



City Council Report

Date: July 8, 2014
To: City Council
Through: Karolyn Kent, Deputy City Manager
From: Marc Heirshberg, Parks, Recreation and Commercial Facilities
Department Director
Leslie Clark, Management Assistant II
Subject: Intergovernmental Agreement with Arizona Game and Fish Department
for the Community Fishing Program
Council Districts 1 and 5

Strategic Initiatives



Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to request Council authorization for the City Manager or his designee to renew the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) to administer the Community Fishing Program in Mesa. Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the IGA.

Background

The Community Fishing Program encompasses a four-year agreement to regularly stock fish in Red Mountain and Riverview Lakes for the purpose of promoting fishing. Through the Community Fishing Program, AGFD offers community educational programs, administers Community Fishing Licenses, monitors water quality and biological indicators of fish habitat, conducts periodic angler surveys, enforces fishing regulations, and provides advice and technical assistance to PRCF on lake and fishery management. The City of Mesa and AGFD have maintained an IGA for the Community Fishing Program (previously the Urban Fishing Program) for over 19 years at Riverview and Red Mountain Lakes. The program has been positive and beneficial to the City, the State and the citizens of Mesa.

Discussion

Riverview and Red Mountain Park Lakes are very popular fishing locations attracting thousands of anglers throughout the year. The IGA with AGFD has been very beneficial in providing guidance and feedback related to water quality, fish habitat and educational opportunities for the community. The temporary closing of Riverview Lake during renovation of the park from 2012-2014 resulted in strong feedback from the community that fishing is in high demand in Mesa.

Alternatives

Council may choose to deny approval of this IGA. Without it and the programs it supports, fish populations and habitat would decline. Both locations would cease to provide viable fishing opportunities.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of the IGA and Community Fishing Program is \$14,007 annually for Fiscal Years 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, and \$14,214 annually for Fiscal Years 2016/2017 and 2017/2018. The funding source to pay this fee is from the General Fund portion of the Park Maintenance operational budget.

Coordinated With

The City Attorney's Office has approved the IGA as to form.