



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** *November 28, 2023*

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 14, 2024

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Gabrielle Enfield, Community Reinvestment Manager  
Office of the County Manager  
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**THROUGH:** Kate Thomas, Assistant County Manager  
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**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve the sole source waiver to establish an agreement between Washoe County and Tahoe Downtowner, LLC, for the Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transportation Connect Micro Transit Pilot Program for the term of January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed [\$400,000]; and if approved authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreements.

Manager's Office. (District 1) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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### **SUMMARY**

The Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transportation (TART) provides public transportation for the Truckee-North Lake Tahoe region through various programs. The contract being considered is to support the North Lake Connect Micro Transit Pilot Program through a service contract agreement with the Tahoe Downtowner LLC. The agreement will provide funds to finish the pilot program and gather additional data on ridership.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Innovative Services

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

On July 18, 2023, the Board approved American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds in the amount of \$400,000 to support the Tahoe TART Micro Transit Pilot Program.

### **BACKGROUND**

The intent of this agreement is to provide funding for the third and final year of a regional pilot project to provide micro transit services. The North Lake Tahoe TART Connect Micro Transit program began in June 2021 and was extended to summer 2024 to collect additional data and to provide the time necessary to make larger, more impactful changes to the transit system in North Lake Tahoe. There are currently 6 zones operating in the North Lake Tahoe region with Zone 3 operating specifically in the Incline Village and Crystal Bay areas.

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

Over the first two years of the pilot program (July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, through June 5, 2023) nearly 544,000 rides have been completed. Specifically in Zone 3 nearly 40% of the total regional ridership (182,738) has been completed in Incline Village and Crystal Bay. Data from the two-year program for Zone 3 indicates a high program success. 182,738 passengers with over 372,617 passenger miles and an 8.5 passengers per revenue hour. Heat maps of the pickup and drop-off locations show wide distribution through the Incline Village and Crystal Bay regions. During the first two years of the pilot program, operational hours consisted of 16 hours daily during the Summer and Winter seasons and 4-6 hours during the Spring and Fall (increased hours on Friday and Saturday to midnight in Zone 3).

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the Board approve the Agreement, there will be no additional impact to the Washoe County FY24 adopted budget as budget authority exists in 270-8 (SLFRF COVID Recovery) in IO12208 and GL 710100 (Professional Services). Ongoing operation costs past the allocation period will need to be secured via the annual budget process through reallocation of existing budget or submission of an above base budget request for the appropriate fiscal year.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve the sole source waiver to establish an agreement between Washoe County and Tahoe Downtowner, LLC, for the Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transportation Connect Micro Transit Pilot Program for the term of January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed [\$400,000]; and if approved authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreements.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *“move to approve the sole source waiver to establish an agreement between Washoe County and Tahoe Downtowner, LLC, for the Tahoe Truckee Area Regional Transportation Connect Micro Transit Pilot Program for the term of January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed [\$400,000]; and if approved authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to sign the agreements.”*