



CITY OF LAKE FOREST PARK

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	6/23/2022
Originating Department	Court
Contact Person	Pamela McConville
Title	Resolution 1849/Authorizing Mayor to Sign Interagency Agreement IAA22546 between Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts and the Lake Forest Park Municipal Court regarding Interpreter Reimbursement

Legislative History

- June 23, 2022, City Council Regular Meeting – Action
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Attachments:

1. Resolution 1749
 2. Interagency Agreement IAA22546
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Executive Summary

This is an interagency agreement to provide reimbursement funds for interpreter services for court interpreters and language access service expenses.

Background

Several years ago, the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) introduced the Interpreter Reimbursement program. The purpose of the program is to assist courts with the expenses incurred when providing interpreters for court related matters. In 2021 the program received additional funding that allows AOC to add additional courts into the reimbursement pool.

Lake Forest Park Municipal Court is one of the courts that is invited to participate in the reimbursement program. This is due in part to the court's active participation and compliance with the King County Municipal Courts Language Access Plan and regional Payment Policy.

Like most organizations, the state is experiencing staffing shortages and was delayed in sending out the reimbursement program contracts to the courts. Lake Forest Park is one of the newer courts and we received our contract months after the currently participating courts. Initially, we thought it was too late to sign the contract and participate. However, speaking with some of the coordinators of the program, AOC understands the delay in sending the contracts contributed to the delay in receiving the signed contracts back from the courts.

Lake Forest Park Municipal Court has been waiting for the opportunity to participate in the program. Court interpreter expenses continue to increase, and it is anticipated that the pay rate for interpreters will increase in 2023. It is important for us to take full advantage of this opportunity to receive reimbursement. It is important to note that LFP will not receive reimbursement for all our interpreter expenses. However, it is a great opportunity for us to receive reimbursement for a portion of our expenses. There are no matching fund requirements to participate. We simply must follow the rules of the program, submit our support documentation to AOC along with the completed A-19 form, and the reimbursement request will be reviewed by the funding authorities.

It is our recommendation for the Council to show their support for Lake Forest Park Municipal Court's participation in the Interpreter Reimbursement Program as we continue to provide certified court interpreters to all court customers who access justice in our court. This is a one-touch request as it is time sensitive.

Fiscal & Policy Implications

The budget actuals for interpreter services per year on average is \$3,000.

Alternatives

<i>Options</i>	<i>Results</i>
• Approve	Court could receive reimbursement for interpreter services
• Deny	Court would receive no reimbursement for interpreter services

Staff Recommendation

Approve Resolution 1849 to authorize the Mayor to Sign an Interagency Agreement IAA22546 between the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts and the Lake Forest Park Municipal Court regarding Interpreter Reimbursement.