



City of Winston-Salem City Council Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Report from the Film Partnership of North Carolina on Use of City Grant Funds to Support Intern Program
City Council Committee	Finance Committee
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Ben Rowe, Assistant City Manager
Department Head	
City Manager/ACM	W. Patrick Pate, City Manager

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action No Action Needed
Suggested Motion Options N/A

Strategic Focus Area Economic Prosperity
Strategic Plan Objective EP2: Improving Economic Mobility and Reducing Poverty
Anticipated Fiscal Impact Fiscal Impact Anticipated: See Analysis in Summary

Summary of Information

In September 2022, the City Council authorized a grant of \$100,000 to the Film Partnership of North Carolina (FPNC) to administer a new and specific training program for the film/television production workforce in Winston-Salem and the region. The FPNC's plan was to use the City's funds to provide on-the-job training for interns for an average of five weeks, with a focus on historically underserved communities. Under their agreement with the City, they had three years to spend the funds and provide a report to the City on the outcomes achieved. Funding for the City's grant was provided from economic development project fund reserves.

FPNC leadership recently provided City management with a report on the use of the \$100,000 grant. Please see the attached narrative report and infographic, which highlight the number of interns placed, productions supported, direct spend, and local partners.

Recent productions, including *A Little Prayer* and *The Bard*, hired most of the interns funded through the City's assistance. A third feature film production—*Widow*—is scheduled to begin filming this October. FPNC officials anticipate this production will employ another 25 interns from Forsyth County.

FPNC officials have requested an additional \$100,000 for FY 2025-2026 to continue the intern program and local training efforts. In addition, they would like for City officials to consider continued funding in the FY 2026-2027 budget cycle.

Analysis of Fiscal Impact

The Film Partnership of North Carolina has requested an additional \$100,000 in City grant funds to continue the intern program and serve the needs for upcoming productions in Winston-Salem and the Triad.

Attachments

- Exhibit A - Report and Infographic from the Film Partnership of North Carolina