Council Agenda: 11/16/04
Item: 5.1

CITY OF SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

ALL CHILDREN ACHIEVE COMMITTEE

Executive Summary
November 4, 2004

The meeting was convened at 1:35 p.m.

a. San José After School Implementation (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services) ***(Deferred from September 9 and October 14)***

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice Mayor Dando, the Committee accepted the report.

b. Early Care and Education Services Strategic Work Plan Status Update (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

Upon motion of Vice-Chair Chirco, seconded by Councilmember Gregory, the Committee accepted the report.

c. Annual Report on Library Usage (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

This report was reported jointly with Item d, as it had already been presented to Council on November 2.

d. Report on First Year of Operation of the King Library (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice-Chair Chirco, the Committee accepted the report.

e. Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Update (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

Item deferred to January 2005.

f. Update on Public Safety and Truancy (Police/Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice-Chair Chirco, the Committee accepted the report.

g. Update on School Safety Program (Transportation CSA/Recreation and Cultural Services CSA/Public Safety CSA)

Upon motion of Vice-Chair Chirco, seconded by Councilmember Gregory, the Committee accepted the report.

h. Oral Petitions

i. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Ken Yeager, Chair
All Children Achieve Committee

CITY OF SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

ALL CHILDREN ACHIEVE COMMITTEE

Meeting Report
November 4, 2004

PRESENT: Chair Ken Yeager, Vice-Chair Judy Chirco, Vice Mayor Pat Dando and Councilmember Terry Gregory

STAFF: Jim Holgersson, Barbara Jordan, Sara Hensley, Maria Hurtado, Angel Rios, Neil Rufino, Jane Light, Gordon Yusko, Lisa Rosenblum, Debbie Erwin, Lt. Rich Saito, Sgt. Paul Panighetti, Officer David Gonzales, Linda Crabill, Russ Taft, Laura Wells, Christina Gilmore, Emily Moody, Matt Mayo, Megan Doyle, Trang Nguyen, Edesa Bitbadal

GUESTS: Dr. Peter Ellis, Teresa Galvez-Sills, Lupe Goode, Jack Goode, Sunny Ochoa, Dulce Aguilera, Shelley Ahn

The meeting was convened at 1:35 p.m.

a. San José After School Implementation (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services) ***(Deferred from September 9 and October 14)***

Maria Hurtado, Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, gave an overview of the After School Implementation Program. The presentation focused on accomplishments of the past fiscal year and goals for the coming year. She also introduced Dr. Peter Ellis, an evaluator from Community Crime Prevention Associates, who gave a presentation on the results of the first year evaluation of the program.

Maria reported on the consolidation of PRNS after school services into one cohesive unit, which included the integration of program evaluation, alignment of City funding cycles, and streamlining of contracts. Staff have also implemented the restructuring of Levels 1 and 2 and now have about 150 Level 1 sites, 30 Level 2 sites, and 56 Level 3 sites, for a total of 236 sites. This has been a very successful partnership between the City, schools and community-based organizations. This has allowed PRNS to foster collaboration and partnerships with all agencies they work with. They were also able to establish a training strategy on service standards that allowed them to establish quality programs across the board. Staff now have monthly meetings with site coordinators and service providers.

Maria introduced Dr. Peter Ellis who presented a brief summary of the results of evaluation. The purpose of the evaluation was to provide an overview of the effectiveness of the programs from the perspective of the students, parents and teachers.

Dr. Ellis reported that there was a total of 1,600 surveys. The rating in Math is higher than Reading at all levels. Student satisfaction rate is 78% while parent satisfaction rate is 91%. Level 3 sites consistently rate higher in service productivity. Teachers at Level 3 sites rated the program lower compared to other teachers.

Maria mentioned their 2004-05 program goals, which are:

- Continue working with the California After School Partnership, a statewide organization with the Department of Education, to develop the first regional learning center in San José.
- Fully integrate online attendance and data collection into a database
- Define core asset targets for all after school programs to further implement the Blueprint
- Establish better program communication between site programs and teachers at all Level 3 sites
- Research the feasibility of fee-based programs

Vice Mayor Dando asked about funding sources. The report did not state specific information on how much each matching funding source contributed and suggested that this be made clear in the next evaluation. She also added that information on school participation in the survey and evaluation should also be included in next year's report so we can also find out from schools how we are performing.

Regarding education headline results, Vice Mayor also suggested adding to the report a chart, by years and by Council districts, with statistical information on the drop out rate, the number of graduating seniors, the number of seniors that continue on to higher education, and also the truancy rate.

Chair Yeager added that it is important to have information on after school programs by Council Districts as they look forward to next year's funding and how the different sites compare to each other within the district and overall.

Chair Yeager also asked how this year's evaluation is going to help guide staff in their decisions about future funding. Maria responded that currently, the department is working on youth priority programs, which will be reported in December. They hope to discuss this in the context of the budget process. Deputy City Manager Holgersson added that this time, staff would be watching carefully the results of programs to be able to make a budget decision.

Chair Yeager also suggested forwarding the highlights of the after school implementation update to the other member members of the Healthy Neighborhoods Venture Fund Committee who are not Councilmembers.

Councilmember Gregory also commented on the importance of understanding how much City funds are leveraged from and through the districts. He stated that he, Vice Chair Chirco and Deputy City Manager Jim Holgersson will make sure this information is forwarded to the Mayor's Office to be included in his response to the Superintendents regarding next year's workplan.

Vice Chair Chirco asked if non-cash resources, such as access to facilities, be considered a matching resource. Dr. Ellis responded that staffing, teachers, computers, materials count as a match.

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice Mayor Dando, the Committee accepted the report.

b. Early Care and Education Services Strategic Work Plan Status Update (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

Jane Light, Library Director, introduced Gordon Yusko, who presented the report. Gordon gave an overview of the merger of the Office of Early Care and Education from the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department into the Library. The new unit is now called Early Education Literacy Services.

Gordon stated that this is the third year of the four-year Strategic Work Plan called *Investment in the Future*. He reported on the five strategic goal areas, the first being to increase the number of affordable and accessible, quality early care and education spaces to meets the needs of San José families. When the strategic plan was first written in 2002, the target number of spaces was 3,200, but as funds shrunk, the target was reduced to 2,100. This was, however, offset by the Year Two goal, which opened 266 spaces. It is estimated by the end of Year Three, 1,807 spaces will have been created.

Gordon reported that as capital funding has been reduced for new and expanded facilities, staff have begun enhancement of existing spaces to meet the Smart Start San José Program quality standards. This has been accomplished in three ways: 1) provision of small loans and grants for health and safety upgrades; 2) training of early educators and providers; and 3) provision of related training and materials to support the emerging literacy and brain development of children below six years of age.

Gordon also stated that the Redevelopment Agency has a spending plan proposal of $4.1 Million for new and expanded childcare facilities over two years that is pending approval.

Under Goal Area 2, Gordon stated that they intend to convene the first-ever Smart Start San José Training Institute in February or March, 2005 that will reach over 200 educators.

Under Goal Area 3, which creates public awareness to inform the public of early care and education issues and options – a very successful Child Tax Credit program, which will be

repeated this year. The integration of the Smart Start San José website, which was developed in Year Two, into the Library's website is underway and is expected to be completed this month. This website will assist parents find quality programs for their children.

Year Three will make the program highly visible during the Month of the Young Child celebration in April 2005.

Under Goal Area 4 – increase political and community advocacy – the Early Care and Education Commission has been instrumental in maintaining better staffing levels for the unit, and will continue to take an active role in recommending policy positions to City Council that support quality early care and education for San José families. They will also continue to keep up to date on public policy issues at all government levels.

Under Goal Area 5 – integration of the Strategic Plan with other local and national initiatives to leverage and increase resources - the City will collaborate with Success by Six to be a pilot site for workshops for employees to learn parenting and life skills at three different locations for five months – January to May 2005 on topics such as health and hygiene, connection with kids, Smart Start San José and recognizing developmental differences.

Vice Chair Chirco commented that she is concerned about the new unit being called Early Education and Literacy because it reflects the Library image, but everything says Early CARE and Education and Literacy. She added that it is important that if we are going to have Smart Start, which is a child care component, that the community is aware there are additional resources that speaks to a broader spectrum of "care" and not just literacy and education.

Vice Chair Chirco also asked where funds would come from for the provision for small loans and grants. Gordon stated that those funds are a donation from eBay and are being channeled through some partners of the Silicon Valley Economic Development, Inc. and Lenders for Community Development, which totals $200,000.

Vice Chair Chirco asked about what strategies are in place to look for different kinds of funding in addition to literacy and funding, in addition to literacy and education. Jane responded that the Library is now in the process of filling up the vacated position of the manager of the Early Care Unit that oversees grants. Part of what the Early Care Unit does is to draft proposals and do database searches on what grants are available out there.

Vice Mayor Dando commented that it is important that name reflect our service. Gordon replied that Smart Start San José would continue to have its own identity. Jane added that the merger was driven by staffing reductions as well as programmatic interests. She also clarified that unit still includes services for adult literacy, as well.

Upon motion of Vice-Chair Chirco, seconded by Councilmember Gregory, the Committee accepted the report.

c. Annual Report on Library Usage (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

This report was reported jointly with Item d, as it had already been presented to Council on November 2.

d. Report on First Year of Operation of the King Library (Library) ***(Deferred from October 14)***

Jane Light, Library Director, reported that the first year of operation of the new Martin Luther King Library saw significant increases in statistics. She stated that the merger of two institutions, the San José Public Library and the San José State University, has greatly contributed to the success of the first year of operation of the new King Library. She added that usage of children has significantly increased. Unanticipated usage by 2.5 million people in the first year alone has put a strain in building maintenance, custodial services and the library as they continue to respond to the needs of users. Staffing has become an issue as the Library has lost 32 General Fund positions in the last year.

Jane also introduced Lisa Rosenblum, Supervising Librarian, to help her present the report on the first year of operation of the MLK.

Jane stated that the merger of the two institutions has afforded many partnering opportunities for both SJSU and SJPL in terms of grants received, collaboration on presentations at national conferences and also on writing articles for publication on merged libraries.

Councilmember Gregory asked if statistics presented in the report include the University's use. Jane responded that the reported reflected the University's use. One finding is that University students and faculty check out more of general library materials than regular customers check out University materials. Councilmember Gregory also asked if there would be anticipated impact by the construction of on campus housing. Jane replied that there is no anticipated increase but they expect more students to stay longer in the library.

Councilmember Gregory also asked if Measure S passes, would it help with the projected usage growth of the library. Jane said it continues the same dollar amount from the last 10 years. If it fails, it compounds to a 25% cut to the library. The measure does not provide additional books for new libraries being built under the Bond plan. It does help bring in cost of living increases. It does not provide staffing for any of those libraries or for increased usage – it merely maintains what the library has.

Chair Yeager asked if there is any breakdown in statistics by zip code when people check out. Lisa replied that especially on weekends, users come from all over the Bay Area.

Chair Yeager also asked what has contributed to the increased usage of the library. Jane replied that the only other library in the same rank as ours is Clark County, Las Vegas. In the case of San José, it could be attributed to its new and expanded book collection, the presentation of their collection, etc.

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice-Chair Chirco, the Committee accepted the report.

e. Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Update (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

Item deferred to January 2005.

f. Update on Public Safety and Truancy (Police/Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

The report was presented by Lt. Rich Saito from the San José Police Department. He also introduced Maria Hurtado, representing the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Division.

Lt. Saito reported on the key stakeholders. Also spoke of the continuum of truancy services provided for different categories of truants. For those at-risk, there are programs such as Challenges and Choices C2, Smart Start and After school programs. For the truant youth, there are programs like TABS, SHARP, and San José BEST. Lt. Saito introduced guests from partners such as Catholic Charities and Social Advocates for Youth. The District Attorney's Office and the Juvenile Court handle habitual truants.

Lt. Saito also presented statistics of the different school districts in San José. Lt. Saito thanked the Council Committee members for the support.

Councilmember Gregory thanked the Police Department for the work they are doing. He asks if the increase in truants in the TABS program in the first quarter of this year is an absolute increase or just due to the program being aggressive in its implementation. Lt. Saito replied that it is a combination of both. He stated that school districts have also reported that more students have been cutting classes or not showing up in school. Lt. Saito also added that they are encouraging schools to participate in SHARP and SARB.

Vice Chair Chirco asked what the difference is between SHARP and TABS youth. Lt. Saito stated that TABS kids are those picked up off the streets and they are older and can get away with being out and more hardcore. The SHARP program tries to identify kids very early on. The kids tend to be younger.

Lt. Saito announced that he submitted a proposal to participate in a truancy conference of the Office of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Planning in Washington DC, and they accepted the proposal to present the truancy efforts of San José. He introduced Sgt. Paul Panighetti and Officer David Gonzales who will represent the City of San José Police Department at the conference.

Upon motion of Councilmember Gregory, seconded by Vice-Chair Chirco, the Committee accepted the report.

g. Update on School Safety Program (Transportation CSA/Recreation and Cultural Services CSA/Public Safety CSA)

This report is a presentation of three CSA groups. Angel Rios of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, represented the Recreation and Cultural Services CSA, and he introduced Linda Crabill, Russ Taft and Laura Wells from the Transportation CSA, and Lt. Saito from the Public Safety CSA. Angel stated that the one common thread that binds all the work of the three CSA's together is their commitment to ensure that children and youth in San José are safe, and the underlying belief that safety begins at home and extends to schools and neighborhoods.

He also asked the support of the Council Committee to make the month of January, 2005, the Youth Safety Month in the City of San José.

Linda Crabill reported that Transportation has a new program from grants awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety to pilot an in-house school safety education program. It funded by a grant totaling $230,000 over two years. The Department of Transportation was also able to achieve the City Manager's goal to bring consultant services in-house by hiring for the coordinator position to provide bicycle and pedestrian safety education to all San José elementary and middle schools. Linda added that the School Safety and Education Program is a new proponent of the Street Smarts Programs. There will also be a bike helmet giveaway, which will be launched in January, 2005. This program will also be coordinated with the schools and the San José Police Department

Lt. Saito reported on the programs under the Public Safety CSA. He spoke of the School Crossing Guard Program that provides 195 adult guards at 114 intersections. He stated that revisions are being developed to the Safety Index Formula. These revisions will be presented to the School Pedestrian Safety Committee in November, and will be presented to the Building Better Transportation Committee in early 2005.

Lt. Saito also spoke about uplit crosswalks, which are now activated at certain intersections in San José.

Angel Rios gave an overview of the partnerships that are now taking place to ensure that children and youth are safe. He stated that the Recreation and Cultural Services CSA,

Transportation CSA and the Public Safety CSA are proposing that January be declared Youth Safety Month to focus community awareness around youth safety. Linda added that another reason they would like January declared as the Youth Safety Month is they will be kicking off Operation Safe Passage and the new School Safety Program and the Bike Helmet Giveaway Program.

Councilmember Gregory asked if there is a way of measuring the impact of the various programs we are doing. Angel replied that the inter-CSA group would put together the information in a quantitative and qualitative way.

Councilmember Gregory also spoke of a visit he made to the Children's Discovery Museum where he observed an exhibit on traffic signs as a way to educate children in traffic safety. He asked if the City has a partnership with the Children's Discovery Museum.

Vice Chair Chirco commented that traffic safety education is critical and important. Chair Yeager commended the group on a remarkable report and stated that it is very important to constantly tell people to be cautious. Chair Yeager also agreed that having a Youth Safety Month is a good way to get the word and to let the community know how much the City of San José is doing.

Chair Yeager stated that he would work with the Mayor's Office and City Clerk to get the declaration on the calendar.

Upon motion of Vice-Chair Chirco, seconded by Councilmember Gregory, the Committee accepted the report.

h. Oral Petitions

i. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Ken Yeager, Chair
All Children Achieve Committee