

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: January 12, 2004

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECEIPT OF GRANT AWARD

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council 1) recognize and appropriate grant money in the amount of \$37,601 from Child Care Information Service (CCIS) to the Department of Information Services (Library Services Fund), Budget Account 605005, for the purpose of providing education, services and programs for families and day care providers that will enhance early literacy for children under five years of age. And 2) Create a new fund called "First 5 Early Literacy Project", in order to separately account for these grant monies.

BACKGROUND:

The Child Care Information Service (CCIS) has established a five-year "Pasadena Collaborative Literacy Project" to improve the quality of early care through literacy efforts and enhancement of learning opportunities for children under the age of five. The partners in this project include Pacific Oaks College, the Frostig Center, the Center for Community and Family Services, the Center for Quality Child Care and the Department of Information Services (Library). CCIS, applied for this grant from Proposition 10 (tobacco tax) funds earmarked for First Five LA. First Five LA focuses on early literacy, which is the development of reading readiness skills in babies and preschoolers that will lead to success in reading and school later in life. The project anticipates serving over 600 children, 140 families, and 75 childcare providers in Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre during each of the five years.

The Department of Information Services will receive \$37,601 for 2004, and additional undetermined funding for the years 2005 through 2008. As a grant partner, the library will provide 26 literacy lending kits consisting of books, puppets and learning games for families and educators. A series of 5 parenting videos in English and Spanish will also be purchased for each site and made

videos in English and Spanish will also be purchased for each site and made available to check out. The library will provide monthly storytimes to 75 preschool daycare groups at their sites throughout the city. Two ten-hour per week grant-funded storytellers will present the storytimes. The library will also provide quarterly parent education programs to promote literacy and reading to families visiting the libraries.

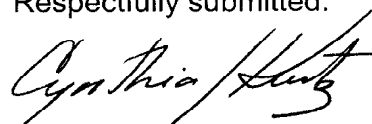
FISCAL IMPACT: Receipt of this grant will increase appropriation in the Department of Information Services by \$37,601 the first year and anticipates a similar amount in each of the following four years of the project duration. Funds will be appropriated in "First 5 Early Literacy Project", organization #605005. The funds will be used for contracting services to provide assistance to staff in implementing the library program. No matching funds are required. In-kind services will include staff oversight of the library program.

Prepared by:



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Respectfully submitted:



Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

Approved by:



Luis Herrera, Director
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