

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/31/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0942

LOG NAME: 19TARRANT COUNTY CHILDCARE FACILITY AGREEMENT ARPA

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for the City's Participation in Development of a Child Care Facility at Rise Community Center, Authorize Acceptance of American Rescue Plan Act, Subtitle M (State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) Funds from Tarrant County in the Amount of \$2,750,000.00, Authorize Execution of Related Agreement with Child Care Associates, Adopt Appropriation Ordinance, and Amend the Fiscal Years 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Authorize execution of an interlocal agreement with Tarrant County for the transfer of funds for the City's development of a child care facility to be located at LVT Rise Community Center, 8201 Calmont Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76116;
2. Authorize the acceptance of American Rescue Plan Act, Subtitle M (State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) funds from Tarrant County in the amount of \$2,750,000.00; Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute related agreements with Child Care Associates allowing it to serve as the City's owner's representative for the design, construction, operation, and development of the child care facility;
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Cap Projects Federal Fund in the total amount of \$2,750,000.00, subject to receipt of such funds; and
4. Amend the Fiscal Years 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program.

DISCUSSION:

On April 6, 2023, Tarrant County issued a Request for Applications (RFA) for infant and toddler infrastructure expansion. The RFA is a multi-year effort to expand access to early education and care. This Early Head Start infrastructure expansion opportunity is funded through Tarrant County's state and local fiscal recovery funds, authorized through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The RFA was open to political subdivisions such as cities and school districts. The contribution of land and/or an existing building was a prerequisite to be considered for this program. The contribution could be in the form of gifting the land or ensuring the land is eligible for a no or low cost, long-term ground lease or facility lease for a minimum of 30 years. All projects must be in Tarrant County.

Proposals had to meet the following requirements:

- Minimum 12,200 square feet facility
- Minimum of eight classrooms and one indoor play area, each ranging from 360 square feet to 1800 square feet
- Parking to accommodate at a minimum of 22 spaces
- Building will need to be eligible for an Education or Education/Institutional Certificate of Occupancy

City of Fort Worth Neighborhood Services applied for funding on May 19, 2023 with a requested funding amount of \$5,500,000.00. This request was for the expansion of child care services at LVT Rise Community Center, 8201 Calmont Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76116. Per the application submitted, if awarded, the City of Fort Worth, would enter into an agreement with a local Early Head Start provider within Tarrant County. The City of Fort Worth identified the local Early Head Start provider to be Child Care Associates.

The submitted proposal included the following planned project details:

- Modular Building - 12,788 square feet
- Total of eight classrooms
 - Infant Rooms (0-1 year old) - 2
 - Toddler Rooms (1-2 years old) - 4
 - Pre-K Rooms (3-4 years old) - 2
- Classroom Size Capacity
 - Infant Room #1 - 18 persons, 591 Square Feet
 - Infant Room #2 - 18 persons, 591 Square Feet
 - Toddler Room #1 - 24 persons, 1002 Square Feet
 - Toddler Room #2 - 24 persons, 1002 Square Feet
 - Toddler Room #3 - 19 persons, 841 Square Feet
 - Toddler Room #4 - 19 persons, 841 Square Feet
 - Pre-K Room #1 - 27 persons, 1122 Square Feet
 - Pre-K Room #2 - 27 persons, 1670 Square Feet
- Certificate of Occupancy - Child Care Associates would be eligible for Education/Institutional Certificate of Occupancy based on the number of children served and their ages.
- Indoor Play Area - centrally located between all classrooms; floorplan attached

- Parking - sufficient parking either in front of the building (if authorized to utilize the adjacent lot) or additional parking can be added along Shenandoah Road, but the preference is to be granted authorization to use the lot

On September 5, 2023, Tarrant County Commissioners Court approved an award of funding in the amount of \$2,750,000.00.

The interlocal agreement provides the contribution of funds by the County to the City, and commits the City to utilize the funds prior to December 31, 2026, as required by ARPA.

The purpose of this Mayor & Council Communication (M&C) is to accept the ARPA funding from Tarrant County and initiate the development of the childcare facility.

Funding for this project was not included in the Fiscal Years 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program. The action in this M&C will amend the Fiscal Years 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program as approved in connection with Ordinance 26453-09-2023.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, execution of the agreement and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current capital budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Cap Projects Federal Fund. The Neighborhood Services Department (and Financial Management Services) is responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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