



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Albert Balagso

SUBJECT: LEARNING TOGETHER SCHOOL
READINESS INITIATIVE GRANT

DATE: 10-26-09

Approved

Date

11-3-09

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to:

- (a) Submit an application to the FIRST 5 Santa Clara County's Learning Together School Readiness Initiative for a total of \$1,725,000 covering a period of 3.5 years, starting January 1, 2010 and ending on June 30, 2013, to support the efforts of early childhood recreation;
- (b) Negotiate and execute a grant agreement accepting the grant and any collateral documents; and
- (c) Negotiate and execute amendments to the grant agreement to extend or modify the grant term or to accept additional grant funds under the same grant terms in an aggregate amount up to twice the original grant amount originally awarded to the City, as further described below.

OUTCOME

The City will apply for funding from the FIRST 5 Santa Clara County's Learning Together School Readiness Initiative grant to enhance the recreational services delivery model to children ages 0 to 5.

BACKGROUND

On October 7, 2009, the City of San José received notification from FIRST 5 Santa Clara County offering \$3.3 million annually for services to occur over a period of 3.5 years in grants to non-profit, for-profit and public agencies. The purpose of the grants is to use best practice prevention and early intervention strategies for engaging parents, caregivers, and community members in preparing children to be ready to enter and succeed in school. The goal of the initiative is to

increase the capacity of families and communities to raise healthy children prepared to enter and succeed in school and beyond.

The implementation of this initiative will occur in each of the five Supervisorial Districts in Santa Clara County and will target zip codes where the greatest number of children ages 0 to 5 and their families reside within these districts. The San José application will only include Supervisory Districts with the largest number of San José residents.

Grant proposals are due to the FIRST 5 Santa Clara County office no later than 4:00 p.m. on November 24, 2009.

ANALYSIS

The City of San José will apply for funds to administer Early Childhood Recreation through the FIRST 5 Santa Clara County's Learning Together School Readiness Initiative grant citywide. Funds will be administered through the Community Services Division of the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department, and will be used to provide services to parents and children, ages 0 to 5, that ensure children will be ready to enter and succeed in school. The grant period will be from January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013 with services beginning during the second half of the City's fiscal year.

Staff is also seeking authorization for the City Manager to amend the agreement if the City Manager believes that it is in the City's interest to modify or extend the grant period. Occasionally, additional funding has become available for particular grants. In order to quickly take advantage of such an opportunity, staff is also seeking authority for the City Manager to execute amendments to the grant agreement to accept additional grant funds in an aggregate amount up to twice the original grant amount.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

If the City receives the grant, staff will bring forward an appropriation request to facilitate expenditures related to the delivery of recreational and parent support programs for children ages 0 to 5.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criterion 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, and staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This memorandum does not fall into any of the criteria listed above. The memorandum will be posted on the City's website for the November 17, 2009 City Council Agenda.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

Not applicable

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

If the City is awarded the grant in an amount up to \$1,725,000, the grant would be used to support Early Childhood Recreational services through the Community Services Division. There is no matching funds requirement for this grant. Any budgetary action needed will be brought forward at a later date after it is determined if the City has been awarded the grant but prior to City's expenditure of any grant funds. This grant allows expenditures for a maximum of 42 months from the start date of the grant.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Not applicable

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

10-26-09

Subject: Learning Together School Readiness Initiative Grant

Page 4

CEQA

Not a Project

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Albert Balagso". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ALBERT BALAGSO
Director of Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services

For questions please contact Abraham Chacko, Senior Analyst, at 408-793-5560.