File #: 17-1240, **Version:** 1

Introduction of the 2017/2018 Ticket to Success Class

Presenter:
Karen Palus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Donna Nelson, Spirit of the Springs Program Coordinator

Summary:
The City of Colorado Springs and the Office of the Mayor created the Ticket to Success program during the 2012/2013 school year that provided a unique leadership opportunity for local 7th grade students. Since its inception, the program has expanded to also include 8th grade students from multiple middle schools.

Previous Council Action:
N/A

Background:
The City of Colorado Springs and the Office of the Mayor created the Ticket to Success program during the 2012/2013 school year that provided a unique leadership opportunity for area 7th grade students. The program expanded during the following school year to include 8th grade students. Students visit City government departments four times during the school year-meeting City leaders and gaining an awareness of various city government careers. In the 2012/2013 session, there were 14 students who participated. In the upcoming 2017/2018 session, we will have a total of 50 students from 6 local middle schools.

City staff worked closely with school counselors to ensure the inclusion of 21st Century Skills and Colorado Common Core Standards for participating students. The Ticket to Success program provides a unique leadership opportunity for local 7th and 8th grade students. At the end of the program year, 90% of the students have expressed a strong desire to pursue a career within City Government. We are happy to report that 100% of the 7th graders who return to their school in the 8th grade continue with this program and we have been asked by the students, teachers, and even Superintendents to continue this program.

Financial Implications:
N/A

Board/Commission Recommendation:
N/A

Stakeholder Process:

N/A

Alternatives:
N/A

Proposed Motion:
N/A

N/A