



STAFF REPORT
7/26/2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Anahi Fernandez, Management Analyst

SUBJECT: Authorize Awarding a Stipend to City of Coachella Resident Engagement Academy Participants in the Amount of \$250 to Each Participant for a Total of \$6,250

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize awarding a stipend of \$250 to each active participants of the City of Coachella Resident Engagement Academy in the amount of \$6,250.00.

BACKGROUND:

On June 28, 2023, the City Council authorized the establishment of a City of Coachella Resident Engagement Academy. The academy is set to be an interactive civic education program for Coachella residents that will develop an avenue for the City to communicate its roles and functions and increase civic engagement in the City. The goals and purpose of the Resident Engagement Academy are as follows:

1. Inform the community regarding city government and the decision-making process
2. Provide residents with input opportunities
3. Teach residents how they can contribute to the City
4. Generate active citizens

The Resident Engagement Academy will include twenty-five (25) participants and is set to begin on October 03, 2023, which will take place once a week for a total of seven weeks.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Coachella residents experience barriers that can impede them from participating in community engagement programs and/or events. An example of an existing barrier is lack financial resources for childcare. A stipend would serve an incentive and as a method to provide financial assistance to participants, which can also lead to a more diverse group of academy participants.

The academy will include 25 participants. Upon completion of the academy, each participant will receive a \$250.00 stipend for a total amount of \$6,250.00 as a reward for their active participation

in the Coachella Resident Engagement Academy. The City will also assess the effectiveness of the stipend in program participation levels during the program evaluation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the Council approves the staff recommendation, the \$6,250.00 in stipends would be sourced from ARPA funds.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 06-28-23 Resident Engagement Academy Staff Report