

City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

July 2, 2013 New Business Discussion

SUBJECT: CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A NEW "MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS" PROGRAM

Submitted by Raymond R. Cruz

Director of Community Services

Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta

Acting City Manager

I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

This item is on the agenda at the request of Councilmember Gipson.

Staff has been asked to explore establishing a "Meet Your Neighbors" program in the City of Carson. The program would encourage residents to get out and meet the neighbors on their block in the hopes of building and sustaining a strong, active, and connected community through hospitality and goodwill. However, additional direction is requested from the City Council regarding how the program will function and other details.

II. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

DISCUSS and PROVIDE direction to staff.

III. <u>ALTERNATIVES</u>

TAKE any other action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

The intended purpose of a "Meet Your Neighbors" program is to encourage and sustain a strong, friendly, and community-oriented environment among residents of the City's many neighborhoods. Suggested activities include neighbors hosting a block party, delivering homemade baked goods when people move into their neighborhood, and meeting informally in residents' homes to share information with each other on programs and activities in the community, as well as important issues that the City is currently considering.

Currently, the City has a Block Club/Neighborhood Watch Program that allows neighbors to meet on a regular basis to discuss issues relevant to their area, as well as to the City; welcome new residents to their neighborhood and share City information; and work together to keep their neighborhood safe. While this program is not the exact same as the proposed "Meet Your Neighbors" program, it does provide a vehicle for neighbors to interact with each other.

Tonight, staff is requesting additional direction regarding how the program will function, when it will commence, and other details.

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V.	FISCAL	IMPACT
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None at this time. If the City Council approves to establish this program, a budget would be required for staff time and/or funds to procure goodwill commodities.

VI.	EXHIBITS
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None.

Prepared by: Virginia M. Aguada	, Senior Administrative Specialist

TO:Rev06-19-2013

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer	
Administrative Services	Public Works	
Community Development	Community Services	

Action taken by City Council		
Date	Action	