



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3324, **Agenda Item #:** 37.

11/18/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance waiving up to \$9,315 in rental fees for the Parks and Recreation Department's Asian American Resource Center for Austin Community College District; and authorize the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with Austin Community College District to provide meeting space at the Asian American Resource Center for educational purposes.

Lead Department

Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note

The waiver of these fees will result in an estimated \$9,315 in unrealized revenue for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

September 26, 2013 - Council approved Resolution No. 20130926-072 authorizing the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with Austin Community College (ACC) for the provision of educational language services at the Asian American Resource Center (AARC) on consent with a 7-0 vote.

October 31, 2019- Council approved Ordinance No. 20191031-022 waiving up to \$6,885 in rental fees for ACC and authorizing the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with ACC on a 10-0 vote. Mayor Pro Tem Garza was off the dais.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

October 26, 2021 - Recommended by the Parks and Recreation Board on an 8-0 vote with Board Member DePalma abstaining and two vacancies.

Additional Backup Information:

The City recognizes the importance of adult education and is collaborating with ACC to establish an interlocal agreement in which classrooms are provided at the AARC for ACC to offer free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and potentially other adult education programs. The adult education programs provided by ACC will serve the entire Austin community.

In addition to ESL, ACC's adult education programming provides classes in literacy, civics and GED preparation. The purpose of the ESL Program is to help Austin residents learn basic English in order to succeed. These are survival classes for beginner students, who primarily want to learn English for everyday life, employment skills enhancement, and to assist in situations such as obtaining housing, shopping, and communicating at work. Approximately 45 students are enrolled in the ESL classes each year with approximately 300 participating since this partnership began in 2014.

The roles and responsibilities for each party are as follows:

City of Austin:

- Will provide access to the AARC facility, classrooms and reasonable assistance with room set-up.
- Will promote the classes at the AARC.

Austin Community College:

- Will offer ESL classes and potentially other adult education programs free of charge.
- Will manage student registrations and provide any necessary class materials and equipment.
- Will secure qualified instructors, as well as any other personnel needed to safely conduct each class.

The initial term for this agreement is January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, and the term will be renewed automatically on the anniversary date for five successive 12-month terms unless amended or terminated in accordance with other provisions of the agreement.

The City Council's authorization will allow ACC to continue to deliver its courses to both students and the general public in an environment that is open to all.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Culture and Lifelong Learning.