November 18, 2014

County Contribution to the Operating Expenses of the New Oro Valley Children’s Museum

Background

The Board of Supervisors has a longstanding funding relationship with the Tucson Children’s Museum (TCM). We provide a small amount of operating funds to achieve the mission of the TCM to enhance the lives, education and safety of our community’s children.

The TCM has historically been located at the historic Carnegie Library in downtown Tucson. Given the popularity and expansion of TCM activities, the Museum has considered expanding its operations into the geographic area of metropolitan Pima County. They have chosen to expand and lease space within the Town of Oro Valley and are scheduled to begin operations in the first calendar quarter of 2015, which is the last half of Fiscal Year 2014/15.

The County has provided operating support to the TCM through an outside agency grant of $37,140 per year. Given the expansion of the Museum and the location in Oro Valley that is easily accessible to families in the Catalina Foothills, I recommend the Board of Supervisors consider increasing the operating transfer of public funding support to the Children’s Museum from $37,140 a year to $49,640. This annual increase of $12,500 is appropriate and recommended. Given the TCM in Oro Valley will not begin operating until the last half of the current fiscal year, the funding to be allotted, should the Board of Supervisors approve such, would be $6,250.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors allocate from the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Contingency Fund the amount of $6,250 to support the operating expenses of the Children’s Museum in Oro Valley and to request the Outside Agency Review Committee annualize this expense at $12,500 in Fiscal Year 2015/16.

Respectfully submitted,

C.H. Huckleberry
County Administrator

CHH/anc – November 5, 2014

c: Greg Caton, Town Manager, Town of Oro Valley
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