

STAFF REPORT

Date: July 24, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of the interlocal joint funding agreement between the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) and the City of Reno to partially fund the Park Ranger Program for fiscal year (FY) 25 in an amount equal to 20% of the salaries and benefits, up to a maximum of \$200,000.

From: Nathan Ulyot, Director of Parks and Recreation

Department: Parks and Recreation

Summary:

The Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA) and the City of Reno (City) are authorized under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 277 to enter into an Interlocal Joint Funding Agreement to offset costs of the Park Ranger Program. TRFMA wishes to jointly fund the Park Ranger Program in proportion to the benefits that TRFMA will receive from cost-shared positions in an amount equal to 20% of the salaries and benefits, up to a maximum of \$200,000 for fiscal year (FY) 25 and additional funds for future fiscal years.

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?	N/A	

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Public Safety

Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Economic Opportunity, Homelessness, and Affordable Housing

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

On March 11, 2011, Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the City of Sparks entered into an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) to create the Truckee River Flood Management Authority (TRFMA). The ICA was established to construct, manage, operate, administer, control, and maintain the Truckee River Flood Management Project. The agreement allows the TRFMA to utilize funds from the Truckee River Flood Management Infrastructure Fund for operating and maintaining the project and to enter into agreements with third parties for operational, maintenance, and repair services.

Between January 2005 and February 2010, Washoe County purchased several properties along the Truckee River for the benefit of the Truckee River Flood Management Project, totaling approximately 140.21 acres. These properties were transferred to TRFMA in June 2012. The Truckee River is a vital natural resource for the surrounding communities, supplying most of the water delivered in the Truckee Meadows. Proper management is essential to protect this resource from pollution and to maintain its scenic beauty.

Since acquiring these properties, TRFMA has faced numerous management, maintenance, and security issues, including trespassing, homeless encampments, dumping, vandalism, theft, fires, and pollution. Reno has experienced similar challenges along the Truckee River and has responded by creating a Park Ranger Program. To address the ongoing issues, TRFMA and the City of Reno have agreed to jointly fund the Park Ranger Program to ensure the entire Truckee River corridor, including TRFMA properties, is adequately patrolled and secured.

Discussion:

The proposed agreement between TRFMA and the City of Reno will see TRFMA contributing 20% of the salaries and benefits of the Park Ranger Program for FY 2024/2025, up to a maximum of \$200,000. An initial payment of \$117,000 will be made within 14 days of the agreement's approval by both TRFMA's Board of Directors and the City of Reno City Council. If additional Park Rangers are hired during this fiscal year, the City of Reno will provide TRFMA with a statement of the additional costs, and TRFMA will pay 20% of these costs up to the maximum limit.

For FY 2025/2026, TRFMA will continue to fund 20% of the Park Ranger's salaries and benefits, up to \$200,000, based on an estimate provided by Reno by June 1, 2025. This amount will be paid by July 1, 2025. Any unspent TRFMA funds will either be returned or credited toward the next fiscal year's funding obligation. This funding arrangement helps TRFMA fulfill its obligation to maintain and secure the Truckee River Flood Control project while ensuring the Park Rangers can patrol and protect the river corridor effectively.

Additionally, the agreement grants Park Rangers access to TRFMA properties to carry out their duties, including patrolling at least five times per week and issuing citations for ordinance violations. This collaborative effort between TRFMA and the City of Reno is essential to maintaining the environmental integrity and safety of the Truckee River, benefiting both the community and the local ecosystem.

Financial Implications:

Participating in the agreement will save a maximum of \$200,000 on Park Ranger salaries for FY25 and possible future fiscal years. This is beneficial to the City of Reno Parks and Recreation Department financial stewardship.

Legal Implications:

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

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council approve the interlocal joint funding agreement.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve the interlocal joint funding agreement for Fiscal Year 2025 between the Truckee River Flood Management Authority and the City of Reno.

Attachments:

Park Rangers Interlocal Joint Funding Agreement
TRFMA Resolution No. 2024-14
Attachment A - Map