



# City Council Report

**Date:** April 20, 2020  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Scott J. Butler, Deputy City Manager, Government Relations  
**From:** Sharon Skinner, Grants Coordinator  
**Subject:** Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application by City of Mesa i.d.e.a. Museum to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation in the amount of \$20,000 for their "Providing Artful Experiences for Kids & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder" initiative and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds.

## Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for City of Mesa i.d.e.a. Museum's application to Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$20,000 for their "Providing Artful Experiences for Kids & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder" initiative. A Council Resolution supports this effort to secure a grant and commits the City to receive it on behalf of the department 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:

As a recently certified autism center - as part of a City-wide initiative through Visit Mesa - the i.d.e.a. Museum has expanded how they support families with children, as well as adults, with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). An initial assessment & training was done through International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBBCES). They have implemented sensory signage within the whole museum, a guide and backpacks with items such as noise cancelling headphones.

Awarded FMYN funding will make it possible to support and further expand the i.d.e.a. Museum's ability to provide supportive, adaptive, sensitive and artful experiences for families with children, as well as adults, with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in order to support learning, creativity, self-expression and family engagement.

## Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for City of Mesa i.d.e.a. Museum to file their application by May 1, 2020 and be

considered for funding from Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has helped invest 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 City of Mesa i.d.e.a. Museum to seek an alternate funding source for this program.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant be awarded for City of Mesa i.d.e.a. Museum will be negligible except overhead expenses in accounting to accept and manage the grant funds and project related administrative costs.