



Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting
November 1, 2022

PLANNING HIGHLIGHTS

- The Nevada Division of State Parks awarded Washoe County Parks a Land and Water Conservation Fund subgrant in the amount of \$455,250. 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. The subgrant award will go to the Board of County Commissioners for approval on November 15th, 2022.
- The Nevada Division of State Parks awarded Washoe County Parks a Land and Water Conservation Fund subgrant in the amount of \$212,223. The funding would be used to construct a new trailhead and access path at the Washoe County owned Riverbend Open Space property along the Truckee River near Verdi, NV. Project work includes finalization of site/construction plans, permitting, construction of a ten-space parking lot and loading zone, construction of an access path with two pedestrian bridges, installation of a kiosk and wayfinding signage, and site restoration. The access path will tie into the new portage trail for the Washoe/Highland Diversion Dam that the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) built in 2022 to increase safety for river users.
- Washoe County Parks submitted a final application for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant for the Red Hill Open Space Trail Project – Phase 1. Phase 1 improvements would include new trail construction, closure of unauthorized OHV roads through barriers and signage, and conversion of existing unauthorized roads into singletrack trail. This project includes new trail construction for the first section of the proposed Sun Valley Rim Trail.
- McGinley & Associates was awarded a consulting contract to conduct natural and cultural resource surveys along the next proposed section of the Sierra Front Trail. The proposed trail would connect the Ballardini Ranch Trailhead to the Michael D. Thompson Trailhead over approximately 13.5 miles. This trail planning project is partially funded by a Recreational Trails Program grant.
- Additional work was completed at the Rancho San Rafael Regional Park pollinator garden including planting of trees and shrubs and installation of a shade structure.



- Washoe County Parks worked with the Broken Hills subdivision in Spanish Springs to determine a new trail alignment that would connect the subdivision to surrounding public lands. A Public Trail Easement Deed and Maintenance Agreement that secures public access to the future trail will go to the Board of County Commissioners for approval on November 15, 2022.