



City of Greensboro

Melvin Municipal
Office Building
300 W. Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

Agenda Report

File Number: 2023-90

Agenda Item# J. 1.

Agenda Date: 2/21/2023. **Department:** Parks & Recreation

Meeting Type: Council Meeting **Category:** General Business Agenda

Title: 2023-90 Resolution Authorizing \$20 Million Contract Agreement with the Greensboro Science Center of Greensboro, Inc. for the Expansion of Battleground Parks District Phase II and Other Facility Improvements

Council Priority: Place an 'x' in the box.

- Create an Environment to Promote Economic Development Opportunities and Job Creation
- Maintain Infrastructure and Provide Sustainable Growth Opportunities
- Promote Public Safety & Reduce Crime
- Exceptional Customer Service and a Diverse City Government Workforce
- Ensure Fiscal Stewardship, Transparency, & Accountability

Council District: 3

Public Hearing: No

Advertising Date/By: NA

Contact 1 and Phone: Phil Fleischmann, 433-7360

Contact 2 and Phone: Shawna Tillery, 373-7808

PURPOSE:

To approve the agreement for \$20 Million to the Natural Science Center of Greensboro, Inc. (also known as Greensboro Science Center) for the continued development of Battleground Parks District including Greensboro Science Center facility improvements.

BACKGROUND:

On July 26, 2022 city voters approved a Parks and Recreation bond referendum in the amount of \$70,000,000 with \$20,000,000 being allocated for the continued development of the Battleground Parks District (BPD).

The funding will be directed toward The Gateway Project is an innovative 10- year strategic vision. The 2022 bond will be used to launch Phase 1 of the Gateway Project, including a rainforest biodome with a sea creature care, conservation, rescue, rehabilitation and

reintroduction center. Phase 1 of the Gateway Project is estimated to increase visitation to over 750,000 guests per year and generate over \$100M in recurring annual economic impact.

The City will contribute funding from the 2022 General Obligation Bond allocation towards the initial design and development of the project. The remaining General Obligation Bond allocation for construction will be issued in 2025. These contributions by the City may be matched by other funds raised by or contributed to the Greensboro Science Center.

The City has an existing lease with the Greensboro Science Center and the new development will be incorporated in the lease revision for the future.

As a condition of the agreement the Greensboro Science Center and its contractors, will comply with all applicable provisions of Section 2-1 17 of the Greensboro City Code of Ordinances (the Minority and Women Business Enterprises Ordinance), and the City's Minority and Women Business Enterprise Plan for Construction, Procurement and Professional Services. The City will reimburse the Science Center for approved expenses. The Science Center will also be required to report audit information and program reports.

BUDGET IMPACT:

\$7 million will be available in 2023 following the approval of the agreement. \$13 million will be available in 2025.

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

493-50-5099230

RECOMMENDATION / ACTION REQUESTED:

It is recommended that City Council approve the attached resolution authorizing this agreement for the allocation of \$20 million of voter approved bonds to the Natural Science Center of Greensboro, Inc.