

Resolution #22-0047
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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A 10-MONTH EXTENSION FOR THE DRIVER RESTORATION INITIATIVE AND VOCATIONAL EXPANSION (DRIVE) PROGRAM IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, in February 2020, the Mayor and City Council allocated \$275,000 in funding to support the expansion of the Forsyth County Driver Restoration Initiative and Vocational Expansion (DRIVE) Program; and

WHEREAS, the money allocated from the City of Winston-Salem supports operating expenses, a Legal Assistant, Assistant District Attorney (ADA) in the District Attorney's office, and an Administrative Clerk in the Clerk of Court Office; and

WHEREAS, the initial 18-month contract period for the DRIVE Program, finalized and executed in August of 2020, will end on January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office is requesting an additional contract term extension of 10-months for the non-utilization of funds appropriated for the (3) salaries and operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, Job posting requirements, interviewing processes, effects from courthouse closures during the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the program; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the above adversities, the DRIVE program is still thriving, waiving fees totaling \$83,683 on 587 criminal charges, thereby providing relief to 124 Forsyth County residents, and the program receives an average of 10 applications per day; and

WHEREAS, The DRIVE Program fund has \$154,025.78 remaining of the initial \$275,000 contribution by the City of Winston-Salem.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem authorize the City to take such steps as necessary to authorize an additional ten-month contract period for the DRIVE Program of Forsyth County.