



**City of Missoula, Montana**  
**Item to be Referred to City Council Committee**

**Committee:** Administration and Finance

**Item:** NIH Grant Agreement - CSKT

**Date:** January 24, 2022

**Sponsor(s):** Karen Gasvoda

**Prepared by:** Rikki Henderson

**Ward(s) Affected:**

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- All Wards
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- N/A

**Action Required:**

Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes for the National Institutes of Health grant project The Link: A Collective, Place-Based Approach to Inspiring Missoula’s Next-Generation Healthcare Work Force.

**Recommended Motion(s):**

I move the City Council: approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes for their work on the National Institutes of Health-funded grant project titled The Link.

**Timeline:**

Referral to committee:	February 7, 2022
Committee discussion:	February 9, 2022
Council action (or sets hearing):	February 14, 2022
Public Hearing (if required):	N/A
Deadline:	February 14, 2022

**Background and Alternatives Explored:**

The City of Missoula in 2019 was the first city in the nation to receive a Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institutes of Health. The award funds a project, led by Principle Investigator Holly Truitt (City of Missoula) and Co-Investigator Dr. Rachel Severson (University of Montana), to position The Link, Missoula’s new library-museum complex opening in 2020, as a vibrant Third Place and a hub for health-science learning, healthy living, and STEM role-model engagement. The project aims in particular to reach traditionally underrepresented and underserved groups, including Native Americans, potential first-generation college students, and children from low-income backgrounds.

In 2021 the project was awarded supplemented funds for Mipnunum k’ itki: k’zi#: Digital Health Science Education and Career Pathways using Indigenous Knowledge. This supplemental project will create a digital extension of the Link, creating a tribally co-created 4-week indigenous health science research program for CSKT youth. This agreement formalizes CSKT as a partner in the grant project and defines their scope and subaward.

**Financial Implications:**

This agreement commits National Institutes of Health funds received by the City of Missoula to the CSKT. No City funds are being used for this work and all contracts and scopes of work have been approved by the Principal Investigator on the project and the NIH Grant Principal.

**Links to external websites:**

<https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2646/Community-Development-Partnerships>