

## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** Community and Library Services Commission Members

**FROM:** Lynne Noone, Senior Community Library Manager – Hercules Library

**SUBJECT:** Hercules Library Storycone Purpose and Usage

**DATE:** Regular Meeting of March 11, 2019

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the purpose of the storycone to be used as an interactive inclusive learning space.

### **FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION:**

The cost of the interactive learning space would be paid for with grants. The library has secured a \$15,000 grant from the Hercules Community Library Foundation to create the first phase of the project. Moving forward, the library will continue to seek additional grant money to expand on the initial installation.

The library is requesting that new carpet squares be installed in the storycone to replace the water damaged carpet that is in the storycone now. These carpet squares are available and are in storage at the library. The city would need to provide labor to remove the damaged squares and install the new squares.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The original intent of the storycone was to hold storytimes in an intimate “transforming” space. In the past several years, the library’s storytimes have outgrown this space and storytimes have been held in the main part of the children’s library to accommodate sometimes 80 participants at each event. Currently, the storycone is used by children and their families to play with blocks and other interactive literacy toys. These toys are old and in need of replacement. The library would like designate a new purpose for the storycone, and create an interactive and inclusive early literacy and play space with a spaceship/space theme that can hold up to rigorous everyday use in a public library setting, and that is engaging to all children no matter their abilities. The library will work with the Burgeon Group, a company that specializes in creating inactive learning spaces and works exclusively with public libraries.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**