

Resolution #22-0629
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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A 18-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 funds 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 10-month contract extension period for the DRIVE program, finalized and executed in January of 2022, will end on November 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office is requesting an additional contract term extension of 18 months beginning December 1, 2022, for the non-utilization of funds appropriated for the three (3) salaries and operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's office is requesting to change the Assistant District Attorney position to DRIVE Director to increase the possibility of hiring and retaining a crucial leadership position within the program; and

WHEREAS, despite challenges due to the inability to remain fully staffed, the DRIVE program is still thriving, waiving fees totaling \$99,427 on 868 criminal charges, thereby providing relief to 203 Forsyth County residents, and the program receives an average of 10 applications per day; and

WHEREAS, The DRIVE program will exhaust the \$154,025.78 allocation by the City of Winston-Salem in November 30, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby authorize the City to take such steps as necessary to authorize an additional 18-month contract period in an amount up to \$300,000 for the DRIVE program of Forsyth County.