



Memorandum

TO: ALL CHILDREN ACHIEVE
COMMITTEE

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 08-24-05

Approved

Date

8/31/05

**SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE YOUTH COMMISSION'S
FY 2004-2005 WORKPLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECOMMENDED
PRIORITIES FOR FY 2005-2006**

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the Youth Commission's report on accomplishments for FY 2004-2005 and recommended priorities for FY 2005-2006.

BACKGROUND

The City of San Jose's Youth Commission ("Youth Commission") serves as an advisory body to the City Council and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) on matters of importance to the youth of San José. Youth Commissioners strive to understand and represent local and citywide issues by developing and participating in Youth Advisory Councils (YAC) in each of the ten (10) Council districts.

Each June, the Youth Commission meets to review accomplishments and develop a course of action for the coming year. This year's meeting was held on June 24 and 25. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the City Council with a summary report on the FY 2004-2005 accomplishments and to seek support for the recommended FY 2005-2006 priorities.

ANALYSIS

In FY 2004-2005, the Youth Commission established five strategic goals: 1) to build a cohesive and effective Commission; 2) to provide leadership training and opportunities; 3) to establish and maintain Youth Advisory Councils; 4) to advise the City Council and PRNS on youth-related initiatives; and 5) to heighten awareness of the Youth Commission (See Attachment A). During the past six months, the Commission has completed a number of work objectives supportive of these strategic goals. The accomplishments are as follows:

1. Build a Cohesive and Effective Commission

- Completed recruitment and appointment of Commissioner for District 5. All seats filled except District 7
- Finalized District specific work plans and coordinated with Council
- Commissioners attended youth commission meetings in other cities

2. Provide Leadership Training and Opportunities

- Commission completed 7 Habits for Highly Effective Teens
- Completed training on Commission protocol

3. Establish and Maintain Youth Advisory Councils (YAC's)

- All YACs, except District 7, established
- YAC members attend Neighborhood Advisory Council and other community meetings
- YAC's held events and activities to promote YAC membership

4. Advise City Council and PRNS on Youth Related Initiatives

- Commission representation at Parks and Recreation Commission and Senior Commission
- Commission input at Project Cornerstone Executive Board meetings
- Monthly Commission meeting to feature guest speakers to address topics of interest to youth
- Commission input during City budget hearing

5. Heighten Awareness of the Youth Commission

- Commission assistance with National Night Out
- Finalized Commission web site
- Commissioners and YAC members recruit members throughout community

Following last year's successful establishment of the YACs and the strengthened infrastructure they created, the Youth Commission has chosen, for FY 2005-06, to focus on providing thoughtful and timely input and guidance to the City Council, and hosting a regional Youth Summit. Advocacy for youth issues will be accomplished through discussion and debate at the YAC level and brought forward to the whole Commission for recommendation and action.

PRNS staff is working closely with Commissioners to create a legislative review and discussion protocol that will contribute to the Commission's ability to provide the City Council with informed suggestions and opinions. Youth Commissioners are also concentrating on developing stronger relationships with youth-serving agencies in order to identify best practices in programming and budget priorities.

The Youth Commission recognizes the important role it plays in leading and supporting youth throughout the region. As such, the Commission is proposing to host a Youth Summit in the spring of 2006. Workshops and roundtable discussions designed to maximize youth participation will make up the balance of the summit.

All Children Achieve Committee

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CONCLUSION

The Youth Commission continues to evolve and develop as a leadership body. As the FY 2004-2005 accomplishments indicate, significant progress has been made over the past year. With their decision to remain on task and focus their efforts on the existing five strategic goals, PRNS looks forward to the continued success.

COORDINATION

This report was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.



SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services

Attachment A – FY 2004/2005 Youth Commission Workplan