

RESOLUTION 2023-093
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE POUDBRE SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOR A GRANT TO IT UNDER THE CITY'S DIGITAL INCLUSION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City has established and is operating as a utility a fiber-optic broadband system known as Connexion that provides various telecommunication services, including Internet services; and

WHEREAS, related to the City's operation of Connexion, the City Council has recognized that because of economic inequality many residents of Fort Collins do not have access to affordable and reliable Internet services causing a gap in economic and educational opportunity for these residents and their children, often referred to as the "digital divide"; and

WHEREAS, to address this digital divide, the City Council approved in the City's biennial budget for fiscal years 2023-2024 (Neighborhood Livability and Social Health Budget Offer #11.2) and appropriated in the City's annual appropriation ordinance 2023, funds to be used through the City's Digital Inclusion Program (the "DI Program") to provide, 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 and reliable Internet services; and

WHEREAS, the City has received an application from the Poudre School District (the "District") for a grant under the DI Program that City staff has reviewed and is recommending that the grant requested by the District be awarded; and

WHEREAS, the District has requested an annual grant of \$85,000 for the years 2023 and 2024 to be used by the District to fund its costs employing a full-time Digital Literacy Liaison who will be responsible for supporting the technological literacy of the District's Family Liaisons and of the families served by its Family Liaisons (the "District Grant"); and

WHEREAS, City and District staff have negotiated and are proposing that the City and the District enter into the attached Intergovernmental Agreement Authorizing a Grant under the City of Fort Collins Digital Inclusion Program attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to expressly grant the City Manager the authority to approve the District Grant, to enter into the Agreement on the City's behalf, and to disburse the grant funds under it to the District, subject to the availability of appropriated funds; and

WHEREAS, Colorado governments are authorized in C.R.S. Section 29-1-203 to cooperate and contract with one another to provide any function, service, or facility each is lawfully authorized to provide; and

WHEREAS, the City and the Grantee are both lawfully authorized to assist their respective constituents who are economically disadvantaged with access to affordable and reliable Internet services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that this Resolution is in the City's best interest and necessary for the public's health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS, COLORADO, as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve the District Grant, to enter into the Agreement on the City's behalf, and to disburse the grant funds under it to the District, subject to the availability of appropriated funds, with the Agreement to be in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "A" subject to such modifications as the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, may determine are necessary and appropriate to protect the interests of the City or to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution and the DI Program.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 17th day of October, 2023.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk