

AGENDA REPORT

Department: City Clerk's Office

Prepared by: Joyce Ryan, Library & Community Services Director

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 Approved by: Brad Raulston, City Manager

SUBJECT:

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding and Site Agreement between the City of National City and Literacyworks AmeriCorps

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution Entitled "Resolution of the City of National City, California, authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding and Site Agreement with Literacyworks AmeriCorps for the purpose of providing AmeriCorps members for the National City Public Library Literacy Program for Fiscal Year 2023."

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE PRIOR ACTION:

Approved by Board of Library Trustees at the regular meeting on September 7, 2022.

EXPLANATION:

AmeriCorps, a federal agency, brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities and helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture.

Through our partner Pacific Library Partnership and in cooperation with the nonprofit Literacyworks, California Library Literacy Services (CLLS) has been awarded three years of AmeriCorps funding. The AmeriCorps Initiative is intended to increase our literacy program's capacity to provide the community with high-quality adult and family literacy and ESL services, recruit new tutors and learners, and bring our literacy program to the next level.

Our library staff will recruit and enroll AmeriCorps members to begin their year of service in October 2022. AmeriCorps members receive a living allowance, education award, and training, as well as other benefits, including the knowledge that they are providing much-needed service to California community. These benefits are paid through LiteracyWorks and CLLS through the California State Library. National City Public Library has been awarded two Full-Time member slots (2 FT), contingent on filling both positions. Although there is a small local match of \$5,000 per member, this match can be paid through our annual CLLS grant funds for adult literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL). These CLLS grant funds have been awarded and are presented to City Council for approval at the September 20, 2022 meeting.

The AmeriCorps members would assist in implementing California Library Literacy Services at the library. Their primary roles include functioning as an adult literacy tutor for adults seeking learning services and providing capacity building services and pandemic relief by recruiting additional volunteers and adult learners. Members may also develop and promote learner leadership activities, develop financial literacy programs and tutoring, assist with family literacy services,

and promote community engagement opportunities for library literacy programs. Members are assigned to one library system, and work in teams of at least two members. Members are trained by AmeriCorps and by their assigned libraries.

National City Public Library was one of the main applicants for the original CLLS AmeriCorps Initiative that ran from 2003-2010, and it was transformative for our literacy programs. We are anticipating a successful AmeriCorps partnership for this coming year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Approval of Resolution authorizes the use of Literacy Grant Funds not to exceed \$10,000.

RELATED CITY COUNCIL 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Parks, Recreation and Library

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

This is not a project under CEQA and is therefore not subject to environmental review. CCR15378; PRC 21065.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:

Agenda Report posted within 72 hours of meeting date and time in accordance with Brown Act.

ORDINANCE:

Not Applicable

EXHIBITS:

- 1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between National City Public Library and Literacyworks AmeriCorps
- 2. Literacyworks AmeriCorps and Library Site Agreement
- 3. Resolution