

CITY OF OAKLAND

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2005 OCT 13 PM 7:00

Agenda Report

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly, City Administrator
FROM: Library Department
DATE: October 25, 2005
RE: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND, TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,000 FROM THE STOCKER FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT EXPANSION OF THE LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007**

SUMMARY

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for, accept, and appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$55,000 for fiscal year 2006-2007 from the Stocker Foundation. The grant is provided by the Stocker Foundation to public libraries nationwide to improve library summer reading programs for children.

FISCAL IMPACT

The grant will fully fund costs such as books, supplies, performers and workshop presenters for the 2006 Summer Reading Program, with no cost to the General Fund. Monies received from this grant will be deposited in Fund 7540, Organization 61313, in a project to be established. This grant was unanticipated and is thus not included in the FY 05-07 Policy Budget.

BACKGROUND

The Stocker Foundation of Lorain, Ohio supports literacy interventions that have an impact on student achievement, particularly those programs sponsored by public libraries.

“Although there are many worthwhile and effective programs, we support the research that reveals public library programming to be among the best and consistently linked to academic gains for students in every income group participating.” (The Stocker Foundation RFP, 2005).

The competitive grant awards are intended to strengthen existing reading programs for youth in communities where the Stocker Foundation already has a funding presence, with a special emphasis on reaching out to lower-income children and families.

Item: _____
Life Enrichment Cte.
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The Stocker Foundation invited the Library to apply for grant funding for the Summer 2006 Summer Reading Program.

The Library, as a result of new initiatives that promote early childhood literacy and family literacy, would like to apply for Stocker Foundation funding to expand the Summer Reading Program to include a family literacy and reading readiness element. This expansion would feature family literacy and reading readiness workshops, incentives for parents to participate, bilingual and multicultural materials, and reading-related children's performances.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Throughout the decades, Oakland's Summer Reading Program has been an effective strategy for keeping children's literacy levels up during the summer and preventing reading skills "slippage" by encouraging reading during the vacation months. Today the role of the Summer Reading Program has become increasingly more critical to childhood literacy and school success. It is now more important than ever that children be ready to learn to read when they go to kindergarten, and that parents know how to prepare and encourage their children to be readers. The urgency of this is seen in the continuously high numbers of children reading below grade level, a number exacerbated by the continuing decline in the resources of the Oakland public schools. It is this continuing decline, the shortage of school libraries and librarians in Oakland, and a very successful library-wide family literacy initiative in November 2003 and 2004 that reached 1500 preschool children and their families that have led the Library to seek outside funding to build more early literacy (ages 0 – 6) activities into its Summer Reading Program. With the Stocker funding, the Library will be able to expand the Summer Reading Program to include the very youngest children, ages 0 – 6, who have previously not been targeted for this program.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This year the Oakland Public Library is expanding the scope of the Summer Reading Program to include activities that promote the early childhood and emergent literacy of young children ages 0-6 and their families. In addition to the standard "reading game," where children read books, make reports, receive incentives and attend reading-related programs, the Summer Reading Program will feature workshops that encourage parents to help develop their children's literacy skills and school readiness. These workshops will be provided by reading and child development specialists.

Seventeen full-time children's librarians coordinate the Summer Reading Program at the Library's Main Library and Branches, registering over 9,000 children in 2005. Other staff, including library assistants, aides, and the administrative support staff, have roles to play in Summer Reading. These staff are dedicated to the Summer Reading Program each year, as an annual professional responsibility. They are assisted by community and teen volunteers.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The Summer Reading Program contributes to the overall reading and school success of Oakland's children and in turn to their long term chances for economic success. As a large percentage of children who participate in Summer Reading are from low income or immigrant families, the prospect for increased economic health in this population increases the economic sustainability of the community and the cultures involved.

Environmental: As the children involved in Summer Reading are successful at school, and become more educated, they will participate in learning about environmental sustainability, both at school and at library programs. These children will be more likely to adopt practices that promote economic sustainability than their less educated peers.

Equity: The children who participate regularly in Summer Reading, and who develop into good readers and students, will have the skills they need to assure equity in educational, employment, housing and community opportunities.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

All Oakland Public Library sites where the Summer Reading Program takes place are accessible to disabled persons and senior citizens, in compliance with ADA regulations.

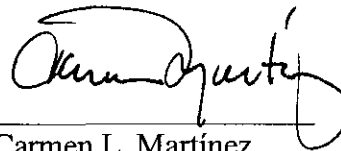
RECOMMENDATIONS AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Council approve this resolution in order to support this expansion of the Library's Summer Reading Program.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

That the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for, accept, and appropriate grant funds from the Stocker Foundation in the amount of \$55,000 for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 for the Library's Summer Reading Program.

Respectfully submitted,



Carmen L. Martínez
Library Director

Prepared by:
Leslie Rodd, Manager
Grants and Development

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Approved as to Form and Legality
C.A.F. AND
2005 OCT 13 PM 7:00
Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C. M. S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND, TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,000 FROM THE STOCKER FOUNDATION FOR THE LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007

WHEREAS, the Stocker Foundation has made funding available to public libraries to support literacy and reading programs in Fiscal Year 2006-2007; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Public Library desires to expand and improve the Summer Reading Program at the Main Library and all branch libraries in 2006 by applying for a grant from the Stocker Foundation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Administrator or her designee is hereby authorized and directed to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant from the Stocker Foundation in the amount of fifty-five thousand (\$55,000) for the purpose described above; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby appoints the City Administrator or her designee as agent of the City to conduct all negotiations, applications, agreements, payment requests, and related actions which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project in accordance with its basic purpose without returning to Council; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That should additional funds be received, the City Administrator or her designee is hereby authorized to appropriate same for the purposes described above without returning to Council.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2005
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES – BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, KERNIGHAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ASTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
Of the City of Oakland, California