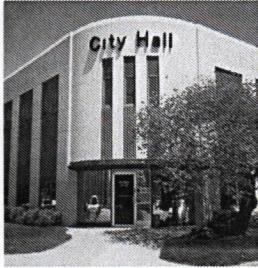


Committee of the Whole
Monday, July 1, 2019 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
1369 25 Avenue

{{Name: Agenda Item Name}}

{{Rationale: Agenda Item Rationale}} {{AgendaItemEnd}}

- 1. Statement of compliance with Open Meetings Act and roll call.**
- 2. Request for city to support the concept of a children's museum in Columbus and to hire a Children's Museum Project Development Coordinator and create a Children's Museum Advisory Board pending grant funding.**
- 3. Adjournment.**



The City of **Columbus**

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Administration Office (402) 562-4232

Fax (402) 563-1380

memorandum

DATE: June 26, 2019
TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Tara Vasicek, City Administrator
RE: Children's Museum

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Children's Museum group to apply for grant funding to hire a Children's Museum Project Development Coordinator and create a Children's Museum Advisory Board in order to develop a Children's Museum.

DISCUSSION:

Over the past year, the idea of a Children's Museum in Columbus and potentially included in the Library project has been popular. This is not a new idea in Columbus, a survey completed by Community for Kids (C4K) approximately a year and a half ago reported that 75% of respondents ranked indoor play areas for kids as a high need. In the last few months Library round table discussions have been taking place, during those meeting attendees are complete a survey about what they believe should be included in a Library project and to date approximately 60% would like a Children's Museum included.

A group has formed that is passionate about the development of a Children's Museum in Columbus. Based on the above information and the feedback they have received from the community, they would like to move to the next phase of project development. In order to develop a 'business plan' and understand all the components of running a successful Children's Museum they would like to hire a Children's Museum Project Development Coordinator as soon as possible. The group has requested that the City hire this position, but only if they are successful in applying for grants to pay the wages for this position. The primary duties of this individual would be to research best practices in similar facilities, make contact with community groups and potential partners, educate the community, etc.

The group would also like a Children's Museum board to be created; this board would oversee and assist the Children's Museum Development Coordinator and the development of the idea. If the project development goes well, the Children's Museum Development Coordinator and Children's Museum Board would ultimately work to create a non-profit that will break away from the City and operate the Children's Museum independently.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Overhead costs, already included in City operation.