



City of Maricopa

Legislation Text

File #: WSPRES 17-04, **Version:** 1

The Mayor and City Council shall hear recommendations on updating the Non-Profit Scholarship Match Program and provide direction for the Non-Profit Scholarship Match Program for FY16-17. Discussion and Direction.

The Non-Profit Scholarship Match Program is a City program to help local students through matching funds to local non-profits. Non-Profits throughout the community will seek additional funds from the City to increase the size (scholarship amount), number of scholarships, and/or both offered to local students pursuing higher education after high school. The Non-Profit Evaluation Committee has recognized some items in the Request for Proposal and Evaluation Scoring Sheets that could be improved upon in upcoming years to improve the number of responses and quality of responses.

Major recommendations:

- Require Non-Profits to register within the City through the business license process. In the beginning, the City could make it free or charge a small nominal fee. For the larger non-profits, this will not be a new process as many cities within Arizona already require this of non-profits.
- Require a Letter of Commitment from the non-profits. This is an additional step to ensure the non-profits applying are committed to helping local students in the area.
- Require that any past recipient is current with reporting per Letter of Agreement to be eligible for this year's funding.
- Indicating how many scholarships total they plan on making versus how many with City Match funds.
- Scoring/Evaluation - reduce redundancy of checking eligibility and streamlining review process

By having the non-profits register with the City, we (City) can become more aware of the non-profits operating within the City and improve the communication with those organizations. Improved communication can lead to more partnerships for City programs, grant applications, and other opportunities. It can also help the City push information, opportunities (Scholarship Match and Grants), and other resources (eCivis, grant writing workshops, Maricopa 101, etc.) to them.

The Non-Profit Scholarship Match Program has been funded at \$10,000 again for FY16-17. Last year, two organizations (Maricopa Chamber of Commerce - \$3,000 & Friends of the Library - \$2,000). The City only received three applications last year.

This item will be presented by TJ Hansell, Grants Coordinator.

Staff recommend the Mayor and City Council hear recommendations and provide direction for updating the Non-Profit Scholarship Match Program for FY16-17. Discussion and Direction.