

**CITY OF OAKLAND**

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
CITY OF OAKLAND

**Agenda Report**

2005 SEP -1 PM 12: 02

**TO:** Office of the City Administrator  
**ATTN:** Deborah Edgerly  
**FROM:** Library Department  
**DATE:** September 13, 2005  
**RE:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 FROM THE EAST BAY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE PASS! AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK PROGRAM FOR FY 2005-2006

---

**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 \$10,000 from the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF) for the PASS! After-School Homework Program for FY 2005-2006.

The grant is being provided by the Foundation to partially fund staff (adults and teens), materials, and training to support the Library's homework programs at eight library sites after school and on weekends.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The grant from EBCF, in the amount of \$10,000, will be appropriated to Organization 61313, Fund 7540 (Oakland Public Library Trust), Program NB37, in a project to be established. This grant was unanticipated, and thus is not included in the FY 2005-2007 Adopted Policy Budget. There will be no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

**BACKGROUND**

The PASS! After-School Homework Program has offered after-school homework assistance to children in grades 2 through 8 since 1993, employing academically successful teens as tutors and mentors for the younger children. Adults serving as program leaders manage the tutoring program at eight library sites.

While the Library funds the PASS! Program Coordinator as a permanent position, the remainder of the after school program is privately funded by grants and donations. The East Bay Community Foundation is a long time funder of PASS!

The Library has been tracking PASS! and Teen Homework Assistance Program (HAP) outcomes through an evaluation led by the Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (OFCY) of all OFCY-funded programs. An outside evaluation firm called Community Crime Prevention Associates is conducting the research. The results of this evaluation, which are also included in the Library's annual report to PASS! funders, include:

- 91.4% of parents were satisfied with services
- 81.3% of children and youth were satisfied with services
- 69.5% of young people said that their school performance had improved
- 83.2% of parents report that their children's school performance had improved

While the Library will not receive OFCY funding in FY 2005-2006, staff will track the same statistics and employ the same evaluation strategies.

### **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

The impact of the Library's after school homework programs on Oakland's school population has been substantial, with almost 70% of participants (an average of 500 school children per year) showing improved grades after a year in the program. As a sign of how important the program has become to the community, when local teachers were given bonuses for improved test scores in FY 2000-2001, several of them donated those bonuses to the PASS! program, saying that the library homework centers were instrumental in improving the children's test scores.

Teen after-school employment in Oakland, and teen enrollment in higher education are two other concerns that are addressed by the homework programs. PASS! offers academically successful teens an opportunity for employment, skill-building, and leadership training. Participation by Teens in the library program appears to add to their overall academic achievements, as 100% of the program's graduating teen mentors were accepted into colleges and universities last year.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The PASS! After-School Homework Program was started in 1993 as the Library's response to two community challenges: an ever-increasing number of "latchkey" children using the public library after school, and the lack of homework help for children who were failing in school.

Children in Oakland are in need of structured, constructive after-school programs, particularly those which help students with skill-building and academic performance. The PASS! program has proven to be an effective way to engage students in constructive academic activities at their local libraries. One of the most important aspects of the homework program is that the tutors are teenagers who attend Oakland high schools and act as mentors as well as tutors to the children. The students react very favorably to youth working with them, and the diversity of teens means that each child has an actual role model of school success presented to him or her. While it may be possible to conduct the homework program in classroom settings with adult teachers, it is the informality of the library's program that attracts and retains students and makes them enthusiastic about learning.

Homework help is provided three days per week at eight library sites, with actual tutoring being supplemented with educational activities that enhance the tutoring. Teen mentors attend monthly training workshops to teach them how to tutor more effectively, work with children who have literacy deficits, practice positive disciplinary techniques, and explore career options in education. Quarterly and annual evaluations are conducted by interviewing participants, parents, teachers, and staff.

The following chart lists the sites for PASS! and the numbers of students, tutors, and adult staff who participate in the programs:

Site	Program	Regis. Students	Drop-Ins**	Tutors	Adult Staff	Volunteers
Main	PASS!	49	432	5	2	4
Golden Gate	PASS!	61	287	3	2	7
Temescal	PASS!	42	137	4	2	1
Eastmont	PASS!	52	19	4	2	1
Brookfield	PASS!	66	85	3	2	9
Melrose	PASS!	70	200	3	2	4
Chavez	PASS!	81	6	4	2	2
West Oakland	PASS!	26	195	3	2	1
	Totals	447	1361	29	16	29

\*\*Drop-ins represent non-registered students and thus duplicated visits to the homework center

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

The PASS! Program is helping Oakland's children become more literate and more successful in school. An educated population takes advantage of the following sustainable opportunities:

Economic: Education level translates into increased income. It is education that can lift children out of poverty into a higher and more economically sustainable life at the same time that they are becoming responsible about money and personal and community economics.

Environmental: When children are able to keep up with their schoolwork, and when their reading skills are good, they are more likely to learn concepts of environmental sustainability and how to put those concepts to use in daily life. As with other environmental and health issues, such as cigarette smoking, it is often the children whose education leads them to reform their parents' behavior.

Teens who mentor youth are becoming more involved in their communities and more concerned about the generations to follow at the same time that they are reviewing homework assignments related to sustainability and conducting educational activities that promote, among other things, environmental awareness.

Social Equity: Children who are successful in school are more likely to experience equal opportunity in employment, housing, and further education, thus closing the equity gap.

### **DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

All Oakland Public Library facilities, programs and services are ADA accessible.


### **RECOMMENDATIONS AND RATIONALE**

In light of the increasing importance of homework, the crucial nature of school success, and the shortage of after-school educational programs, staff recommends that the City Council actively support the Library's PASS! homework program in its efforts to assist school children with their academic work and improve their chances of success in school, and champion the hiring of teens as tutor/mentors for this program.

### **ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**


That the City Council approve the resolution authorizing the City Administrator to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the East Bay Community Foundation to support the Library's PASS! After School Homework 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

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OF OAKLAND  
2005 SEP -1 PM 12:02

*Margaret Ayres*

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 \$10,000 FROM THE EAST BAY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (EBCF) TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY'S PASS! AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK PROGRAM IN FY 2005-2006**

WHEREAS, the East Bay Community Foundation has made funding available to local programs and agencies in the areas of education, culture and the arts for fiscal year 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Public Library desires to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from the East Bay Community Foundation for fiscal year 2005-2006 to support staff, materials and training for the PASS! After School Homework Program; 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 EBCF in the amount of ten thousand (\$10,000) 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; 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.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

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

NOES -

ABSENT -

ASTENTION –

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

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