

Approved as to Form and Legality



City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR KAPLAN, COUNCIL PRESIDENT FORTUNATO
BAS, COUNCIL MEMBER FIFE, PRO TEM THAO

RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO RETURN TO COUNCIL WITH A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2023 THAT FULLY FUNDS ALL CITY OF OAKLAND'S HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMMING NO LATER THAN MAY 2022 WHEN FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 MIDCYCLE BUDGET AMENDMENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED; AND COMMITTING THE COUNCIL TO RETURN WITH A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE CURRENT BIENNIAL FISCAL YEAR 2021-2023 BUDGET TO: 1) ADD A BUDGET POLICY DIRECTIVE THAT WOULD MAKE IT A BUDGET PRIORITY THAT, IF EXISTING HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS ARE RESTRUCTURED IT WILL BE DONE IN A MANNER TO RETAIN ALL EXISTING PROGRAM STAFF, THAT NO HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMMING BE REDUCED AND THAT NO HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START STAFF LAYOFFS OCCUR THROUGH THE END OF THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022, AND 2) FULLY FUND ALL CITY OF OAKLAND'S HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS AND STAFF THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2021, the Oakland City Council passed Resolution No. 88801 C.M.S., providing \$1.836 million to restore Head Start services in Oakland, which had been previously proposed for closure; and

WHEREAS, these funds were allocated to support the re-opening of the Arroyo, Franklin and Tassafaronga Head Start centers; and

WHEREAS, the Head Start/Early Head Start, being a federally and state funded early childhood education program, promotes school readiness for children from birth to age five, and offers free early childhood education and family services to low-income Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Head Start and Early Head Start programs deliver comprehensive and high-quality services - including individualized early childhood education, health services, family services, disabilities services and nutrition services - to predominantly low-income, children and families of color; and

WHEREAS, improving educational and family outcomes and eliminating racial disparities for the community is an explicit goal of the Head Start program; and

WHEREAS, scientific research proves time and again nurturing and educating children during ages zero through five has a significant impact on their development, growth, academic performance and overall life success; and

WHEREAS, cuts to childcare and staff layoffs undermine the quality of life and future of children, hurts parents by impeding access to jobs because of lack of childcare, and places undue pressure on the City's ability to hire and retain workers; and

WHEREAS, knowing the backbone of Head Start membership is overwhelmingly Black women and people of color, it is vital that we center conversations around those front-line workers and ensure we engage workers directly impacted by investments in a transparent budget process; and

WHEREAS, these same communities are further disparately impacted when childcare is not available; and

WHEREAS, stable funding ensures staff retention, and existing Head Start/ Early Head Start facilities are properly maintained; and

WHEREAS, the Council can establish a policy priority directive for no program reductions and no staff layoffs in such programs by adopting such policy priorities in the Biennial Budget, provided the specified programs and staff are fully funded in the Biennial or Mid-cycle budgets; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That if Head Start/Early Head Start programs are restructured or reorganized before June 2022, it shall be done in a manner to retain all existing program staff, who represent decades of experience and expertise serving low-income communities of color in Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator return to Council with a budget amendment to the Biennial Budget for Fiscal Years 2021-2023 that fully funds all City Of Oakland's Head Start/ Early Head Start programming no later than May 2022 when the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Midcycle Budget Amendments will be considered; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Council shall return with a budget amendment for the current Biennial Fiscal Year 2021-2023 Budget to: 1) add a budget policy directive that would make it a budget priority that, if Head Start/Early Head Start programs are restructured or reorganized before June 2022, it shall be done in a manner to retain all existing program staff, who represent decades of experience and expertise serving low-income communities of color in Oakland. that no Head Start/Early Head Start programming be reduced and that no Head Start/Early Head Start staff layoffs occur through the end of the current fiscal year 2021-2022, and 2) fully fund all City of Oakland's Head Start/Early Head Start programs and staff through June 30, 2022; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator will create a transparent, strategic planning process for the operation and management of the Head Start/Early Head Start programs that would involve regular input from the Department of Race and Equity to ensure that equity issues are being adequately addressed.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California