engagement in housing stability planning and wrap-around services including case management, job and housing placement and assistance with applications for public assistance. Under this contract, RISE will provide staffing, program management and administrative oversight for the Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center, which may include the use of Washoe County vehicles to conduct County HSA business activities. The contract will be awarded for the initial term of twenty-four (24) months plus two weeks, commencing June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2028 in an amount not to exceed [\$38,750] for the period of June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2026, [\$2,010,417] for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and [\$2,080,782] for the period of July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, with the provision for up to three (3), one (1) year renewals; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement and any subsequent amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“Move to award a contract resulting from Request For Proposal (RFP) 3287-25 for Safe Camp and Resource Center Operations to the most responsive and responsible bidder, The Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE). The Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and Resource Center Day Use Center programs provide housing-focused environments that promote engagement in housing stability planning and wrap-around services including case management, job and housing placement and assistance with applications for public assistance. Under this contract, RISE will provide staffing,*

program management and administrative oversight for the Nevada Cares Campus Safe Camp Shelter and the Resource Center Day Use Center, which may include the use of Washoe County vehicles to conduct County HSA business activities. The contract will be awarded for the initial term of twenty-four (24) months plus two weeks, commencing June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2028 in an amount not to exceed [\$38,750] for the period of June 16, 2026 to June 30, 2026, [\$2,010,417] for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and [\$2,080,782] for the period of July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028, with the provision for up to three (3), one (1) year renewals; and if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement and any subsequent amendments.”