

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/11/24

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0476

LOG NAME: 19CHILD CARE ASSOCIATES CHANGE IN LOCATION ARPA

SUBJECT

(CD 5) Authorize a Change in Location for Child Care Associate's New Early Learning Center in Stop Six, Previously Appropriated with American Rescue Plan Act Funds

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council authorize a change in location for Child Care Associate's Early Childhood Learning Facility from the future Stop Six hub to another suitable site in the Stop Six Neighborhood.

DISCUSSION:

On March 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), providing aid and relief to various sectors of the national economy. The City of Fort Worth received a total allocation of ARPA funds in an amount exceeding \$173.7 million, to be disbursed in two batches or "tranches." The first tranche was received May 19, 2021, and the second tranche was received June 6, 2022. On June 22, 2021, the City Council approved Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) 21-0445, establishing a general framework for the use of ARPA funds. All ARPA funding must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and fully expended by December 31, 2026.

On October 19, 2021, through M&C 21-0814, the City Council allocated \$5,000,000.00 in ARPA funds to Child Care Associates (CCA) for the purpose of building a new Early Learning Center at the future Stop Six Hub to expand access to infant, toddler, and three-year old services in Stop Six. In 2023, community stakeholders and the Council Member for District 5 questioned whether the Stop Six Hub was a suitable site for Child Care Associates' operations, prompting CCA to seek an alternate location for the center. Currently, the project is in the predevelopment/architectural phase for the center's buildings, and environmental due diligence has been completed on a potential new location.

Approval of this M&C authorizes Child Care Associates to change the location for the Early Childcare Center from the Stop Six Hub to another suitable site in the Stop Six Neighborhood while maintaining their \$5,000,000.00 ARPA award. Necessary reporting and documentation requirements will be followed to ensure the City and Child Care Associates will comply with all reporting requirements and obligation and expenditure deadlines of the ARPA legislation.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of this recommendation will have no material effect on City funds.

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