



# City Council Report

**Date:** May 20, 2019  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Christopher J. Brady, City Manager  
**From:** Scott J. Butler, Deputy City Manager, Government Relations  
**Subject:** Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application by Arizona Museum of Natural History Foundation to the Tohono O'odham Nation in the amount of \$5,000 for their Summer Youth program and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds as a pass-through grant.

## Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Arizona Museum of Natural History (AzMNH) Foundation's application to Tohono O'odham Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$5,000 in funding for their Summer Youth program. A Council Resolution supports this effort to secure a grant and commits the city to receive it on behalf of the non-profit and pass it through in its entirety to them if awarded.

As this program serves the needs of City of Mesa residents, staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

## Background

In alignment with the Tohono O'odham Nation priorities of Education, Economic Development, Cultural & Environmental Development & Protection, The Arizona Museum of Natural History (AzMNH) requests funding for summer science camps at the Arizona Museum of Natural History, in partnership with Mesa Grande Cultural Park. The AzMNH summer programs are proven to increase science literacy, which, in Arizona, is demonstrably low. AzMNH provides learning-designed-as-fun in air-conditioned comfort.

AzMNH's goal is to broaden scientific literacy in children to develop curiosity in STEM fields, encourage critical thinking and stewardship for the world they live in. Cultural institutions in Mesa are getting behind Mayor Giles' initiative on pre-k education to ensure Mesa's children arrive at Kindergarten ready to learn. Two hundred children from throughout the state and primarily from Mesa will be served.

## **Discussion**

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for AzMNH Foundation to file their application by June 14, 2019 and be considered for funding from Tohono O'odham Nation. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$1 billion to Arizona communities since its passage in 2002 from four surrounding tribal governments.

## **Alternatives**

The only alternative to adopting this resolution would be to not adopt. Such an action would deny Mesa sponsorship for this request and require Arizona Museum of Natural History Foundation to seek an alternate local government for access to this funding source.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant be awarded for AzMNH Foundation, will be negligible except overhead expenses in accounting to accept and reissue the grant check. The City does not administer the grant and signs an MOU or IGA with each tribe to limit our liability to only the pass-through transaction.