



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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## STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**DATE:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023

**TO:** 800 MHz Joint Operating Committee

**FROM:** Melissa Lawney, Regional Communications Coordinator, Washoe County Technology Services, 775-858-5952, [mlawney@washoecounty.gov](mailto:mlawney@washoecounty.gov)

**THROUGH:** Quinn Korbolic, IT Manager, Regional Technology Services, Washoe County

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve expenditures from the Washoe County Regional Communications System Operations fund for the purchase of a Generator for Fox Mountain at a cost not to exceed [\$27,220].

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### SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve expenditures from the Washoe County Regional Communications System Operations fund for the purchase of a Generator for Fox Mountain at a cost not to exceed [\$27,220].

The Fox Mountain radio site is located just north of Gerlach, NV. It serves radio coverage in the Gerlach area and as North as far as the Vya Recreation area. Because Fox Mountain is one of the higher peaks in Washoe County, the radio site has a expansive service area. The Fox Mountain radio site is an integral piece of the Washoe County Regional Communication System. This site relies heavily on its generator for a redundant power source during the winter, especially during nighttime when the Solar Array microgrid cannot supply power from the sun.

**Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Long-term Sustainability and delivery of efficient regional Services.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On May 5, 2022 the Joint Operating Committee approved expenditures for a generator for Slide Mountain for a cost not to exceed [\$24,920].

### BACKGROUND

In June of 2017, Fox generator were installed. The current model of generator no longer has part available to change out, and now that WCRCS is Standardizing all equipment. We have decided to go with a 30KW Generator to replace the 15KW Generator that is currently in place. Our power load has increased with the new P25 equipment, requiring the update. In December of 2021 the Solar Array was built at Fox, and has been the primary source of power, but during storms the generator is the back up power needed to keep public safety communication up and operational. The need for continuous reliable

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communications for the Public Safety radio system and power redundancy are the primary reasons for standby generators.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget has sufficient budget authority in Washoe County Regional Communication System (210) in RCS Infrastructure (210300), Equipment Capital (781004) in an amount of [\$27,220].

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve expenditures from the Washoe County Regional Communications System Operations fund for the purchase of a Generator for Fox Mountain at a cost not to exceed [\$27,220].

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Joint Operating Committee agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to approve expenditures from the Washoe County Regional Communications System Operations fund for the purchase of a Generator for Fox Mountain at a cost not to exceed [\$27,220].”