

City of Fayetteville Staff Review Form

2021-1068

Legistar File ID

12/21/2021

City Council Meeting Date - Agenda Item Only
N/A for Non-Agenda Item

Susan Norton

12/17/2021

CHIEF OF STAFF (070)

Submitted By

Submitted Date

Division / Department

Action Recommendation:

Staff is recommending that the Mayor and City Council pass a resolution to establish a trust fund that could be made available as a pass-through to other agencies who may provide climate refugee resettlement services.

Budget Impact:

Account Number		Fund	
Project Number		Project Title	
Budgeted Item?	No	Current Budget	\$ -
		Funds Obligated	\$ -
		Current Balance	\$ -
Does item have a cost?	No	Item Cost	\$ -
Budget Adjustment Attached?	No	Budget Adjustment	\$ -
		Remaining Budget	\$ -

V20210527

Purchase Order Number: _____

Previous Ordinance or Resolution # _____

Change Order Number: _____

Approval Date: _____

Original Contract Number: _____

Comments:



MEETING OF DECEMBER 21, 2021

TO: City Council
THRU: Mayor Lioneld Jordan
FROM: Susan Norton, Chief of Staff
DATE: 12/17/21
SUBJECT: Resolution to Establish Trust Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the Mayor and City Council pass a resolution to establish a trust fund that could be made available as a pass-through to other agencies who may provide climate refugee resettlement services.

BACKGROUND:

Long-term resident, Dr. Dick Bennett, approached the Mayor's office with a proposal for a gift to establish an endowment in the amount of \$100,000.00 to address a long-term potential rise in migration and refugee resettlement services due to climate change and war. After speaking with the Chief Financial Officer, and City Attorney, the Mayor is recommending the City of Fayetteville establish a trust fund to accept the gift.

DISCUSSION:

As reported by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and many other scientific institutions around the world, there is growing evidence that various climatic and extreme weather events are creating an increasing number of "climate refugees" being forced to leave their homes. Uninhabitable heat, droughts, soil erosion, wildfires, and weakening monsoons compounded with a melting cryosphere, sea level rise, and flooding intensify these climate impacts in various parts of the world.

The City of Fayetteville, as a caring and welcoming community, already participates with refugee resettlement services via Canopy NWA and other faith-based initiatives. It is fitting for Fayetteville to continue to look to the future and prepare to create more new ways to welcome more people to Northwest Arkansas and Fayetteville at the same time as we focus on our goals for net zero emissions and climate resilience.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

N/A

Attachments:

Resolution to establish trust fund