



**PARKS, ARTS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
AGENDA REPORT**

Meeting Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: Ramadan Event – Cultural Event Funding Request

Prepared by: Manny A. Hernandez, Parks & Recreation Director

Initiated by: Staff

Attachment(s): Presentation

Staff Recommendation

Receive program request and decide on potential funding for the program from the Cultural Art funding.

Environmental Review:

Not applicable

Summary/Project Description

The Parks, Arts, Recreation and Culture Commission, and the Parks & Recreation Department is committed to help expand cultural programs and events in Los Altos. This can be done through City programming and partnerships with cultural experts and organizations. The Muslims Around Los Altos group (MALA) is partnering with the Parks & Recreation Department to coordinate a few cultural events in Los Altos.

Muslims Around Los Altos, founded in 2023. They are a group of 20 civic-minded Muslim families from ethnically diverse backgrounds. They have partnered with Muslims living in Mountain View, Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, and Menlo Park making up over 150 individuals.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community. During Ramadan, Muslims fast from dawn until sunset, abstaining from food, drink, smoking, and other physical needs. The fast is broken each evening with a meal called iftar. Ramadan is also a time for increased prayer, reading the Quran, and acts of charity. It is considered a time for spiritual growth, self-discipline, and empathy for those less fortunate. The end of Ramadan is marked by the celebration of Eid al-Fitr, a festive holiday that includes communal prayers, feasting, giving of gifts and charity.

MALA is requesting the PARC Commission sponsor a series of events open to all Los Altos residents, with the intent to create stronger community ties and cultural understanding.



Subject: Title

The list of events and amount of requested sponsorship is as follows.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Iftar | \$8,000 |
| Education | \$2,000 |
| Giving Back | \$1,000 |
| Banners (Supporting the Events) | \$4,000 |

Fiscal Impact:

Not to exceed \$15,000

Discussion/Analysis

Discuss the programs and request for funding presented by the MALA group and decide if funding from the Cultural aspect of the Public Art Fund is appropriate. MALA will provide a presentation.