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ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: SPCSA Board
FROM: Rebecca Feiden, Executive Director
Mike Dang, Manager, Financial and Organizational Performance
SUBJECT: Sage Collegiate Request for Amendment to locate partially in the 89102 zip code
DATE: October 1, 2021

Summary of Request and Recommendation

On September 20, 2021 the Governing Board of Sage Collegiate Public Charter School approved its leadership submitting a Request for Amendment, with a Good Cause Exemption, to the State Public Charter School Authority to seek approval for the school to locate partially within the 89102 zip code. The request indicates that the school has identified a likely long-term facility that is split between the 89107 and 89102 zip codes.

SPCSA staff have reviewed application requests and recommend that the Authority grant this Good Cause Exemption request and approve the amendment request as presented.

Background

Sage Collegiate was approved by the SPCSA Board at the November 6, 2020 Board meeting to open in the fall of 2021. At the time of application, the school planned to locate in the 89107, 89108 or 89146 zip codes. Since that action by the Authority, Sage Collegiate has worked to identify a viable facility for the school.

At a board meeting on May 20, the Sage Collegiate board approved an agreement for the school to locate at the Lied Memorial Boys and Girls Club at 2850 S. Lindell Road for the 2021 – 22 year only. According to the leadership team of Sage Collegiate, the delay in finalizing a facility

for the opening year of operations had a significant impact on the school's ability to recruit and enroll students and families. Ultimately, low enrollment levels raised financial and viability concerns for the school. These concerns resulted in the governing body of Sage Collegiate formally requesting to defer the school's opening to the 2022 – 23 school year. On June 25, 2021, the Authority approved the Sage Collegiate request, allowing the school to defer opening to the 2022 – 23 school year under the conditions that the school provide SPCSA staff with monthly written updates regarding progress toward a final facility and that the school provide evidence that a real estate closing has occurred or that the school has entered into a lease agreement on or before January 1, 2022.

The Sage Collegiate monthly written report provided to staff in August of 2021 included two important updates. First, after engaging with several prospective facilities partners, the board entered into a partnership with Red Hook Capital Partners who has been working to identify potential facilities within the intended zip codes. Second, that a possible long-term location had been identified which is partially located within the 89107 zip code in which the school is already approved to locate, and partially located in the adjacent 89102 zip code.

On the primary parcel of the proposed location is an existing, former Elks Lodge building. It is situated at 4100 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89102. The second, abutting, land-locked and also Elks Lodge parcel is located in 89107 and would be used for a planned second building and playground.

Subsequently, Sage Collegiate submitted a request to amend their charter contract, specifically requesting permission to locate partially in the 89102 zip code. The request reaffirms the school's commitment to recruit from and prioritize outreach to families and students in the originally intended zip codes of 89107, 89108, and 89146.

Applicant Eligibility

When reviewing a Request for Amendment, the SPCSA reviews the academic, financial and organizational performance of the applicant charter school. Since Sage Collegiate has yet to open, SPCSA staff finds that the school is meeting pre-opening expectations, is compliant and fiscally sound.

Summary and Recommendation

Overall, SPCSA staff find the proposal to locate in a facility partially in 89102 and partially in 89107 reasonable. The proposed location sits in close proximity to the three zip codes that were originally identified as the intended community to be served and thus is not expected to significantly impact the schools plans for recruitment and enrollment.

For these reasons, SPCSA staff recommends that the Authority grant the Good Cause Exemption request and approve the Sage Collegiate request, with the expectation that the school fulfill the current conditions from the deferral granted on June 25, 2021.

Proposed Motion

Grant Sage Collegiate a Good Cause Exemption and approve the Sage Collegiate request to locate partially in the 89102 zip code, subject to conditions described herein.

The previously approved enrollment caps for Sage Collegiate are as follows:

School Year	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Total Enrollment Cap	168	224	280	336	400	460
Grade Levels	K – 2	K – 3	K – 4	K – 5	K – 6	K – 7