



# City Council Report

**Date:** April 6, 2015  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Christopher J. Brady, City Manager  
**From:** Scott J. Butler, Assistant to the City Manager, Government Relations  
**Subject:** Resolution authorizing and supporting the submittal of a grant application by the City of Mesa's Arizona Museum of Natural History to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation in the amount of \$25,000 for the Mesa Grande site preservation and stabilization project, and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds.

**Strategic Initiative:**



## Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for the Arizona Museum of Natural History's application to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$25,000 to the Mesa Grande site preservation and stabilization project. The Council Resolution supports this effort to secure the grant and authorizes the City Manager to enter into a grant agreement if awarded. Staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

## Background

The requested grant will support the Arizona Museum of Natural History in implementing Mesa Grande site preservation and stabilization. Visitor areas and portions of the Mesa Grande mound and the trail system have been highly damaged from the heavy monsoons that hit the greater Phoenix area in September of 2014. Consequently, many of our pathways have become difficult for visitors to navigate and the historic excavation areas are eroded and contributing to further erosion of the site. The Arizona Museum of Natural History will focus on redirecting water flow to eliminate 90% of the erosion. Existing walls will be repaired and reconstructed using a soil mixture of caliche, silt and soil lock.

## **Discussion**

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Arizona Museum of Natural History to file their application by May 1, 2015 and be considered for funding from the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$9 million to our community since its passage in 2002 from surrounding tribal governments.

## **Alternatives**

The only alternative to adopting this resolution would be to not adopt. Such an action would deny the City of Mesa's Arizona Museum of Natural History access to this funding source.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant eventually be awarded for the Arizona Museum of Natural History will be negligible except overhead expenses in accounting to manage the grant funding.