

STAFF REPORT

Date: September 19, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of a donation from the High Fives Foundation to support City of Reno adaptive programs in the amount of \$25,000.

From: April Wolfe, Therapeutic Rec Specialist

Department: Parks and Recreation

Summary:

The City of Reno and the High Fives Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization serving disabled veterans and persons with disabilities, partner to host Military to the Mountains, a ten-week adaptive skiing and snowboarding program, and sled hockey. As part of this partnership, the City assists in training Reno-based athletes with disabilities. The High Fives Foundation has donated the sum of \$25,000 to Parks and Recreation for the Military to the Mountains 2025 program partnership (\$20,000) and the sled hockey program (\$5,000). Staff recommends Council accept the \$25,000 donation.

Consent Review	Yes	No
1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval?	X	
2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council?		X
3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council?	X	
Other Considerations		
What percent of the total City budget does this item represent?	0%	

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Fiscal Sustainability

Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Previous Council Action:

April 24, 2024 – Council approved a donation from the High Fives Foundation in the amount of \$21,000 for the 2024 Military to the Mountain and the sled hockey program.

Discussion:

Growing on the success of the City of Reno's Fit but not Forgotten veteran fitness program, the City of Reno, in partnership with the High Fives Foundation, provides an expanded ten-week fitness program preparing a group of Fit but not Forgotten graduates for a week of adaptive skiing and snowboarding at Palisades Tahoe through the Military to the Mountains Program. This intense, sport-specific training requires qualified veterans to participate in two one-hour individual workouts, and one one-hour group workout per week for the duration of the program. As part of this partnership, the City assists in training veterans so they are physically ready for a week of adaptive skiing and snowboarding. During the week on the mountain, this program brings together a similar group of veterans training with the Adaptive Training Foundation in Dallas, Texas. All adaptive skiing and snowboarding instruction are conducted by certified instructors. At the conclusion of the week, a graduation for all participating veterans marks their hard work and success. Due to the success of the City of Reno's Military to the Mountains program partnership, the High Fives Foundation has donated \$20,000 toward the 2025 program.

In 2021, in partnership with the High Fives Foundation, the City of Reno launched a sled hockey program at Reno Ice. Sled hockey was invented at a Stockholm, Sweden, rehabilitation center in the early 1960s by a group of Swedes who, despite their physical disabilities, wanted to continue playing hockey. Sled hockey follows most of the typical ice hockey rules with the exception of the adaptive equipment. Sled hockey provides an opportunity for persons with and without disabilities to play together for recreation and competition all the way to the National Sled Team. Each year, USA Hockey hosts the Sled National Championships. To assist with the team's travel to Coral Springs, Florida, in May 2025, the High Fives Foundation has donated \$5,000 toward the program.

Financial Implications:

The funds will be restricted for the purpose for which they were donated.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council accept the donation.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments: