



Legislation Text

File #: Res 2020-25, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION APPROVING INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ADAMS COUNTY, COLORADO AND THE CITIES OF ARVADA, BRIGHTON, COMMERCE CITY, FEDERAL HEIGHTS, NORTHGLENN, THORNTON, WESTMINSTER, AND THE TOWN OF BENNETT FOR DISTRIBUTING THE STATE FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THE CENSUS OUTREACH GRANT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO C.R.S. § 24-32-125

Summary and Background Information:

This IGA with the County will provide \$30,000 to the City through the state Census Outreach Grant Program, administered by the Adams County Complete Count Committee. These funds are to be used in the development of Community Hubs. The Community Hub is a space for residents to complete their Census onsite, and are to be located in gathering places for residents in targeted hard-to-count areas. The funds provided by the County can be used for space rental, social media posts and other media ads, interpretation services, professional services, administrative support, and other outreach costs, excluding food and drink.

Obtaining an accurate census count is crucial to the well-being of a community. Under-counting the population can result in a city receiving less in shared tax revenue, state and federal funding, being under-represented in the legislature, and not understanding the make-up and needs of its population. Federal aid, as well as some shared tax revenue, is based in part on the population of a municipality. Under-counting results in the city receiving fewer resources than it needs to adequately provide services to its citizens. Additionally, the Census provides the basis for drawing congressional district boundaries at the state and federal level, as well as the apportionment of representatives; an under-count will deny residents and the city equal representation in the legislature.

Commerce City is at risk for an under-count. Under-counting is prevalent in areas with large numbers of hard-to-count areas, young children, and immigrant populations. A hard-to-count area is any tract which had under a 73% response rate to the 2010 Census. Tract 87.05 - bounded by 64th and 72nd Ave. and Vasquez and Monaco - is designated as a hard-to-count area. Additionally, nearly all tracts in Commerce City are designated as a high risk for undercounting young children. The large immigrant and monolingual Spanish population in Commerce City presents a further risk of an undercount.

The funding available from the County for community outreach is essential to obtaining an accurate count. Developing Community Hubs will aid outreach in areas that will otherwise be under-counted.

Staff Responsible (Department Head): Deputy City Manager Troy Smith

Staff Member Presenting: Deputy City Manager Troy Smith

Financial Impact: N/A

Funding Source: N/A