

STAFF REPORT REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA DATE: November 4, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Leisure Services

TITLE:

Fee Waiver Request - For the Children

SUMMARY:

For the Children is requesting a full waiver of facility usage fees for the use of the Norman J Wimbley Gymnasium, Osborne Community Center, Howard Park Field, and Howard Park Pavilion for the 2025-26 School Year, based on demonstrated community benefit and alignment with city and the nonprofit goals. Approval of any waiver of fees would result in loss of revenue to the City with expenditures still having to be covered.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

The 2026 Fiscal Year Fee Schedule went into effect on October 1, 2025. All facility rental fees have been established for residents, non-profits, and non-residents. All requests for the waiving facility rentals fees must be approved by commission.

On October 15, 2025, For the Children submitted a Fee Waiver Request Form to the Leisure Services Department. For the Children is requesting usage of the Gymnasium, Osborne Community Center, Howard Park Pavilion, and Howard Park Field on school days from 3 pm – 6 pm. And from 8:30 am-5:30 pm during the summer and school holidays. The resident fee for the Gymnasium is \$150 per hour, the Osborne Community Center is \$40 per hour, the Howard Park multi-use field is \$40 per hour, and the Howard Park pavilion is \$30 per hour. These fees were created with a comparative study of all other local municipalities. This year the Leisure Services department added a discount for rental groups renting in bulk of 20% when 8 or more reservations are made in a calendar year.

The cost of the request for all four facilities for 5 days a week for 3 hours per day is \$12,400 per month. The Recreation division has developed 3 alternative options for facility space. These options consider the availability of Recreation Staff to open/close and monitor the facilities, PAL's current afterschool program, athletic field rentals, open play at the gymnasium for other members of the community, senior club programming, and other potential new programming options for youth and adults. The options could be adapted on a month to month basis based on the attached proposal.

Option 1: Gymnasium: Monday – Friday from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm at a total of \$4,800 per month.

Option 2: Gymnasium: Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm and the Osborne Community Center on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 3 pm-5:30 pm, and Howard Park Field on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 3:30 pm-5:30 pm at a total of \$3,648 per month.

Option 3 Gymnasium: Monday – Friday from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm and the Osborne Community Center on Tuesday/Thursday from 3 pm-4:30 pm at a total of \$5,184 per month.

Option 4: No waiver of fees

The YEC facility will be under renovations for approximately 6-12 weeks between November 30, 2025 and May 31, 2026 using the Community Development Grant (CDBG funds for the Youth Empowerment Learning Center Improvements project) During the time of renovations, the fees will be waived for the option chosen by commission. One tenant of the Osborne Community Center Lutheran Services Florida, Inc., is running the Headstart program for a monthly rental fee of \$2,300 with a yearly escalation of \$100 per year.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove a full, partial or no waiver of facility usage fees for Option 1, 2, 3 or 4 for For the Children

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis - See FTC Proposal and Options

FTC Options

Facility Reservation Form

Fee Waiver Request Form

YEC Annual Report

FTC Financials