



City Council Report

Date: August 20, 2018
To: City Council
Through: Karolyn Kent, Assistant City Manager
From: Marc Heirshberg, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities,
Department Director
Andrea Moore, Parks Planning and Operations Administrator
Subject: Intergovernmental Agreement with Arizona Game and Fish Department
for the Community Fishing Program
Council Districts 1, 2, and 5

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to request Council authorization for the City Manager or his designee to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) to administer the Community Fishing Program in Mesa. If approved, the IGA will continue the Community Fishing Program in Mesa through June 30, 2023. Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the IGA.

Background

The Community Fishing Program encompasses a five (5)-year agreement to regularly stock fish in Red Mountain, Riverview, and Greenfield Parks' 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 23 years. The program has been positive and beneficial to the City, the State and the citizens of Mesa. The current IGA expired on June 30, 2018.

Discussion

Lakes in Riverview, Red Mountain, and Greenfield Parks 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.

Alternatives

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

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of the IGA and Community Fishing Program is \$15,785 annually for Fiscal Year 2018/2019, and \$18,080 annually for Fiscal Years 2019/2020 through 2022/2023, totaling \$88,105 for the five-year agreement. The funding source to pay this fee is from the Park Maintenance operational budget.

Coordinated With

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