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CITY OF OAKLAND
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim, City Administrator
FROM: Office of the Mayor
DATE: June 15, 2010

RE: A Supplemental Report on Federal Planning Grants for "Promise Neighborhoods"

SUMMARY

This report provides supplemental information on the U.S. Department of Education planning grant for "Promise Neighborhoods".

BACKGROUND

A number of local organizations and individuals expressed interest in the Promise Neighborhoods initiative early in 2010.

Before the RFP was issued in May it was widely believed that the only entities allowed to apply would be non-profit organizations.

When the U.S. Department of Education issued the actual RFP, potential applicants included Institutions of Higher Education and non-profit organizations.

OAKLAND AND PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS

1. The Mayor's consistent message to the Federal Government has been that we would engage in a collaborative problem solving process in relation to federal grants and other issues.
2. Both the OUSD superintendent and the Mayor had been discussing their common desire to create what Superintendent Smith and Mayor Dellums refer to as "full service community schools" or neighborhoods with complete wraparound services for all-young people. Both desired to create small "p" promise neighborhoods throughout the city.

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3. In the pre-RFP period five to ten organizations initially indicated an interest and/or intention to apply for Promise Neighborhood grants. Several would ultimately be seeking a letters of support from the Mayor and the Superintendent.
4. When the actual federal RFP was issued, indicating that an institution of higher education could apply, the Mayor's office, in consultation with OUSD and community based organizations, reached out to find a unifying institution that was already making a contribution to this community; that was providing elements of service identified in the grant requirements, and that could bring together the various schools and Community Based Organizations.
5. The Peralta Colleges stepped up to play this role. They have been working with Urban Strategies Council, (which has been providing staff support), community based organizations, the school district and individual schools to participate as the Lead Applicant for this initiative.
6. In addition all parties have committed to creating small "p" promise neighborhoods with coordinated children and youth services, regardless of the outcome of the federal grant application.
7. The City will be requested to sign an MOU indicating a willingness of the City to coordinate already existing services, so that schools, colleges, the city, housing authority, parks, childcare services and others will better coordinate the continuum of services available for children and youth in each neighborhood.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Office of the Mayor recommends acceptance of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



RONALD V. DELLUMS,
Mayor