

## CITY COUNCIL

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Reso No. \_\_\_\_\_ File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ord No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Agenda Item No.: 9**

**Date: December 19, 2012**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Amy Shipley, Interim Assistant Director of Community Services

**SUBJECT:** 2013 CECO Grant Application Authorization

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is requested that Council authorize the Community Services Department to complete applications to the San Diego County Employees' Charitable Organization for capital items at the Escondido Senior Center and the East Valley Community Center. If awarded, it is requested that the Interim Assistant Director of Community Services be authorized to accept the grant funds, to complete grant documents on behalf of the City and approve necessary budget adjustments.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS:

This action will have no impact on the General Fund Budget. The requested grants will provide \$10,000 to be used for the purchase of new furniture at the Escondido Senior Center and \$10,000 for the purchase of new scoreboards for the East Valley Community Center (EVCC).

### BACKGROUND:

The San Diego County Employees' Charitable Organization (CECO) is an employee-managed organization that distributes funds that are donated by County of San Diego and Superior Court employees and retirees to help make San Diego a better place for all. Since 1956, CECO has distributed millions of dollars to enhance local community enrichment programs, health, recreation, and human care needs of residents of San Diego County.

Community Services will complete two grant applications. The Community Services Department will apply for \$10,000 to purchase new furniture for the Escondido Senior Center at the Park Avenue Community Center. The Escondido Senior Center has already received a donation of \$3,500 for this purpose. There are two primary spaces designed for socialization, the Joslyn Lounge in the Park Avenue Café building which was renovated from 2008-2011 and the rear lounge of the main building. The rear lounge area serves as an entrance to many of the programs of the Senior Center, as a waiting area for the resource center, and as an informal, non-programmed gathering place. This space is sparsely furnished, with older furniture that was not designed for the needs of older adults. By purchasing new tables, chairs and couches that are chosen with the needs of seniors in mind, this space will allow more people to gather comfortably and promote interaction. Any additional funds that may be necessary for this furniture can be provided from the Joslyn Trust.

The EVCC is located in a part of Escondido which has been especially hard hit by the recession. The EVCC partners with Escondido Police Athletic League's (PAL) Basketball League to provide affordable sports programs and safety awareness to children in Escondido. In addition to the PAL League, the EVCC also hosts games for Classical Academy High School Basketball and Volleyball, Escondido Adventist Academy athletic clubs, Edge Volleyball Club, Club Net, Rough Riders Youth Basketball, St Joseph's Academy athletic clubs as these schools do not have full sized gyms of their own. The City of Escondido recently had the floors in the main gym at the EVCC resurfaced, substantially improving players' experience and the community pride in the gym. The scoreboards however are older and no longer meet the needs of the players. New scoreboards will be an asset to the PAL Basketball League, the EVCC and the high schools that play in the gym. Any additional funds that may be necessary for the scoreboards can be provided from the Recreation Fund.

CONCLUSIONS:

Staff recommends pursuing the CECO grant opportunity to offset capital expenses which would add long term value to the Park Avenue Community Center and East Valley Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Shipley

Interim Assistant Director of Community Services