

City of Rialto

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:

22-311

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Name:

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Agreement

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Agenda Ready

City Council

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Title:

Request that the City Council: (1) Approve an Agreement for Fiscal Agent Services with the Rialto Unified School District related to the State Allocation of \$1,000,000 toward development of the International Healing Outdoor Facility; and (2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Documents.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

1. Budget Request Letter of Congratulations (Gomez Reyes) - RUSD International Healing

Garden.pdf, 2. Fiscal Agent Agreement.pdf

Date

Ver. Action By

Action

Result

For City Council Meeting [April 12, 2022]

TO:

Honorable City Council

FROM:

Marcus Fuller, City Manager

Request that the City Council: (1) Approve an Agreement for Fiscal Agent Services with the Rialto Unified School District related to the State Allocation of \$1,000,000 toward development of the International Healing Outdoor Facility; and (2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Documents.

BACKGROUND

The Rialto Unified School District (RUSD) is developing a project identified as the International Healing Outdoor Facility (the "Project") located on vacant land RUSD owns adjacent to Kucera Middle School shown below.



RUSD requested funding through Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Gomez Reyes in the state budget to support the Project, and was successful in having their funding request approved in the state budget to provide \$1,000,000 towards the Project.

As reported in the Inland Empire Community News (October 17, 2021):

The (Project), the first of its kind in the region, will provide students, staff, and families a facility for the education of environmental studies, water conservation, climate resiliency, as well as support physical, social and emotional health outcomes.

"This project is very important to our school district, as it places a big focus on education and socialemotional healing. For the past five or so years, our district has been busy implementing gardens into all of our schools where students can plant and grow produce, which is then incorporated into our nutrition services," said Edgar Montes, (then) vice president of RUSD board of education.

The healing garden is set to feature a large teaching area, dock walkway, a bridge, wastewater treatment demonstration space, drip irrigation demonstration, an amphitheater, Japanese garden, citrus trees, eating areas, and a waterfall.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION

Assembly Majority Leader Reyes' office contacted the City in October 2021 to coordinate RUSD's receipt of the \$1,000,000 state allocation. As noted in the letter provided by Assembly Majority Leader Reyes, "per the instructions of the Assembly Budget Committee, funding for district-level requests must be allocated through a local government fiscal agent." A copy of the letter is included as **Attachment 1**.

To comply with state budget rules, the \$1,000,000 state allocation to RUSD must first be assigned to the City as the point of contact and fiscal agent whereby the City will receive the state allocation from which RUSD can invoice the City and seek reimbursement for eligible costs against the funds.

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A Fiscal Agent agreement has been prepared and is recommended for approval to ensure RUSD's \$1,000,000 state allocation can be disbursed and used in accordance with the intent of Assembly Majority Leader Reyes' office in awarding RUSD these funds. A copy of the agreement is included as **Attachment 2**.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed actions do not constitute a "project" as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Pursuant to Section 15378(b), a project does not include organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

This action is consistent with Guiding Principle 3A of the General Plan:

Our City government will lead by example, and will operate in an open, transparent, and responsive manner that meets the needs of the citizens and is a good place to do business.

LEGAL REVIEW

The City Attorney reviewed and recommended approval of this staff report and agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Operating Budget Impact

The City will receive the state allocation of \$1,000,000 that is specifically allocated for the purposes of the RUSD's International Healing Outdoor Facility. RUSD will incur eligible expenses in the planning and design of the project and submit invoices to the City for reimbursement against funds the City has received from the state's \$1,000,000 allocation. There will be no direct fiscal impact to the City in this agreement, and the City will incur no costs related to RUSD's project.

Capital Improvement Budget Impact

This action will have no impact on the current capital improvement budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council:

- (1) Approve an Agreement for Fiscal Agent Services with the Rialto Unified School District related to the State Allocation of \$1,000,000 toward development of the International Healing Outdoor Facility; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Documents