

# Agenda Report

October 27, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Human Services and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT: RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 TO THE HUMAN SERVICES AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER MEAL PROGRAMS**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA guidelines per Section 15061(b)(3);
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a 15 month grant agreement with the National League of Cities in support of CHAMPS (Cities Combating Hunger through Afterschool and Summer Meal Programs), an initiative to promote the development and implementation of afterschool and summer meal programs; and,
3. Recognize revenue and appropriate grant funds to the General Fund (101) in the Human Services and Recreation Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 operating budget (revenue account 7029-101-91511).

## **BACKGROUND:**

Unfortunately too many children go hungry or eat foods high in sugar, both of which are not conducive to learning or healthy development. Neighborhoods such as Northwest Pasadena lack affordable healthy food choices which can lead to poor nutrition and obesity, among other health conditions. Northwest Pasadena is a food desert with just three supermarkets serving approximately 60,000 residents. Moreover, low-income

families struggle with food insecurity and make difficult choices between food and other necessities. Some children do not get a nutritious meal between the time they get home from school and the time they arrive for school the next morning.

To address this issue, Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) provides food service year-round as well as for afterschool and summer enrichment programs. Currently participation is 6,585 meals served daily to approximately 3,850 children in the City of Pasadena. Through a partnership, the Pasadena Public Health Department, PUSD and the Pasadena Human Services and Recreation Department seek to strengthen outreach and increase the number of children served as well as increase the number of sites. To this end, a funding proposal was submitted to the National League of Cities' Cities Combating Hunger through Afterschool and Summer Meal Program (CHAMPS). This program aligns with the City's 2013 Youth Master Plan and the School/City/Community Work Plan, now known as Collaborate PASadena.

On September 18, 2014, the City of Pasadena was selected to receive a CHAMPS grant in the amount of \$50,000. Pasadena was chosen along with 10 other cities. This funding will be used to develop a coordinated system that provides year-round meals to low-income children and youth. The grant is intended to increase participation in existing programs, to improve community awareness and to expand to serve more sites. The funds will support a Graduate Management Intern and associated costs such as supplies. The staff member will assess need and inventory current meal programs. S/he will then identify gaps and reach out to current and possible new sites accordingly to expand/implement a meal program. Specific outcomes of the program include:

- Coordinating and aligning current afterschool and summer meal programs;
- Inventorying resources and communicating them online and print materials in English and Spanish;
- By working with youth, increase awareness by branding this effort which will assist with expansion and reducing the stigma experienced by youth;
- Identifying and leveraging community resources such as businesses and nonprofits to participate in the effort;
- Increasing the number of children served and number of sites participating (by the end of the grant, 7,605 meals served and 4,447 children served), including piloting a supper program; and
- Increasing outreach capacity and student participation in the year-round nutrition program.

To this end, the Graduate Management Intern would be hired as a limited term position for the duration of the grant utilizing a vacant position in the Human Services and Recreation Department budget.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This action would support the City Council's strategic planning goals of advancing quality of life by promoting the development and implementation of a coordinated afterschool and summer meals programs.

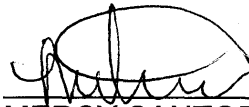
**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The proposed project is exempt from CEQA per Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule. CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The General Rule can be applied when it can be seen with certainty that the activity will not have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore is not subject to the provisions of CEQA.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Pursuant to the terms of the grant, the National League of Cities will provide the City a total of \$50,000 in support of an effort to promote the development and implementation of afterschool and summer meals programs. While the City of Pasadena was notified through a letter dated September 18, 2014, the grant period is 15 months beginning September 15, 2014 and ending December 15, 2015. It is anticipated that \$35,000 of the cost and \$35,000 of the revenues from the grant will be spent and received during the current fiscal year. The remainder of the costs and revenues will be spent in the next fiscal year. In-kind support, which has already been appropriated in the FY15 budget, is currently budgeted at \$51,502 over the course of the 15 month grant.

Respectfully submitted,



MERCY SANTORO

Director

Human Services & Recreation Department

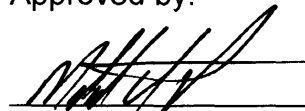
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