



AGENDA SUMMARY EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Facility Improvement Loan Guarantee Program

DEPARTMENT: Finance

PREPARED BY: Lane Millar

PRESENTED FOR: Action Information only Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

1. Authorize Little Saplings Preschool to apply for the Facility Improvement Loan Guarantee Program.
2. Approved an additional appropriation of \$10,000 to the Community Services FY2023-24 budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

No Fiscal Impact Included in Budget Additional Appropriation

BACKGROUND

- In the spring of 2022, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors voted to allocate \$4.86 million of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funding to support our child care industry.
- The [Facility Improvement Loan Guarantee Program](#) is part of the Humboldt Child Care Stabilization Fund, a program of AEDC.
- Little Saplings Preschool, part of the Community Services Youth Division, and licensed by California's Community Care Licensing Division, is located at 1653 J Street in the John Ryan Youth Center. The preschool serves 24 children aged 2.5 to 6.

DISCUSSION

Program Information:

The Facility Improvement Loan Guarantee Program aims to support childcare providers in enhancing the efficiency, safety, and learning environment of their facilities. The program offers SBA loans up to \$10,000, which will be repaid using ARPA funds upon the completion of approved projects.

Project Description:

Little Saplings Preschool, a play-based and nature-inspired facility, serves families of City of Eureka and Humboldt Bay Fire employees, as well as the broader Eureka community and surrounding areas. We are planning a significant upgrade to our natural play yard to enhance the learning and play experiences for our children. Our new additions will include two large wooden climbing arches for developing large motor skills and upper body strength, as well as encouraging adventurous play. We will also install two in-ground wood and clear-panel root gardens and worm farms to introduce elements of science. To foster outdoor creativity, two large in-ground wooden art easels with clear panels will be added. Our existing upcycled mud pie kitchen will be replaced with a new three-piece unit that includes a picnic table. Additionally, we will purchase the necessary bark and border materials to ensure a safe falling surface. These enhancements aim to provide a holistic development opportunity for the children we serve, emphasizing the crucial role of play at this stage of life.

Estimated Budget = \$9,803

Attachments:

- *AEDC Loan Application Child Care.pdf*

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

- City Attorney
- City Clerk/Information Technology
Community Services
- Development Services
Finance
- Fire

- Human Resources
- Police
- Public Works