

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 11, 2017

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Sabra Newby, City Manager

Subject: **B.8. Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of Grant Award from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation for expansion of the adaptive equipment rental program for individuals living with spinal cord injuries in the amount of \$25,000.**

From: April Wolfe, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Summary: The Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department applied for and received a grant from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation (CHNF) in the amount of \$25,000 for the expansion of the adaptive equipment rental program for individuals living with spinal cord injury. Staff recommends that Council approve the Grant Agreement from CHNF and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Previous Council Action: Council approved a previous grant agreement from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation for Project Fit Reno program, January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014, in the amount of \$20,000.

Discussion: What do you do when you want to play but don't have the toys? **YOU RENT!** The City of Reno has made the adaptive recreation equipment available to rent. Renting makes it affordable for participants to try before buying, be a weekend warrior, gain skills, and be involved in more than one sport. The main objective of the program is to provide persons with spinal cord injuries (SCI) or other disabilities the opportunity to recreate independently outside of a structured clinic or program. In order to accomplish this, rental fees remain minimal (scholarships available) and equipment suggestions are taken from participants in order to expand the program. This program has been extremely successful, but limited due to the amount of adaptive equipment available.

Grant funds will primarily be used to cover expenses associated with purchasing additional adaptive rental equipment. Staff has been working with the City of Reno Access Advisory Committee (RAAC) to review the current inventory and make recommendations to increase equipment available for individuals with higher level spinal cord injuries. Therefore, selected pieces of equipment include adaptations specifically for quadriplegics such as adaptive grips,

adaptive shifting/braking, and power-assist features. Funds will also cover rental scholarships for individuals with spinal cord injuries.

Financial Implications: None to the General Fund. There are matching requirements which will be met through the in-kind value of staff time for project planning and administration.

Legal Implications: The grant conditions require that the grantee submit a written Progress and Interim Expenditure Report and a Final Report and Final Expenditure Report to the Foundation. If any funds remain after completion of the identified work, all unexpended funds shall be returned.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the City Council accept the grant from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation for expansion of the adaptive equipment rental program for individuals living with spinal cord injuries in the amount of \$25,000, and authorize the Mayor to sign the grant agreement.

Proposed Motion: I move to approve the staff recommendations.

Attachments:

- CHNF Grant Agreement (PDF)