





COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	May 15, 2023
SUBJECT:	Community Enrichment Fund Digital Stream Funding Partnership (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Cyrus Tehrani Chief Digital Officer and Director of Innovation City Manager's Office
SIGNATURE:	
SUBMITTED BY:	Morgan Stahl Director, Government Relations & Community Engagement City Manager's Office
SIGNATURE:	

A new, two-year pilot program, Digital Equity Stream, was approved for inclusion in the City Enrichment Fund (CEF) by Council in August 2022 via report CM22015/GRA22003. A \$150,000 one-time funding from CEF reserves was approved for the two year-pilot for years 2023 and 2024. The objective of the Digital Equity Stream was to make funding available to organizations, events, and activities that support efforts to achieve digital equity, promote digital inclusion, and spur greater adoption of broadband among underserved populations. Each year, \$75,000 are allotted for disbursement to successful applicants that meet the Digital Equity Stream and City Enrichment Fund criteria.

As part of that work, a mutually beneficial partnership has been formed between R.R. McCann Family Foundation (the "Foundation") and CEF Digital Stream, on behalf of the City of Hamilton. The Foundation has a keen interest in funding digital equity-related initiatives in our community. The City has entered into a partnership Memorandum of Understanding, that will see successful, registered Not-For-Profit Digital Stream grant

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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recipients, receive additional funding from the Foundation to support their programs to complement their City Enrichment Fund grant.

A total of \$100,000 will be disbursed to Digital Stream grant recipients at the discretion of the Foundation over the two-year pilot. Any disbursements from the Foundation to CEF Digital stream grant recipients will have no impact on current grant award funding or the decision for future consideration by the City for any future applications to the City Enrichment Fund, but will be additional funding on top of CEF grant award.

According to current funding recommendations, year one of the Digital Equity stream pilot will see four applicants recommended with a total of \$33,809. Many other community organizations expressed interest in applying for the new stream but did not feel they could not meet the November 2022 grant application deadline. It is anticipated that an increased volume of applications in the 2nd year of the pilot Digital stream will be received as part of the Fall 2023 grant intake cycle.

This partnership represents a model for future potential funding partnerships such as matching City investment dollars that can help further amplify the City Enrichment Fund impacts in our community.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED - None