



## CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Robert Fisher, Acting City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Director

**MEETING DATE:** March 11, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Resolution 2025-33, Approving the Agreement with Riverside County Children and Families Commission Allowing the City of Banning to Provide Swim Lessons Scholarships to Eligible Children Under the Age of Five

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution 2025-33.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Riverside County Children and Families Commission provides services through First Five California to support and optimize early childhood development for children prenatal to the age of five. The funding for these programs and services were established and provided beginning in 1998 through the California Children and Families Act (Proposition 10). One of the First Five California service areas through their mission is to provide programming that emphasizes children's health and drowning prevention programs like Learn to Swim programs are an avenue to deliver this service.

The Riverside County Children and Families Commission would like to partner with the City of Banning Parks and Recreation Department by offering up to 100 scholarships for eligible children 6 months of age through 5 years of age. The term of the agreement would be from April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. In the 2025 aquatic's season, the Banning Parks and Recreation Department would allow eligible registrants to participate in this program within the existing swim lessons program and schedule.

Depending on participation levels, the department may create additional swim lessons sessions in the 2026 aquatic season specifically for this program. There is no added cost to the City by offering these programs and all programs costs will be reimbursed through the funds provided through this agreement.

The scholarship program will provide swim lessons to eligible children ages six months to five years, with priority given to families eligible for public assistance, those who have experienced near drowning, or those at risk for drowning, as well as families served by First 5 Riverside County Funded agency. Lessons will be offered on a first come first served basis to families that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Children served by a First 5 Riverside County funded agency.
- Children who have experienced a near drowning or who are at a greater risk for drowning (ex. child lives near an open body of water)
- Children of families eligible for public assistance including but not limited to:
  - CalWorks
  - CalFresh
  - Medi-Cal
  - WIC

- Quality Start Riverside County CAPP/RHAP
- Other Criteria as approved by First 5 Riverside County that define eligibility

Participating children must be at least six months old to enroll. Priority enrollment will be given to children that are high risk for drowning: those living in a home with access to a pool, have a family member with a pool, infants/toddlers, children who have experienced a near drowning and children involved in the child welfare system.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The agreement with Riverside County Children and Families Commission will provide scholarships to eligible children in the community that might otherwise be unable to participate and without participation in drowning prevention and learn to swim programs could put them at risk for accidental drowning and negative health impacts.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

All programming costs incurred by the City for the swim lessons associated with the agreement will be completely reimbursed by the provided scholarships. There is minimal staff time associated with reporting as the City of Banning will be responsible to provide demographic information and results to the Riverside County Children and Families Commission along with reimbursement requests on both a monthly and quarterly basis.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Do not adopt the resolution and provide alternate direction.

**BUDGETED?:**

Yes

**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT:**

Yes

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Resolution 2025-33, RivCo Swim Lessons.docx](#)
2. [Draft\\_CF25117 Banning Drowning Prevention AATF.pdf](#)