



Legislation Text

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A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding the School Yard Initiative Grant on Behalf of Thomas Edison Elementary

Presenter:

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Summary:

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department sponsored a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) School Yard Initiative grant application on behalf of Thomas Edison Elementary. The applicant was successful in receiving a \$110,000 grant for the construction of unstructured play and outdoor learning facilities for youth. An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), required as part of the grant, defines the roles and the responsibilities of the City and primary partners, and is required as part of the next step of the grant sponsorship process.

Previous Council Action:

In October 2016 City Council reviewed and approved the sponsorship of the grant application, and provided a resolution in support of the application.

Background:

GOCO's School Yard Initiative aims to create school grounds that inspire more active physical play and enhance learning about nature and the environment. Because all School Yard Initiative projects are required to be open to the public during non-school hours, the benefits extend far beyond the student body.

School Yard Initiative grants support schools and local governments in constructing outdoor spaces where kids have frequent opportunities for unstructured play and outdoor learning. All school yards must be designed, in part, by the student population to ensure the components constructed are the most appealing and beneficial to the users they will serve. This program emphasizes projects that reach underserved youth and families who may otherwise have limited access to quality parks.

This item supports the City's strategic goal relating to building community and collaborative relationships by supporting outdoor recreation and play that benefits both the school system and the public through enhanced play features available to the community during non-school hours.

Financial Implications:

The City has agreed to sponsor the partner schools as GOCO requires that a qualified government agency submit the application, and receive and disburse funds for this planning grant. No City funds are neither needed nor requested as part of this sponsorship application.

Board/Commission Recommendation:

Support the City's sponsorship of the School Yard Initiatives Grant to Great Outdoors Colorado on behalf of Thomas Edison Elementary and adopt a resolution to approve the IGA, as required by GOCO.

Stakeholder Process:

N/A

Alternatives:

City Council may choose not to approve the IGA. Doing so would limit the ability of the schools to receive the GOCO School Yard Initiative Grant.

Proposed Motion:

Move to approve the Resolution in support of the City's continued sponsorship of the School Yard Initiatives Grant on behalf of Thomas Edison Elementary and proceed with approval of the IGA.

N/A