

**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services**  
**Memorandum #18-2014**

**DATE:** September 22, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Joyce Downing and City Council Members

**FROM:** John Pick, City Manager *JP*  
Amanda J. Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services *APP*

**SUBJECT:** CR-100- Sponsorship of Studio School's Great Outdoors Colorado Grant Request

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council approve the attached resolution, which shows agreement to sponsor the submission of a grant application by the Studio School for the Great Outdoors (GOCO) School Play Yard Initiative.

**BACKGROUND**

Great Outdoors Colorado's School Yard Initiative provides up to \$114,000 to each of six recipients, with a mission to "support schools and local governments in constructing age appropriate play yards where kids have an opportunity for unstructured play and outdoor learning. All play yards must be designed, in part, by the student population to ensure the components constructed are the most appealing and beneficial to the users they will serve."

Grant funds are awarded in two stages – the first round provides opportunity to go through a design phase. Those six selected to go through the design phase then have the opportunity to apply for construction funding in a second phase.

Schools or school districts are not eligible as direct recipients of GOCO funding. The Studio School, located at 10604 Grant Drive in Northglenn is seeking an eligible sponsor, which would allow them to apply for the first phase of the GOCO School Yard Initiative. As a municipality, the City of Northglenn is an eligible sponsor for this project.

Through the past three years, the Studio School has begun a student and parent-involved planning process for a new playground to replace the existing equipment on school property. If awarded, these grant funds would allow for these plans to be finalized and the new playground to be constructed. The Studio School is anticipating that the total project costs will be \$130,000-\$150,000. GOCO requires a 25% match for the School Play Yard Initiative. The Studio School has raised \$15,000-\$20,000 through Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) fundraisers, and anticipates that the remaining necessary funds would be raised through additional PTO fundraisers, other community grants and/or the school district.

If the resolution is approved and funding is granted by GOCO, the city would serve as a fiscal pass through. The school or school district would be responsible for meeting all requirements outlined in the GOCO grant agreement, including construction and contract management. Upon completion of pre-determined project milestones, the school would submit completed paid invoices to the city, the city would submit those requests to GOCO, GOCO would verify and approve those requests and wire funds to the city, and the city would then cut a check for that same amount to the school. Since all GOCO grants are reimbursement grants, all expenses would be first paid by the school or school district, then reimbursed to the school by GOCO via the city.

Although there is no direct financial commitment as a sponsor, the City of Northglenn would have a responsibility to this project. These commitments include entering into an IGA with the Studio School outlining the city's agreement to serve as the fiscal pass through, as well as showing general support for this project. The IGA would also serve to recognize that the playground would be the property of the school district, and all maintenance responsibilities would remain with the school district. As a GOCO funded project, it would also be required that the playground be accessible to the community during out of school hours.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

Grant applications are due by October 1, 2014. The attached resolution would need to be signed prior to that date for inclusion in the Studio School's GOCO School Play Yard Initiative application.

This project is anticipated to be funded through GOCO, funds raised by the Studio School, Adams 12 Five Star School District and/or other community grants. No funds are committed by the city to this project through the approval of the attached resolution.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

Please contact Amanda Peterson at [apeterson@northglenn.org](mailto:apeterson@northglenn.org) or by phone at 303.450.8950 for any further questions.

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR DOWNING

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-100  
Series of 2014

\_\_\_\_\_  
Series of 2014

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO FOR THE STUDIO SCHOOL PLAY YARD PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn supports the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant application for the Studio School Play Yard Project;

WHEREAS, School Play Yard projects must be proposed through a partnership between a local government and a school or school districts, as local governments are the only entities eligible to apply for GOCO Local Government Grants;

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn will act as a pass-through agency for receipt of a grant from GOCO for the Studio School Play Yard Project;

WHEREAS, the Studio School, other community grants and/or the Adams 12 Five Star School District will provide any required matching funds for the Project; and

WHEREAS, should the City receive a GOCO grant for the Project, staff will ask the City Council, by separate resolution, to authorize the City to enter into a Grant Agreement with GOCO and to enter into an IGA with the School District.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Northglenn, Colorado strongly supports the grant application to Great Outdoors Colorado for the Studio School Play Yard Project.

Section 2. If the grant is awarded, the City Council of the City of Northglenn strongly supports the completion of the project.

Section 3. The City of Northglenn agrees to serve as the fiscal pass-through to meet the terms and obligations of any grant awarded.

Section 4. The project site is owned by the School District No. 12 and will be owned by the School District No. 12 for the next twenty-five (25) years.

Section 5. The Board of Education of the Adams 12 Five Star School District recognizes that as the recipient of a Great Outdoors Colorado Local Government grant the project site must provide reasonable public access.

Section 6. The Board of Education of the Adams 12 Five Star School District will continue to maintain the Studio School Play Yard Project site in a high quality condition and will appropriate funds for maintenance in its annual budget.

Section 7. This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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JOYCE DOWNING  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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JOHANNA SMALL, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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COREY Y. HOFFMANN  
City Attorney