# City of Colorado Springs



City Hall 107 N. Nevada Avenue Colorado Springs, CO 80903

### **Legislation Text**

File #: 19-594, Version: 1

Introduction of the 2019/2020 Ticket to Success Class

#### Presenter:

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

#### **Summary:**

Ticket to Success is a youth leadership program offered by the Office of the Mayor and the City of Colorado Springs to middle school students in the region. The program's focus is to develop interest in City government, make it more accessible, and show 7th and 8th grade students how City government operates. Elected offices and many City departments are explored during the program.

### **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. The program now has 48 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.

#### **Previous Council Action:**

N/A

#### **Financial Implications:**

N/A

#### City Council Appointed Board/Commission/Committee Recommendation:

N/A

#### Stakeholder Process:

N/A

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### **Alternatives:**

N/A

## **Proposed Motion:**

N/A

N/A