

STAFF REPORT

Date: January 22, 2025

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of Temporary License for Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) to Enter Upon City-owned Property to conduct the Truckee River Urban Tree Workforce Program.

From: Karina Mercier, Project Manager

Department: Parks and Recreation

Summary:

The City of Reno Parks and Recreation department is supporting the collaborative effort between the Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE), One Truckee River (OTR) and the Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation (TMPF) to establish the Truckee River Urban Tree Workforce Program. The program aims to conduct restorative vegetation management east of downtown Reno (S Arlington Avenue to Galletti Way) along the Truckee River corridor, while also providing education, on-the-job training, and certification opportunity to community members facing barriers to employment. The site access agreement, if approved, would grant permission to RISE to access the City-owned property along the Truckee River corridor for the purpose of conducting this workforce program.

Consent Review	Yes	No
1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval?		X
2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council?	X	
3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council?		X
Other Considerations		
What percent of the total City budget does this item represent?	0%	

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Economic and Community Development
Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

The Truckee River Urban Tree (TRUT) Workforce Program is a pilot Program that trains people in tree care, urban and community forestry, and biodiversity with on-the-job training and certification opportunities while conducting tree care and vegetation management work along the Truckee River Corridor from Lake Street to Galletti Way in the City of Reno.

The TRUT Workforce Program is a collaborative effort with multiple entities: program administration, reporting and coordination efforts are led by, RISE manages/supervises the crew and collects data, TMPF provides on-the job training and education and the City of Reno, Carson-Truckee Water Conservation District, and Nevada Division of Forestry provide guidance and direction. Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) manages/supervises the Crew and collects data. Truckee Meadows Park Foundation provides the Crew with education and on-the-job training.

The Program will provide technical instruction to Crew Members in forestry and structured on-the-job training centered in tree care, urban and community forestry, and long-term resilience in forest biodiversity that includes ongoing tree care and protection, tree identification, planning techniques, environmental and social benefits of trees, landscape planning and work principles focused on creating a climate refugia, soils and soil preparation, pruning techniques, tree fertilization and mulching, urban wood utilization, unique maintenance for riparian and upland trees, pest preparedness activities, and appropriate watering practices.

Discussion:

The proposed Temporary License to Enter Upon Property allows RISE to access City-owned parcels consisting of parks, pathways and riverbanks adjacent to the Truckee River, from South Arlington Avenue to Galletti Way, for the purpose of conducting the TRUT Workforce Program.

The TRUT Workforce Program outcomes and deliverables are focused on increasing Reno's urban tree canopy in City of Reno's urban Disadvantage Communities that are experiencing severe canopy disparity (only 5-13% canopy cover per the American Forests' Tree Equality Score). The hired TRUT Workforce crew will perform the following activities to reach these outcomes:

- Wrapping tree bases with chicken wire and/or paint to protect them from beaver damage
- Remove invasive trees
- Remove dead/declining trees
- Reestablish and plant new native trees
- Collect tree inventory data

- Repair urban riparian and uplands areas
- Evaluate and strategy to maximize tree survival rates

The proposed license will expire on December 31, 2027. If the TRUT Workforce Program continues to secure funding for years beyond 2027, a renewal of this license will be brought forward for Council consideration at that time.

Financial Implications:

None at this time.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council approval of the Temporary License to Enter Upon Property Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) to support the Truckee River Urban Tree Workforce Program.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve the Temporary License to Enter Upon Property Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE) to support the Truckee River Urban Tree Workforce Program.

Attachments:

Temporary License to Enter Upon Property for Reno Initiative for Shelter and Equality (RISE)