

A G E N D A R E P O R T

DATE February 17, 2004

ITEM Great Falls City Science and Engineering Fair.

INITIATED BY Ruth Carlstrom, North Middle School

ACTION REQUESTED Co-Sponsor Science Fair on February 21, 2004

PRESENTED BY Carolyn Horst-Broquist, Deputy City Clerk

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RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City co-sponsor the Great Falls All City Science and Engineering Fair on February 21, 2004, by contributing up to \$500 for the use of the Convention Center from the General Fund.

MOTION: I move the City Commission that the City co-sponsor the Great Falls All City Science and Engineering Fair on February 21, 2004, by contributing up to \$500 for the use of the Convention Center from the General Fund.

SYNOPSIS: In a letter from Ruth Carlstrom, the Great Falls City Science and Engineering Fair is scheduled to be held in the Civic Center on February 24, 2004. This event brings approximately 1500 people into the Civic Center every year from all the schools in Great Falls. This includes 300 students with projects, 200 judges and fair organizers, 900 or more parents and family members, and the media with TV and Newspaper coverage.

This is completely a non-profit event organized to encourage all students to participate in and learn about Science Research. Many Great Falls businesses make this fair possible by providing money for student prizes, food for the judges, personal to judge the fair and mentors to guide the students. The following local business, Organizations and Government Agencies throughout the Great Falls Community are among those that support the City Science Fair with donations to buy the awards for participants and to run the fair:

- Pacific Steel \$500
- Walman Optical \$1,000
- Benefis Health Care
- Great Falls Clinic
- Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens PC
- Lewis and Clark Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- The Great Falls Public Schools

To support the goal to encourage more science and engineering Great Falls Public School's request that the City of Great Falls again partner with the Great Falls Public Schools, organizers of the Great Falls Science and Engineering Fair, and the local entities who sponsor prizes by

donating \$500 to help the cost of the Civic Center facilities. Rental Charges would be \$837.

The request was for the amount of \$837. However, due to the number of requests similar to this each year, Staff recommends the Commission pay for half of the Convention Center rental fee or \$500 as a continued demonstration of support for the Great Falls City Science and Engineering Fair project.