



City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

April 1, 2014
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDER FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR THE SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Submitted by Barry M. Waite
Acting Director of Community Development

Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta
Acting City Manager

I. SUMMARY

Last year, the City revived its Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for 100 participants. With the school year ending earlier and the next semester starting earlier, the City should start its program in June instead of July. To do this requires an allocation to cover payroll costs incurred in this fiscal year.

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. APPROVE the City's 2014 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for 100 participants at a cost of \$110,762.00.
2. APPROPRIATE \$27,000.00 from the general fund unassigned fund balance to account number 01-70-720-168-6004 (Employment Development, Summer Youth) to cover the first payroll cycle of the program.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE such other action as the City Council deems appropriate that is consistent with the requirements of the law.

IV. BACKGROUND

Last year, the City Council restored the City-funded Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for 100 youth. From 2010 to 2012, the City only took part in the South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (WIB) programs providing jobs to qualified low-income youth. For all the years the City has participated in the WIB, the number of positions the WIB has provided has varied from a high of 60 in 2008 to a low of 19 in 2012.

The County is funding a program for about 25 youth whose families are in the CalWorks program or who themselves are receiving General Relief or are youth in the foster care system. The age range for this group is 14-21. Participants are assigned to the City by LA County. In addition, the County will be funding a similar program for 10 young people starting in April. Staff anticipates using these participants to help with the processing of the City program. Each of these programs has a 100 hour limit.

Staff proposes using the same criteria that were followed last year:

- Carson residents only
- Age 16-17 on July 1, 2014
- Minimum 2.0 GPA
- TB test required for those working with youth
- Maximum of 100 hours
- Applications will not be accepted after the total applications received equals 120% of the available positions

With the school year ending earlier, there is the opportunity to start the City's summer youth program earlier. Staff is proposing starting half of the participants in June and the other half in July. As was found last year, those starting in July will still have time to work their 100 hours before school starts again in early August. For the parks in particular, the result is a better distribution of labor through the busy summer season. Starting the program earlier will result in some payroll expenses occurring this fiscal year. The total program cost does not change, but \$27,000.00 of the cost will be incurred this fiscal year, requiring a budget allocation.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

The Council recently increased Carson's minimum wage to \$10.77 per hour. The total cost per participant will be \$1,077.00 for wages plus \$15.62 for Medicare, and \$15.00 for a TB test. For the 100 participants, the total is \$110,762.00.

Funds for starting this program early are not included in the current year's budget; hence, additional funds need to be appropriated from the general fund unassigned fund balance to account number 01-70-720-168-6004 (Employment Development, Summer Youth). The current balance of the unassigned general fund balance is \$5,255,868.00.

VI. EXHIBITS

None.

Prepared by: Barry Waite, Acting Director of Community Development

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TO: Rev02-24-2014

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works

Community Development	Community Services
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Action taken by City Council	
Date _____	Action _____