

# CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS MEETING AGENDA ITEM

NUMBER: 20.

**SUBJECT:**

Approve Professional Services Agreement with Growing Gears, Inc. in the Amount of \$525,000 Funded by FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant Funds for the Installation of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education Center; Authorize an Advance of Up to \$350,000 in General Funds for the Initial Startup Costs of the STEM Education Center to be Reimbursed by the Community Development Block Grant Funds; and Authorize the City Manager or His Designee to Execute the Grant Award Documents and Enter into Agreements for Local Administration of Funding. (Citywide) (For Possible Action)

**REQUESTED BY:**

Marc Jordan, Director, Land Development and Community Services

**WARD:**

Citywide

**RECOMMENDATION OR RECOMMEND MOTION:**

Approve agreement with Growing Gears, Inc. for the installation of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education center funded by FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$525,000; Authorize an advance of up to \$350,000 in General Fund dollars for the initial startup costs of the STEM education center to be reimbursed by the CDBG grant funds; Authorize the City Manager or their designee to execute the grant award documents and enter into agreements for local administration of funding.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

AMOUNT: \$525,000

**EXPLANATION:**

FY 2020/2021 CDBG funding for agreement with Growing Gears, Inc. for the installation of a STEM Education Center

**ACCOUNT NUMBER:**

CDBG: 00230-210620-430632

**STAFF COMMENTS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of North Las Vegas' Housing and Neighborhood Services (HNS) Division, through the development of its recent 5-year FY 2020/2024 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan, has made economic development one of its top priorities. In July 2020, when the Downtown Public Library Renovation project was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, it was determined that development and implementation of a STEM Education Center within the Choice Neighborhood would be one of the appropriate uses of FY 2020/2021 CDBG funds that were originally designated for the Library.

A 30-day public notice was posted on January 15, 2021 that advertised \$800,000 of CDBG funds that were being re-allocated from the Downtown Library for development of a STEM Education Center. During that period, a second notice was published indicating the City was requesting that any entity wishing to submit a proposal/plan to develop a STEM Education Center was invited to submit such a plan to the City of North Las Vegas. The only entity to do so was Growing Gears, Inc., who submitted a proposal for the STEM Education

CIP No.	Related Item:	
LIST CITY COUNCIL GOAL(S): Well - Planned Quality Growth; Economic Development; Safe and Livable Community; Responsible Fiscal Management		
PREPARED BY:	Respectfully Submitted	MEETING DATE: 3/3/2021
Marc Jordan Land Development and Community Services Director	Ryann Juden City Manager	

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Center. Growing Gears, Inc. is a local company that designs and installs high-tech learning labs using advanced technologies and innovative solutions relevant to modernizations in the workplace. They also provide scientific and technology integration services for the development of a highly-skilled, industry-grade workforce. They also develop advanced training programs for technical institutions, colleges, universities, companies, organizations, and government agencies that are looking to reduce the skills gap that exists between workplace innovations and the workforce.

The Nevada Partners will be the location for the proposed STEM Education Center also known as the STEM Center of Excellence. A separate contract with Nevada Partners will be developed in the near future to implement and operate the program. Growing Gears' plan also includes working hand-in-hand with Nevada Partners, Inc. to install equipment necessary equipment and assist in the operation, training, and implementation required to set up and operate the program. Growing Gears' budget for this work is \$525,000. The remaining \$275,000 of the \$800,000 CDBG reallocation will be used by Nevada Partners for operation of the program once developed.

Attachment:  
Professional Services Agreement for  
STEM Center of Excellence