



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 9, 2016**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF DONATION PROVIDED BY ROTARY CLUB OF RIVERSIDE FOR THE 9TH ANNUAL YOUNG MEN'S CONFERENCE

ISSUE:

Recognition of the Rotary Club of Riverside for their donation of \$3,000 to the 9th Annual Young Men's Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission recognize the generous donation from the Rotary Club and receive the report for file.

BACKGROUND:

The Rotary Club of Riverside is part of Rotary International and are a group of individuals with differing occupations, diverse cultures and varying backgrounds, who share a passion for service. Formed in 1920, the Rotary Club of Riverside is the oldest services organization in the City of Riverside and considers itself the club with the youthful heart, serving youth from 4 to 104. Each year, members of the Rotary donate their time, money and resources to the community in various forms. One of the most significant contributions is their annual giving of \$15,000 in scholarships to Riverside youth.

The annual Young Men's Conference serves 200 young men from all high schools in the City of Riverside. Many of the youth from targeted sites have a greater tendency to engage in risky behaviors, lack male role models and are on the verge of gang membership or delinquent behavior. The Conference was envisioned and designed to encourage the carefully selected group of at risk young men, with the help of mentors, to promote health, educational and life activities in a forum where young men and their mentors can share their knowledge, needs and ambitions for mutual empowerment.

This year, the Department received new support for the young men. The Rotary Club of Riverside has generously donated \$3,000 towards the conference being held on Wednesday, May 11, and will also be future mentors to the young men. Staff is working with the Rotarians to develop a mentoring plan and commitment from interested members. The service and dedication to the youth from this club is immeasurable. Youth will take part in job shadowing, personal visits, phone calls, life skills, excursions, and numerous other activities and experiences that will enhance and expand their view of the world, enabling them to grow into confident, successful adults.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The \$3,000 donation will be instrumental in offsetting the costs associated with the 9th Annual Young Men's Conference.

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