City of Kansas City, Missouri

Docket Memo

Ordinance/Resolution#: 260617
Submitted Department/Preparer: City Manager's Office
Revised 01/30/25

Docket memos are required on all ordinances initiated by a Department Director. More information can be found in Administrative Regulation (AR) 4-1.

Executive Summary

Directing the City Manager to collaborate with area school districts, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, philanthropic partners, and private sector employers to evaluate the feasibility of reestablishing the Exchange City educational program for Kansas City-area students and to report recommendations to the City Council.

Discussion

From 1980 through the mid-2010s, Exchange City served tens of thousands of Kansas City-area fifth-grade students through an immersive educational experience designed to teach municipal government, economics, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and civic responsibility. Exchange City provided students with the opportunity to operate a simulated city by serving as elected officials, judges, police officers, bankers, business owners, factory workers, journalists, broadcasters, and other community leaders while learning firsthand how local government and the private sector work together. Participating students learned practical life skills including budgeting, banking, writing checks, paying taxes, managing loans, interviewing for jobs, operating businesses, and understanding the responsibilities of citizenship through hands-on, experiential learning. Exchange City became one of the Kansas City region's most beloved educational traditions, welcoming students from throughout the metropolitan area and inspiring generations of young people to better understand the importance of public service, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement. The program concluded in the mid-2010s following the expiration of its facility lease and declining philanthropic and educational funding during and after the Great Recession, rather than because of diminished educational value or community support. Recent public interest and widespread community nostalgia demonstrate that Exchange City remains a meaningful part of Kansas City's educational legacy, with many former participants crediting the program for fostering leadership, career interests, financial responsibility, and civic awareness. Restoring a

modern version of Exchange City would provide students with valuable exposure to municipal government, workforce development, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and the broad range of careers available in both the public and private sectors while strengthening partnerships among local governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and the business community. Kansas City has long demonstrated a commitment to preparing young people for future success through innovative educational partnerships and civic engagement initiatives. The City Council wishes to revitalize the Exchange City program to inspire future generations of civic leaders, entrepreneurs, first responders, public servants, and business professionals while strengthening financial literacy, workforce readiness, and civic education throughout the Kansas City region.

Fiscal Impact

1. Is this legislation included in the adopted budget? ☐ Yes ☒ No

2. What is the funding source?
   undetermined

3. How does the legislation affect the current fiscal year?
   To be determined

4. Does the legislation have a fiscal impact in future fiscal years? Please notate the difference between one-time and recurring costs.
   To be determined

5. Does the legislation generate revenue, leverage outside funding, or deliver a return on investment?
   No

Office of Management and Budget Review
(OMB Staff will complete this section.)

1. This legislation is supported by the general fund. ☐ Yes ☒ No

2. This fund has a structural imbalance. ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Account string has been verified/confirmed. ☐ Yes ☒ No

Additional Discussion (if needed)
This legislation does not appropriate funds

Citywide Business Plan (CWBP) Impact

1. View the Adopted 2025-2029 Citywide Business Plan

2. Which CWBP goal is most impacted by this legislation?
   Inclusive Growth and Development (Press tab after selecting.)

3. Which objectives are impacted by this legislation (select all that apply):

   ☒ Develop strategies focusing on areas traditionally underserved by economic development and redevelopment efforts.
   ☐ Ensure quality, lasting development throughout the City; and continuing to grow the economy and the population of Kansas City in all areas.
   ☒ Increase and support local workforce development and small and locally owned businesses.
   ☐ Create a more efficient, solutions-oriented environment, making it easier to operate within the City.
   ☐ Implement an economic development and tourism strategy to attract major investment and visitors.
   ☐

Prior Legislation

none

Service Level Impacts

none

Staff Recommendation

Click or tap here to enter department.

Select One: ☐ Sponsored
☒ Directive: Res/Ord # Click to enter Res/Ord. No.

Select One: ☐ Recommend
☐ Do Not Recommend
☒ Not Applicable

Click or tap here to provide reasoning.

Other Impacts

1. What will be the potential health impacts to any affected groups?
   none

2. How have those groups been engaged and involved in the development of this ordinance?
   n/a

3. How does this legislation contribute to a sustainable Kansas City?
   Prepare children for the future

4. Does this legislation create or preserve new housing units?
   No (Press tab after selecting)

   Click or tap here to enter text.
   Click or tap here to enter text.

5. Department staff certifies the submission of any application Affirmative Action Plans or Certificates of Compliance, Contractor Utilization Plans (CUPs), and Letters of Intent to Subcontract (LOIs) to CREO prior to, or simultaneously with, the legislation entry request in Legistar.

   No - CREO's review is not applicable (Press tab after selecting)
   Please provide reasoning why not:
   Click or tap here to enter text.

6. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from an Invitation for Bid?

   No(Press tab after selecting)

   Click or tap here to enter text.

7. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from a Request for Proposal/Qualification (RFP/Q)?
   No(Press tab after selecting)