

Attachment A

RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 4

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING FROM THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION WHALE TAIL GRANTS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE FOSTERING INTEREST IN NATURE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the California Coastal Commission ("Commission") is a state regulatory and planning agency that operates under the 1976 Coastal Act to manage the conservation and development of coastal resources in California;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission approved the coastal development of the Lido House Hotel on the Balboa Peninsula in 2015 and required in-lieu mitigation fees from the project ("Funds") to support an outdoor educational program with overnight accommodations and recreational opportunities for youth from Title I schools, as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Newport Beach ("City"), through its Recreation and Senior Services Department, created Fostering interest in Nature ("FiiN"), an educational camp program in the vicinity of the Upper Newport Bay for fifth grade students from Title I schools in Orange County;

**WHEREAS**, the City and the Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in 2016, authorizing the City to use the Funds in their entirety to administer the FiiN program;

**WHEREAS**, the City hosted its inaugural season of FiiN in 2019 and through partnerships with Newport Bay Conservancy and the Newport Dunes, has hosted over 2,000 students to date;

**WHEREAS**, the on-going need to expand program activities and opportunities to accommodate more students requires additional funding to enhance the program and the overall experience for each student;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission, through its Whale Tail Grants program, provides grant funding to nonprofit organizations and qualifying public agencies of up to \$50,000 per applicant for projects that connect people to the California Coast and its watersheds through education, stewardship, and outdoor experiences;

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to apply for the Whale Tail Grants program funding to further support efforts to enhance the City's FiiN program;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Newport Beach resolves as follows:

**Section 1:** The City Council does hereby authorize the Director of Recreation and Senior Services, or designee, to apply for funding in an amount up to \$50,000 from the Whale Tail Grants program and to execute all necessary contract and/or grant documents and take any other necessary actions to secure such grant funds. If awarded, the grant funds will be used by the City to fund the Fostering interest in Nature program.

**Section 2:** The recitals provided in this resolution are true and correct and are incorporated into the operative part of this resolution.

**Section 3:** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is, for any reason, held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this resolution. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this resolution, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**Section 4:** The City Council finds the adoption of this resolution is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

**Section 5:** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting the resolution.

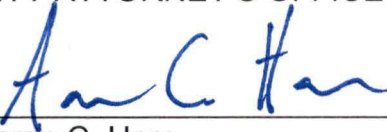
**ADOPTED** this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lauren Kleiman  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lena Shumway  
City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**  
CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Aaron C. Harp  
City Attorney