



STAFF REPORT

TO: City Council and City Manager
FROM: Recreation Division Manager
FOR MEETING: Jan 09 2024

SUBJECT: Creation of a Twentynine Palms Youth Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Council approve the creation of a Twentynine Palms Youth Council.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE:

Request Staff Report (Recreation Division Manager Presenting)
Council Questions of Staff
Council Discussion
Motion/Second
Discussion of Motion
Call the Question (Roll Call Vote)

ATTACHMENTS:

- [Youth Council 2](#)

BACKGROUND:

The public and youth of the community have expressed interest in the creation of a Youth Council which will enable youth within the community to be able to take part in community engagement and involvement. This topic was brought up during the public comments at previous City Council meetings with City Council asking Staff to look into the process for creation of such a program. Staff has put together a power point presentation describing the benefits of such a program as well as outlining the steps of the Youth Council formation process.

ENVIRONMENTAL:

None.

ALTERNATIVES:

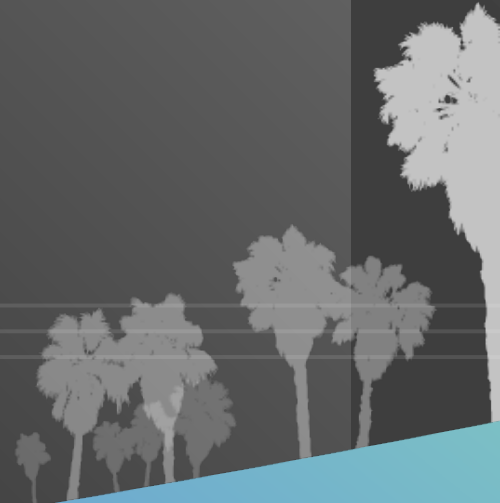
City Council can choose not to form the program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City Council will need to establish a budget for the program to include appointing a City Staff member as the program manager.

CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS

Youth Council



WHAT IS A YOUTH COUNCIL?

- An advisory body of local youth (typically comprised of middle and high school aged students) that provide input and ideas to the local governing body regarding events, community service projects, programs and youth-identified community initiatives.



WHY CREATE A YOUTH COUNCIL?

City Council directed staff to implement a plan for formation.

- Youth need to be vested with knowledge and skills to be the next generation of local leaders.
- Involvement with and promotion of regular and active civic and community engagement.
- Exposure to social involvement and participation.
- Having a formal role in decision making.
- Real world experiences with elected bodies.
- Exposure to political processes.
- Development of leadership skills.
- Increased communication skills with adults and peers.
- Exposure to volunteerism.



WHO BENEFITS FROM A YOUTH COUNCIL?

ALL OF US!

- Youth voices will be heard in local government while gaining the value of public service.
- Service will be beneficial for college and scholarship applications.
- The community will benefit as a whole as important youth issues can be discussed and addressed.
- Youth can increase behavior, confidence, societal skills and experience a sense of purpose.
- Participation can expose youth to new skills and service in leadership roles.
- The benefits are endless.



GOALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

What's next?

- Adopt a resolution that establishes a Youth Council.
- Seek advice from the City Attorney.
- Appoint a City staff member as the Youth Council Advisor.
- Membership composition. How many members will be selected to serve on the Youth Council?
- Establishment of length of member terms.
- Determine responsibilities of members.
- Age determination of members.
- Determine criteria for members.
- Determine who will serve on the Youth Council Member Selection Committee.
- Creation of an application for potential Youth Council members.
- Create a budget.
- Recruitment and interviews.
- Suggest a workshop be held with youth in the near future to discuss these items.

