

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Nina Bodenhamer, City Give Director

SUBJECT

Resolution 2025-018 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement and Grant Agreement with Poudre School District for a Grant from the City's Digital Inclusion Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to authorize the approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement and Grant Agreement with Poudre School District (PSD) for a grant from the City's Digital Inclusion Program for the PSD Digital Literacy Liaison, who will support the technological literacy of PSD Family Liaisons, as well as the families and students that they serve.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Connexion, created by and for our community, was launched to improve life and business in Fort Collins through faster, more accessible, and more affordable internet.

The City requires that 6% of Connexion's gross receipts be transferred to the City General Fund as a broadband Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), per City Code Sec. 26-583. Council has recognized the economic inequality resulting from limited or unreliable internet access creates a gap in economic and educational opportunities for some City residents and their children, often referred to as the "digital divide."

Council appropriates funds to be used through the DI Program (the "DI Program") to address the "digital divide" by providing, among other things, grants to non-profit entities and other governments who will agree to use these grant funds to assist their economically disadvantaged constituents with access to affordable Internet services and digital literacy.

PSD requested an annual grant of \$85,000 for the years 2025 and 2026, for a total grant of \$170,000, to be used by PSD for its operational expenses of a Digital Literacy Liaison, a PSD staff member, to support the technological literacy of PSD Family Liaisons and the digital literacy of those families served by PSD's Family Liaisons. Family Liaisons serve as a trusted link between the PSD and the families of students in PSD Title 1 schools. The Digital Literacy Liaison is an individual with the lived-experience and digital skills to support PSD Family Liaisons in their digital fluency, accompany them on home visits, and support the digital skills of the families Liaisons serve. The person serving as the Digital Literacy Liaison will be onsite at PSD's newly launched PSD Future Ready center. Located in the Foothills Mall, the welcome center

maintains non-traditional hours of operations to allow families, students and Family Liaisons expanded access to DI Program support to address their technological needs, digital fluency, and digital platforms. City staff has reviewed this request and has recommended that the grant be awarded.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Council appropriated in the City’s biennial 2025-2026 budget (Neighborhood Livability and Social Health Budget Offer #34.2), funds to be used through the City’s Digital Inclusion Program (the “DI Program”).

Upon adoption, this Resolution will authorize the City Manager to enter into the Grant IGA and Grant Agreement on the City’s behalf, and to disburse of \$85,000 for the years 2025 and 2026, for a total grant of \$170,000, from amounts appropriated in the City’s DI Program as a grant to the PSD for to help support its Digital Literacy Liaison, a purpose which helps address the “digital divide” in the City. Funds disbursed pursuant to this Resolution, Grant IGA, and Grant Agreement are subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution for Consideration
2. Exhibit A to Resolution (Grant IGA)
3. Exhibit B to Resolution (Grant Agreement)