



Legislation Text

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Contract for Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center (B)

This is a request to authorize staff to negotiate a contract with the top ranked agency for the annual operation of the Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center.

Over the past five years the Cultural Arts Coalition (CAC) Inc has had a contract with the City of Gainesville to manage and coordinate the Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center (WJRC), a city owned facility. This current contract will expire on September 30, 2006.

The City recently requested Proposals for the management, operations and programming of the center. Two proposals were received, one from the CAC to continue their existing program and one from the City of Gainesville Fire Department (GFR) for a Fire Museum and safety & educational services.

The initial term of the contract is for two years with an option by the City to negotiate and extend the contract for two additional one year periods.

A community panel of three reviewed the proposals and ranked CAC number one and the GFR number two. Staff is requesting authorization to begin negotiations with the CAC to finalize a contract for the management and operation of the WJRC.

If staff and the CAC are unable to come to a mutually acceptable agreement, then staff is requesting authorization to work with the City of Gainesville Fire Department to establish a fire museum and safety & educational services.

The City has budgeted \$50,000 in FY2007 and FY2008 for this Contract. CAC, Inc. has proposed a program that will utilize the entire \$50,000 budget each year while GFR has proposed a program that would utilize \$47,000 each year of the budgeted amount.

Recommended Motion: The City Commission authorize the City Manager or his designee to begin contract negotiations with the Cultural Arts Coalition, Inc, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Alternative Recommendation A: The City Commission reject the proposal by the Cultural Arts Coalition, Inc. and direct staff to work with the City of Gainesville Fire Department to establish a Fire Museum and safety & educational services.

Alternative Recommendation B: The City Commission reject both proposals and direct staff to solicit additional proposals for the annual management and operation of the Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center.