

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution Appropriating \$60,000 for Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Special Nutrition Program - Summer Food Service Program (2nd reading)
Staff Contact(s):	Rachel Smith, Deputy Director of Recreation, Annie Sechrist, Management Specialist II
Presenter:	Rachel Smith, Deputy Director of Recreation
Date of Proposed Action:	August 18, 2025

Issue

The City of Charlottesville, Virginia ("City"), through its Parks and Recreation Department, has received approval for reimbursement of up to \$60,000 from the Virginia Department of Education Special Nutrition Program to provide free breakfast and lunch to children attending Summer Camp Programs, and dinner for the City's Connect Sites housed at three (3) Community Centers.

Background / Rule

The City's Parks and Recreation Department will operate three (3) Summer Camp Programs and three (3) Connect sites (Site of Promise Site, serving the Westhaven neighborhood, South First Street, and Greenstone) throughout the City. The Camps serve children ages six (6) through twelve (12), for a total of six (6) weeks (June 16, 2025 – July 25, 2025). The Connect Sites serve children ages five (5) through 18 (18) for nine (9) weeks during the Summer, June 16, 2025 – August 15, 2025. Between the Camps and Community Housing Centers, various activities are planned from 7:30am - 7:00pm, Monday through Friday. The Parks and Recreation Camps have around 1,100 enrollees this Summer.

The reimbursement will cover the costs of nutritious meals at these locations, which also have an educational/enrichment component. The Virginia Department of Education Special Nutrition Program provides a free, nutritious breakfast and lunch for these children, and the Community Connect Sites will provide a free, nutritious dinner. Most of the children served receive free or reduced meals during the School Year.

Analysis

Approval of this Agenda item aligns directly with City Council's vision for the City "to be a place where everyone thrives" and it contributes to the Strategic Outcome Area of Partnerships to help "magnify positive community outcomes." Children will receive nutritious breakfast, lunch and/or dinner, hopefully replacing a meal that did not exist or providing a healthier balanced option for them.

Financial Impact

The \$60,000 appropriation covers the cost of the food and administration of the Summer Food Service Program. The breakfast, lunches, and dinners are purchased through the City's School Food Service. The Parks and Recreation Department pays the bills to the City's Food Service and is then reimbursed by the Virginia Department of Education Special Nutrition Programs. This has no impact on the General Fund, as there is no local match required. The funds will be expensed and reimbursed to a Grants Fund.

Recommendation

City Staff recommends City adopt the attached Resolution approving and appropriating funds by City Council.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

"I make a Motion to adopt the attached Resolution appropriating funds for the Virginia Department of Education Special Nutrition Program- Summer Food Service Program in the amount up to \$60,000."

Attachments

1. Resolution Appropriating Funds For VDOE Special Nutrition Program Summer Food Service Program