



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 23, 2024

**DATE:** April 3, 2024

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Joanne Lowden, Natural Resource Planning Coordinator,  
Community Services Department, 328-2039, [jlowden@washoecounty.gov](mailto:jlowden@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Eric Crump, Director,  
Community Services Department, 328-3624, [ecrump@washoecounty.gov](mailto:ecrump@washoecounty.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to accept additional funding for an existing Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant [in the amount of \$300,000.00 with Washoe County as subgrantee with an additional cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$300,000.00] and approve the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment #1 (LWCF Project #32-00372) with a grant period from November 15, 2022 through July 31, 2025; to replace an existing playground with a new all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, located at 1595 North Sierra Street, Reno, to better serve the community and provide play opportunities for children of all abilities; and authorize Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment (LWCF Project #32-00372) and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (Commission Districts 3 and 5.)

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### SUMMARY

This item recommends acceptance of additional funding for an existing Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 with a County cash/in-kind match of \$300,000.00, and to approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. The Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment #1 increases grant funding by \$300,000.00 for a total project award of \$755,250.00. The County cash/in-kind match requirement also increases by \$300,000.00 for a total project match of \$755,250.00. The funding will be used to replace an existing playground with a new all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park to better serve the community and provide play opportunities for children of all abilities. Project work consists of finalizing site and construction plans, site preparation, new playground installation, new protective play surface installation, ADA improvements to the surrounding area including the parking lot and access route, and installation of additional park amenities such as shade shelters, picnic tables, and benches.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability – Long Term Sustainability.

AGENDA ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_

## **PREVIOUS ACTION**

**November 15, 2022** - A Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant [in the amount of \$455,250.00 with Washoe County as subgrantee with a cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$455,250.00] was accepted and the Land & Water Conservation Fund Agreement #32-00372 with a grant period from final execution through July 31, 2025 was approved. Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] was authorized to sign the Land & Water Conservation Fund Agreement #32-00372 and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County. The Comptroller's Office was directed to make the necessary budget amendments.

## **BACKGROUND**

The project includes the redesign and replacement of an existing playground in Rancho San Rafael Regional Park to provide for new recreational opportunities for participants of all abilities. Existing conditions at the site include outdated play equipment, pour in place rubber and sand safety surfaces, picnic tables without shade or accessibility, and only one ADA parking space. The current playground equipment, surfacing, and surrounding amenities are not accessible, especially for wheelchair use.

J&A Design Studio was contracted to develop preliminary site and concept plans using the latest innovations in "all-inclusive" play which were completed in 2019. Inclusive playground equipment goes beyond ADA accessibility to address all elements of inclusive play which are identified as social/emotional, physical, sensory, cognitive, and communication. In addition to inclusive playground equipment, the surrounding area was evaluated for opportunities to increase safety and ADA accessibility, and these retrofits were included in the preliminary site plan.

The original cost estimate for the project was developed in 2019 based on the preliminary site plan and was submitted with a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant application in early 2020. Due to delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the grant award was not issued until November 2022. The Board accepted the Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant in the amount of \$455,250.00 with a County cash/in-kind match requirement of \$455,250.00 on November 15, 2022. During this timeframe, the average cost of construction work and materials increased 30% - 50%. Design work for the project started in 2023 and a new cost estimate was generated. Based on the increased construction and material costs, a request was submitted to the Nevada Division of State Parks to increase the total project budget by \$600,000.00 (\$300,000.00 grant funds; \$300,000.00 match) for a total of \$1,510,500.00.

The goal of the project is to construct an all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. The scope of work includes finalizing site and construction plans, site preparation, new playground installation, new protective play surface installation, ADA improvements to the surrounding area including the parking lot and access route, and installation of additional park amenities such as shade shelters, picnic tables, and benches.

## **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** Rancho San Rafael All-Inclusive Playground

**Scope of the Project:** Replace an existing playground with a new all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park. Project work consists of finalizing site and construction plans, site preparation, new playground installation, new protective play surface installation, ADA improvements to the surrounding area including the parking lot and access route, and installation of additional park amenities such as shade shelters, picnic tables, and benches.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** The Rancho San Rafael Regional Park all-inclusive playground and ADA improvements will better serve the community and provide play opportunities for caregivers and children of all abilities.

**On-Going Program Support:** The grant award will be used for installing the new all-inclusive playground and ADA improvements. Washoe County Parks will continue to manage and maintain the playgrounds at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park as they have in the past using infrastructure preservation funds, park operations budgets, and parks maintenance staff.

**Award Amount:** \$300,000.00 (new total \$755,250.00)

**Grant Period:** November 15, 2022 through July 31, 2025

**Funding Source:** U.S. Dept. of Interior - National Park Service

**Pass Through Entity:** Nevada Division of State Parks

**CFDA Number:** 15.916

**Grant ID Number:** P22AP00420, Subgrant Award #32-00372

**Match Amount and Type:** An additional match amount of \$300,000.00 is required for a total match of \$755,250.00. Match will be provided through Washoe County staff time (\$17,000.00), previously spent funds (pre-award) for professional service contracts (\$7,300.00), and cash contributions for professional service contracts, construction contracts, and miscellaneous expenses (\$730,950.00).

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** A professional services contract has already been awarded to complete the site and construction plans. A construction contract will be awarded to complete site preparation, install the playground equipment and play surface, complete associated ADA improvements to the parking lot and access, and install additional park amenities. All contract and supply purchases will follow Washoe County procurement guidelines and federal procurement regulations.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award amendment and approve these amendments, the FY24 Parks Capital Fund (404) budget will be increased by \$300,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<b>Cost Object &amp; Description</b>	<b>G/L Account &amp; Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
IO-12091 – RSR All-Inclusive Playground	431100-Federal Grant Revenue	\$300,000.00
IO-12091 – RSR All-Inclusive Playground	818000-Intrafund Transfer	\$300,000.00
PK-052322 - RSR All-Inclusive Playground	818000-Intrafund Transfer	(\$300,000.00)
PK-052322 - RSR All-Inclusive Playground	781080-Construction Contracts	\$300,000.00

With this additional funding, the total grant amount will be \$755,250 with a match of \$755,250. Washoe County match will include \$17,000 in staff time from CSD Park Operations (140-0) and CSD Engineering & Capital Projects (105-5) along with \$730,950 in budget authority and \$7,300 of prior expenditures from FY20 that reside in the Parks Capital Fund (404), Rancho Playground Improvements (PK052316).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept additional funding for an existing Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant [in the amount of \$300,000.00 with Washoe County as subgrantee with an additional cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$300,000.00] and approve the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment #1 (LWCF Project #32-00372) with a grant period from November 15, 2022 through July 31, 2025; to replace an existing playground with a new all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, located at 1595 North Sierra Street, Reno, to better serve the community and provide play opportunities for children of all abilities; and authorize Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment (LWCF Project #32-00372) and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept additional funding for an existing Nevada Division of State Parks Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant [in the amount of \$300,000.00 with Washoe County as subgrantee with an additional cash/in-kind match in the amount of \$300,000.00] and approve the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment #1 (LWCF Project #32-00372) with a grant period from November 15, 2022 through July 31, 2025; to replace an existing playground with a new all-inclusive playground at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, located at 1595 North Sierra Street, Reno, to better serve the community and provide play opportunities for children of all abilities; and authorize Assistant County Manager [Dave Solaro] to sign the Land & Water Conservation Fund Project Amendment (LWCF Project #32-00372) and any subsequent documents related to the grant on behalf of the County; and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."