




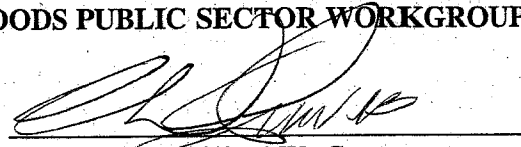
City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

August 2, 2011
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDER ENTERING INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CARSON PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS PUBLIC SECTOR WORKGROUP


Submitted by Raymond R. Cruz
Public Services General Manager


Approved by Clifford W. Graves
Interim City Manager

I. SUMMARY

On July 25, 2011, city officials were invited to a meeting to discuss the city partnering with the American Pacific Islands Center for Education and other agencies to establish the Carson Promise Neighborhoods Public Sector Workgroup. The Workgroup's mission is to apply for a Federal Education Planning Grant to establish a Promise Neighborhoods Program for the Carson High School service area. The City Council tonight is being asked to consider directing the Interim City Manager authority to investigate the commitments associated with partnering with the American Pacific Islands Center for Education and other agencies, and authorize him to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with these groups if he determines that this partnership offers a net benefit to the city.

II. RECOMMENDATION

DIRECT the Interim City Manager to investigate the requirements and financial obligations involved with becoming a partner of the Carson Promise Neighborhoods Public Sector Workgroup, and AUTHORIZE him to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with member agencies if he determines it offers a net benefit to the community.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

Representatives with the American Pacific Islands Center for Education recently met with city officials to discuss the city partnering with it and several other agencies - California State University, Dominguez Hills; the LA County Sheriff's Department; and the Los Angeles Unified School District - to establish a Carson Promise Neighborhoods Public Sector Workgroup. The Workgroup would initially work on applying for a planning grant from the Federal Department of Education to establish a Promise Neighborhood Program. Should the Workgroup receive funding, this planning grant will be used to develop a

strategy to establish a Promise Neighborhood Program that integrates stakeholders to invest its resources so that children from Pre-K to high school are prepared for college and a career. Carson High School has been identified as the focal school for this program, as it is considered an underperforming school and faces many challenges to improve its standing. Advocates of this program believe it can assist in solving Carson High School's performance problems from its root causes.

Member agencies must enter into an MOU with each other as each \$500,000.00 planning grant needs either a cash or in-house match. The Memorandum of Understanding that is proposed by the American Pacific Islands Center for Education (Exhibit No. 1) has some commitments expected from the City. The City Council is asked to consider allowing the Interim City Manager to analyze the MOU and its commitments, and give him the authorization to enter into the agreement if he believes that it is a net benefit to the City. Should the city agree to join the workgroup, the application for planning grant funds must be submitted by September 4, 2011.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Proposed MOU with the American Pacific Islands Center for Education. (pg. 3)

Prepared by: Raymond Cruz, Public Services General Manager

TO:Rev010511

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	<u>City Treasurer</u>
<u>Administrative Services</u>	<u>Development Services</u>
<u>Economic Development Services</u>	<u>Public Services</u>

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____

Carson Promise Neighborhood Memorandum of Understanding

Agency Specific Roles

The **City of Carson** will partner with the Carson Promise Neighborhood planning grant and lead agency American Pacific Islands Center for Education. The City of Carson will support the program and offer partnerships with the City of Carson services that operate in the targeted Promise Neighborhood and are listed below. City personnel from the Mayor's Office will commit staff to work with lead agency American Pacific Islands Center for Education (APICED) in its effort to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the resources available in the communities that will be utilized during implementation and will coordinate and implement the timely sharing of data and the integration of economic development programs. Please see the separate City of Carson match letter for a complete list of matching funds committed.

The Human Services Division (HSD) of the City of Carson will partner to help promote the Promise Neighborhood and notify clients of its services, share program information, facilitate quality improvement processes, and promote evaluation. HSD will provide eligible clients opportunities to receive human services and will provide community assessment as well as linkages for case management, referrals, legal support, tax preparation, financial literacy, job support services, youth education support and youth leadership.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Division/Carson Station Gang Diversion Team (GDT) will partner to build outreach, gang prevention services, service learning and career pathways, linking gang prevention services for neighborhood youth age 10-15 to the broad array of services offered in Promise Neighborhoods. Support provided will include outreach, pooling of relevant data, and cross referrals of benefit to neighborhood families.

The Carson Employment Development (CED) will provide eligible clients opportunities to receive employment services. This includes the following City of Carson Career Center career development and job search services, including pre-employment preparation, job placement services, ESL classes, job training, individual case management and career counseling, and supportive services for critical services such as childcare and transportation.

In Carson, the City of Carson Recreation and Parks Department will work with the program at the following locations to build outreach and share information as well as enrichment, sports, and recreation programs: ____ (fill in blank) ____

The Carson Public Library System will coordinate outreach, services, workshops and classes for residents at the following branches: ____ (fill in blank) ____.

The Housing & Neighborhood Development Division of the City of Carson will partner to provide access for Carson residents and Promise Neighborhood staff to computer labs, meeting rooms, and access for outreach efforts to build community support, provide education and training services, and actively recruit residents for leadership positions.