

APPROVED

JUN 06 2011

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 11-169

DATE June 6, 2011

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C. D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: YOUTH POLICY INSTITUTE, INC. - AGREEMENT FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC COMPUTER CENTERS AT NINE
RECREATION CENTERS.

R. Adams
H. Fujita
*V. Israel

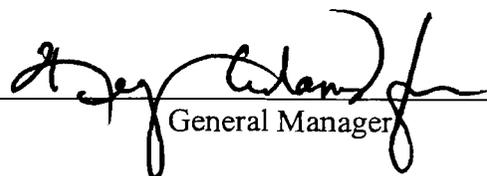


K. Regan _____
M. Shull _____
N. Williams _____

Approved

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____


General Manager

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed Agreement with the Youth Policy Institute, Inc., substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, to equip, furnish, and maintain public computer centers with broadband Internet access at nine recreation centers, and to provide outreach and training at the centers, through September 12, 2013, as described more fully in the Summary of this Report, subject to approval of the Mayor and the City Attorney as to form;
2. Direct staff to issue Right of Entry Permits for each of the nine recreation centers to the Youth Policy Institute, Inc., for minor electrical work, installation of broadband access equipment, computer workstations set-up, and related work;
3. Direct the Board Secretary to concurrently transmit the proposed Agreement to the Mayor, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, and to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form; and,
4. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement subsequent to receipt of all necessary approvals.

SUMMARY:

The City of Los Angeles is a recipient of an American Reinvestment and Recovery Act grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce through the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). In general terms, this grant provides funding for computer workstations and

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

NO. 11-169

wireless broadband Internet connectivity for public computer centers at Los Angeles public libraries, recreation centers, and workforce centers. The Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) has funding for renewed or new public computer centers at 67 recreation and senior centers through this grant, with installation currently in process. Remedial computer training also will be offered at a portion of the recreation centers. All locations will provide the public opportunity to drop-in to check e-mail, work on homework or resumes, research the Internet, and other tasks which help bridge the digital divide in communities where households may not have Internet access or even a computer.

The Youth Policy Institute, Inc., a non-profit corporation (YPI), also applied for and received a grant under BTOP to develop and implement 80 public computer centers with broadband access in Los Angeles. In consultation with the Mayor's Office and the Department, YPI has proposed to collaborate with the Department by increasing the number of public computer centers in recreation facilities. YPI will use a portion of their BTOP funding to add nine additional recreation centers to the group of 67 which are funded by the City's BTOP grant. The nine additional recreation centers are: Highland Park, Imperial Courts, Lemon Grove, Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK), Mt. Carmel, Sepulveda, Valley Plaza, David M. Gonzales, and Ritchie Valens. All locations except David M. Gonzalez and Ritchie Valens are participants in the Summer Night Lights program.

YPI provides education, training and technology services to lift families out of poverty. Developed from the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Fund and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency in 1983, YPI was originally headquartered in Washington, D.C., and began operating in California in 1996. YPI has an annual budget of \$35 million (including affiliated charter schools) and offers families education and training services in the areas of afterschool, charter and pilot schools, job training, summer jobs for youth, physical education, adult education, computer literacy, case management, parenting, tutoring, and college preparation. Each year, YPI helps more than 40,000 youth and adults through these programs.

Under the proposed agreement, YPI will use their BTOP grant to provide Internet connectivity and related equipment, computer workstations, a printer, furniture, and minor electrical upgrades as necessary, to install public computer centers at each location. Depending on room configurations at each of the nine centers, YPI will install 10-20 workstations. Broadband installation and monthly fees will be paid by YPI through the term of the agreement, which is September 12, 2013, to be concurrent with the BTOP grant. YPI staff will do the planning and coordinating to install the computer centers. At opening, YPI will collaborate with the Department on outreach efforts. YPI will provide a disabled-accessible workstation at each location, and will have specialty software and equipment available upon advance request. They will also provide training classes as resources and staff is available. For the duration of the agreement, YPI will maintain the equipment and fund repair and replacement. At the conclusion of the agreement, all installed equipment will be turned over to ownership of the City. YPI estimates that the average value of each installed public computer center with associated services

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3

NO. 11-169

through September 12, 2013, is about \$70,000 per center. The value of the services under this agreement substantially outweighs any incidental coordinating cost or utility use.

The Department will have minimal work to facilitate installation, principally to provide information and to clean the room in preparation for work. During the course of the Agreement, center staff will open and close the computer centers, generally monitor use, schedule special classes or group-use time for our programs, and contact YPI to report damage or problems.

YPI has reviewed this proposed draft agreement and is able to comply with standard terms, including insurance and indemnification.

YPI will continue their pre-planning work and target June for installation, so that the computer centers at the Summer Night Lights locations can be in operation for July and August 2011. To accommodate this timeline, staff recommends authorization of a Right of Entry permit for each recreation center so that the technical work can commence.

The need for public computer centers in many communities is acute. All targeted communities – in the San Fernando Valley, and in East, South, and Central Los Angeles – lack public technology centers where low income residents can access broadband resources. A majority of families in these low income communities lack broadband technology in their homes. Public computer centers are critical for providing access to this technology. Use of recreation centers for this program enhances the role of the local park as a neighborhood resource, equips recreation directors with equipment they can use for public programs, especially teen programs, and brings new clientele into our recreation centers where they learn about our other programs.

Staff has determined that the issuance of the proposed Agreement is for operation of recreational programming at existing park facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (14) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Approval of this agreement valued at \$630,000 permits the City to expand the number of public computer centers available in neighborhoods. Since YPI fully funds this program, approval of the agreement has no direct impact on the Department's General Fund at this time. After September 2013, the Department will work with the Information Technology Department to continue Internet service and maintenance of computer equipment.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst, Partnership Division.