



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *March 28, 2023*

DATE: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager
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THROUGH: Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following projects: Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$1,015,441 (an increase of \$88,964 over the \$926,477 allocated and approved by the Board on May 10, 2022), and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers. The Our Place campus provides shelter and connection to services for women and families who are experiencing homelessness. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following project: Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$1,015,441 (an increase of \$88,964 over the \$926,477 allocated and approved by the Board May 10, 2022).

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On February 14, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) subgrant to the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organized for charitable, religious, or educational purposes--in the amount of \$1,500,000 to support expanding access to childcare in Washoe County; and approve Resolution 23-17

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On May 10, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved amended allocations of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following projects:

1. Safe Camp Capital project in a total amount of \$4,693,132 (an increase of \$193,132 over the \$4,500,000 allocated and approved by the Board on July 20, 2021)
2. Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$926,477 (an increase of \$476,477 over the \$450,000 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), and
3. Our Place Community Garden Fencing project in a total amount of \$164,377 (an increase of \$34,377 over the \$130,000 allocated and approved by the Board on December 14, 2021), and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers.

For all Board of County Commissioner actions related to the American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds between July 20, 2021 and through February 14, 2023, visit the [Washoe ARPA webpage](#).

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

As a recipient of an SLFRF award, Washoe County has substantial discretion to use the award funds in the ways that best suit the needs of county constituents – as long as such use fits into one of the following four statutory categories:

1. To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts;
2. To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the recipient that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;
3. For the provision of government services, to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such recipient due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the recipient prior to the emergency; or
4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Our Place

Work for the Our Place Housing Project was substantially completed in September 2020 with some longer-term work to modulars and fencing that has been recently completed. All permanent buildings on site are now in use and most temporary facilities have been removed.

As part of the original scope of work, security fencing was installed around the lower portion of the project area only with vehicle gates and pedestrian gates to maintain secure access to the facility. The lease with the State of Nevada requires that all areas occupied by Washoe County have perimeter fencing. This left areas of the site without perimeter security fencing which would need to be installed to comply with the lease terms.

Installation of the fencing in this package will bring Washoe County into conformance with the lease terms for fencing. During construction there was significant disturbance to landscape areas around several buildings on the campus. The most impacted was Building 600-601 which underwent the most extensive interior and exterior renovations. As a value engineering measure, landscaping was removed from the scope of work and intended to be bid at a later date. The primary challenges are lack of outdoor spaces to utilize and tracking of dirt into the building which causes damage to the flooring. This becomes much more challenging during rain and snow events due to tracked mud. Staff has toured the facility and identified the areas that require work to bring the landscape to a useful and maintainable state.

There is also significant deferred maintenance on the exterior of the buildings that was also not addressed during the main scope of work and needs to be completed to bring the buildings up to Washoe County standards. The exterior work includes selective siding replacement/repair, prep and paint with approved materials to match the site color scheme which is off white body with black trim.

The Our Place Community Garden is a 2.6-acre farm on the Our Place. The garden will be providing the residents with the opportunity to learn how to provide for themselves. This will happen through a variety of activities, such as growing and preparing their own food, providing individuals with their food handler's certification, and educating them on a variety of healthy sustainable food sources. The Community Garden needs to be fenced to secure the farm from trespass and possible vandalism.

Washoe County Human Services Agency			
Project #9	Our Place - Enhancements	\$450,000	Approved 12/14/21
Description:	The Campus has been designed to meet COVID social distance recommendations and feel like a home, not an institution. Completing the fencing, landscaping, and miscellaneous repairs and interior/exterior finishes preserves the building and property, ensuring residents are safe and have access to housing in a socially distant environment. The fencing is required by contract and supports the safety of the residents from external threats such as violent domestic partners, drug dealers, etc. In addition to shelter the staff provide case management, job search, medical screening, and housing assistance. Due to the pandemic many members of this population suffered additional struggles obtaining and maintaining jobs and housing. Housing prices have soared in our area making it increasingly difficult for women and families to have safe and stable options. Our Place campus provides temporary safe options for these clients.		
Positions:	None		

Requested Amendment #1	Our Place - Enhancements	\$476,477	BCC Approved 5/10/22
Description:	Due to higher than anticipated costs as the result of increased price of materials, supply chain disruptions and labor shortages, it is necessary to increase budget authority in the Our Place Site Enhancements project.		
Category:	Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons		
	Our Place - Enhancements	\$926,477 Total Project Costs	
Positions:	None		
Requested Amendment #2	Our Place - Enhancements	\$88,964	Approval Recommended
Description:	The Our Place Amendment #2 includes two change orders to Sullivan Structures. Change Order #1 is for trimming trees for clear unobstructed gate access near building 600/601, removal of 7 large trees that are severely diseased and dead which present safety risks for occupants on the Our Place Campus. Change Order #2 includes the installation of pet friendly artificial turf in place of sod to reduce maintenance cost in the main courtyard, install curbing around the turf area, install pet friendly artificial turf in the pet kennel area with curbing, 2" river coble, install pet friendly artificial turf at West Side picnic area with curbing, and install stone retaining wall at new asphalt driveway. Additionally, contingency funds are requested for unforeseen items and access control for new vehicle gate and new pedestrian gate adjacent to building 8c.		
Category:	Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons		
Positions:	None		
	Our Place - Enhancements	\$1,015,441 Total Project Costs	

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board approve the requested project amendments the, Our Place Site Enhancements (PW920717) will be increased from \$926,477 to \$1,015,441 for a total increase of \$88,964.

The FY23 Budget for SLFRF COVID Recovery (270-8) and Capital Improvements Fund (402) will need to be adjusted with the following cross-fund and/or cross-functional net-zero appropriation transfers:

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Increase/(Decrease)
Revenue:			
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	SLFRF COVID Recovery (270800)	431100-Federal Grants	(\$88,964)

Other Restricted Fund (270)/Welfare	OCM-SLFRF-HSA OP Site (IN19112)	431100-Federal Grants	\$88,964
<i>Expenditures/Transfers:</i>			
Other Restricted Fund (270)/General Government	SLFRF COVID Recovery (270800)	710500-Other Expense	(\$88,964)
Other Restricted Fund (270)/Welfare	OCM-SLFRF-HSA OP Site (IN19112)	814092-Transfer To Public Works	\$88,964
Capital Improvements Fund (402)/Welfare	Our Place Site Improvements-SLFRF (PW920717)	781080 - Construction Contracts	\$88,964
Capital Improvements Fund (402)/Welfare	Our Place Site Improvements-SLFRF (PW920717)	622270-Transfer From Other Restricted	(\$88,964)

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to approve amended allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) for the following projects: Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$1,015,441 (an increase of \$88,964 over the \$926,477 allocated and approved by the Board on May 10, 2022), and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers.

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) for the following projects: Our Place Enhancements project in a total amount of \$1,015,441 (an increase of \$88,964 over the \$926,477 allocated and approved by the Board on May 10, 2022), and direct the Comptroller's Office to make necessary net zero cross-fund and/or cross-functional budget appropriation transfers.”*