



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

STAFF

Nina Bodenhamer, City Give Director
John Duval, Deputy City Attorney

SUBJECT

Resolution 2023-093 Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Poudre School District for a Grant to it Under the City's Digital Inclusion Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to authorize the approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Poudre School District (PSD) for a Digital Inclusion grant made to PSD's Department of Language, Culture, and Equity to be designated toward the funding of a Digital Family Liaison who will support the technological literacy of PSD Family Liaisons and the digital literacy of those families served by PSD's Family Liaisons.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Fort Collins 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.

Embedded in City Code is a broadband Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) designed to diminish a municipal-owned utility's unfair commercial market advantage. As such, 6% of Connexion's revenue is paid to the General Fund as a PILOT and is dedicated to income-qualified internet service and Digital Inclusion per Council priority.

As Fort Collins Connexion expands its reach and PILOT revenue grows, the City will invest in a diverse range of Digital Inclusion programming, services, and community collaboration. This dedicated revenue enables the City to deliver on its commitment to reduce the digital divide and increase the digital fluency of all residents through trusted partners and community collaboration.

The award of \$85,000 for each of the calendar years of 2023 and 2024, for a total grant of \$170,000, is to be used by the Grantee, PSD's Department of Language, Culture, and Equity, for the 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. PSD Family Liaisons are a trusted link to families with students in PSD Title 1 schools.

This position 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.

This individual 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 Digital Inclusion support to address their technological needs, digital fluency, and digital platforms.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Council approved in the City’s annual budgets for fiscal years 2023-2024 (Neighborhood Livability and Social Health Budget Offer #11.2) and appropriated in the City’s annual appropriation ordinances for 2023 and 2024, 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 internet services and digital literacy.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution for Consideration