



City Council Report

Date: April 7, 2025
To: City Council
Through: Scott J. Butler, Assistant City Manager
From: Sharon Skinner, Grants Coordinator
Subject: Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application Desert Sounds Performing Arts to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in the amount of \$20,000.00 for their Mariachi Sones del Desierto program and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds as a pass-thru grant.

Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Desert Sounds Performing Arts application to Pascua Yaqui Tribe for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$20,000.00 in funding for their Mariachi Sones del Desierto 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 these programs serve the needs of City of Mesa residents, staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

Background

Desert Sounds Performing Arts is a local nonprofit agency whose purpose is to support kids around the valley learning music today and gaining life skills for tomorrow.

The Mariachi Sones del Desierto targets children ages 5-18 who want to perform and play traditional mariachi in the community.

If awarded the agency intends to serve 45 Mesa children (approximately 90% of participants) through this multi-tiered year-round program.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for the organization to file their application by the funder's deadline and be considered for funding. 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 the organization 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, 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.