

**YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2, 2026 REGULAR MEETING**

ITEM 5.7

ITEM: **ESTABLISH A SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE
BEARY BRAVE SERVICE PROJECT**

RECOMMENDATION: **Youth Advisory Commission Consider
Establishing a Subcommittee for the 2026-
2027 Beary Brave Service Project**

SUMMARY:

In fall 2024, the Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) launched the Beary Brave Service Project to provide comfort to youth experiencing traumatic or difficult situations. Through the project, stuffed bears wearing customized Lathrop Police Department badge shirts are purchased and donated to the Lathrop Police Department for officers to distribute to youth during emergency responses. The YAC seeks community sponsorships of \$15 per bear to support the purchase of enough bears for officers to carry in their patrol vehicles.

BACKGROUND:

Previous years YAC purchased bears to provide comfort to youth experiencing traumatic or difficult situations. The YAC hosts informational booths at community events such as Family Fun Night, Touch-a-Truck, and the Christmas Parade seeking sponsorships from community members. The sponsored bears are purchased by community members at these events and then provided to the Lathrop Police Department.

The YAC seeks to establish a subcommittee in order to continue to provide the Beary Brave Service Project providing support to youth and the Lathrop Police Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends YAC appoint a subcommittee that will be responsible for keeping track of inventory, hosting informational booths at community events, seeking sponsorships, providing bears to the Lathrop Police Department, and recommending a budget for future orders.

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There is no fiscal impact associated with establishing the Beary Brave Service Project Subcommittee at this time. The YAC maintains a designated account for program related funds. Should the Subcommittee identify future expenses associated with the Beary Brave Service Project, those expenses will be presented to the YAC for consideration and approval through a separate action item.

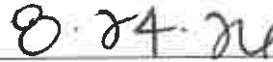
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APPROVALS:



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Recreation Supervisor



Date



Melissa Stathakopoulos
Parks and Recreation Manager



Date



Todd Sebastian
Parks and Recreation Director



Date



Salvador Navarrete
City Attorney



Date