THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: August 23, 2022

Subject: Renewal of the contract with Asheville City Schools Foundation (ACS Foundation) to administer the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA) scholarship funds

Staff Resource(s): Nikki Reid, Community & Economic Development Director
Alex Mitchiner, Workforce Development Programs Coordinator (CAYLA)

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to renew the contract with the Asheville City Schools Foundation to administer CAYLA scholarship fund for an additional period of 5 years.

Background:

- The CAYLA program implements the City Council 2036 Vision in that it increases access to education and workforce development opportunities for students from low-wealth families, in addition to addressing the achievement gap in Asheville City Schools. Buncombe County is a partner in this program provides funding to the program each year.
- The CAYLA program typically enrolls 30-35 students each year; this year there are 38 students.
- There are a mix of sophomores and juniors accepted into the program.
- Students enter the program at those particular ages so the program director can assist with the college application process during their senior year.
- As part of the program, a scholarship fund was established where each student that graduates receives a $2,000 scholarship paid directly to their college.
- The Asheville City Schools (ACS) Foundation has administered the CAYLA scholarship fund since 2008, which was the inaugural class of senior CAYLA graduates.
- The existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and ACS Foundation was last renewed in 2017 for a period of five years.
- The MOU has now expired and staff is seeking a renewal of the agreement for an additional five year period.
- The terms of the agreement include a 3% administration fee from ACS Foundation; the City provides documentation of the graduating CAYLA student and scholarship information for each student (including information regarding college to be paid); ACS Foundation is responsible paying the $2000 to the colleges for the CAYLA Students and for the appropriate financial reporting to the IRS; ACS maintains bonding in the amount of $50,000; the services agreement includes other terms as required by the City's legal and risk department. The total contract amount annually for this agreement is $50,000 plus a 3% administrative fee for a total of $51,500.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- N/A

Council Goal(s):

- An Equitable and Diverse Community
- A Connected and Engaged Community

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Provides an efficient process for distributing CAYLA scholarships directly to the colleges at which CAYLA graduates are enrolled.
- Clearly outlines the contractual relationship between the City of Asheville and the Asheville City Schools Foundation.

Con(s):

- None noted

Fiscal Impact:

- The actual cost of scholarships fluctuates year-to-year based on the number of graduating students.
- ACS Foundation charges a 3% service fee to support their administrative costs. The total contract amount annually for this agreement is $50,000 plus a 3% administrative fee for a total of $51,500.
- The budget for the CAYLA program totals approximately $250,000 annually, including Buncombe County's $65,000 contribution which partially offsets the cost of the scholarship program.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to renew the contract with the Asheville City Schools Foundation to administer CAYLA scholarship fund for an additional period of 5 years.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 22-____

RESOLUTION RENEWING THE AGREEMENT WITH ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION (ACS FOUNDATION) TO ADMINISTER THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (CAYLA) SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy (CAYLA) is an academy supported and maintained by the City of Asheville; and

WHEREAS, the mission of CAYLA is to increase the City's and community's professional workforce by exposing youth minorities and youths from low wealth households to the various public service careers available in the Asheville area; and

WHEREAS, the City first approved the CAYLA program on May 8, 2007 and agreed to support the creation of a scholarship program that will provide CAYLA graduates with a $2,000 scholarship award; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville desires to continue to partner with the Asheville City Schools Foundation to provide services to the City, in administering the CAYLA scholarship fund and disbursement process; and

WHEREAS; the City Council approves a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the ACS Foundation to continue the CAYLA program for an additional 5 years, based upon satisfactory performance by the ACS Foundation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Asheville City Schools Foundation to administer the annual disbursement of CAYLA scholarships to colleges at which CAYLA graduates are enrolled following the successful completion of the CAYLA program.

Read, approved and adopted this the 23rd day of August, 2022.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney