THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: January 12, 2021

Subject: Natural Resource Defense Council Food Matters Grant Funds

Staff Resource(s): Amber Weaver, Sustainability Officer, Office of Sustainability

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept funding in the amount of $16,100 from Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) for the Office of Sustainability's food policy and waste reduction work, and a budget amendment in the amount of $16,100 to appropriate the funding in the City's Office of Sustainability budget.

Background:

- In November 2017, Asheville City Council approved the Municipal Food Policy Goals and Action Plan by adopting Resolution 17-257.
- The adopted plan includes six focus areas. This project will address the "Resource Stewardship" focus area which prioritizes city-wide waste reduction.
- Within the resource stewardship focus area, the plan outlines a need to create an actionable plan for city food waste recovery, composting, and redistribution.
- Project efforts will include:
    - Public Food Waste Reduction statement
    - Snapshot food waste audits at city facilities
    - Community compost drop off pilot program
    - Public outreach and education campaign, with a goal of reducing food waste within the Asheville community.
- Through a competitive process, NRDC has selected the City of Asheville's Office of Sustainability to participate in a Southeast regional cohort with Atlanta, Memphis, Nashville, and Orlando to develop food waste reduction initiatives.
- The City of Asheville's Office of Sustainability will pilot four strategies to increase food waste reduction and educate residents on opportunities for decreasing residential and commercial food waste.
- Grant funds will be utilized to engage the community through outreach, education, and program opportunity strategies.
- NRDC Grant recipients are not required to provide a cash match.

Council Goal(s):

- A well-planned and livable community
- A clean and healthy environment
- A connected and engaged community

Committee(s):

- Although the grant was not routed through the Sustainability Advisory Committee, members of the committee are working with staff to help implement the grant.

Pro(s):

- Helps support City's Food Policy Action Plan Resolution 17-257 while leveraging NRDC funding
- Addresses Resolution 14-27 Asheville's Waste Reduction Goal
- Engage with regional partner cities to connect, collaborate, and share best practices

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- None; there is no required City match

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept funding from the Natural Resource Defense Council, and a budget amendment in the amount of $16,100 to appropriate the funding in the City's Sustainability Fund.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution
- Budget Ordinance Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 21-_____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE NATURAL RESOURCE DEFENSE COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING THE CITY'S FOOD POLICY ACTION PLAN THROUGH INCREASED FOOD WASTE REDUCTION EDUCATION IN THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 160A - 240.1 a city is authorized to acquire funds by grant and other methods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville is committed to reducing food waste, and addressing food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has an opportunity to preserve landfill space by reducing food waste generation and increasing compost initiatives;

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

The City Manager is hereby authorized to accept grant funding of $16,100 from the Natural Resource Defense Council to support implementation of the City's Food Waste Reduction Campaign, and execute all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Read, approved, and adopted this the 12th day of January 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. _____

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

That the City of Asheville Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget Ordinance be amended to provide an appropriation of $16,100 as a grant from the Natural Resource Defense Council and amend the Sustainability Fund as follows:

SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Revenues:

Miscellaneous Revenue	$16,100.00
Total Revenues	$16,100.00

Appropriations:

Contracted Services	$16,100.00
Total Appropriations	$16,100.00

That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon the date of final passage.

Read, approved and adopted this the 12th day of January, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney