

STAFF REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: February 22, 2021 / AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kit Newland, Department Director (x7822)

Subject: RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE 2021-2022 HEAD START GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING A REQUEST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The Family Services Division within the Community Resources Department requests permission to apply for Head Start funding in the amount of \$1,386,197 to continue offering Head Start programs to income-qualifying families in Lakewood.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City of Lakewood has offered Head Start classes through a grant from the Office of Head Start since 1979. Grant funding is awarded for a five-year period, but grantees are required to resubmit an application each year during that period to ensure they still meet the eligibility criteria. The 2021-2022 school year is year two of the City's most recent grant period, and the requested amount will cover operating expenses from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

BUDGETARY IMPACTS: If approved, the City would accept \$1,386,197 from the Office of Head Start to provide programming specifically to Lakewood residents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends approving the attached resolution thereby allowing staff to proceed with the grant application for the 2021-2022 school year.

ALTERNATIVES: City Council could deny approval which would mean the City will no longer be able to offer Head Start programs in Lakewood or would need to find alternative funding to cover program expenses.

PUBLIC OUTREACH: The Head Start Policy Council consisting of parent representatives from each school, as well as Early Head Start parents, and the Head Start Advisory Committee have reviewed the information provided and support staff moving forward with the Head Start grant application.

NEXT STEPS: Pending approval, Family Services Division staff will complete the grant application and submit it to the Office of Head Start by the April 1, 2021 deadline.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 2021-8
2021-2022 Head Start Budget and Funding Guidance Letter

REVIEWED BY: Kathleen E. Hodgson, City Manager
Benjamin B. Goldstein, Deputy City Manager
Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney