

CITY OF OAKLAND

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
2005 SEP 13 PM 12:02

Agenda Report

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 \$31,439 FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY, LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT (LSTA), TO SUPPORT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 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 \$31,439 for fiscal year 2005-2006 from the California State Library, Library Services and Construction Act (LSTA). The grant is provided under the Public Library Staff Education Program and will reimburse nine Oakland Public Library employees for the tuition costs they incur while obtaining their Master's Degrees in Library and Information Science.

FISCAL IMPACT

As tuition reimbursements are fully funded by the LSTA grant, there will be no fiscal impact on the General Fund. Funds received will be deposited in Fund 2148, Organization 61111, Program NB37, in a project to be established. This grant is included in the FY 2005-07 Adopted Policy Budget.

BACKGROUND

In order to encourage more non-professional public library staff to obtain Master's Degrees in Library and Information Science, the California State Library has offered competitive grants to California public libraries to reimburse staff-students for the cost of their school tuition.

Since in many cases, the Library's paraprofessional staff has a great commitment to and understanding of the community they work in, encouraging them to become professional librarians will improve the continuity and quality of the services that Oakland Public Library provides.

Item _____
Life Enrichment Committee
September 13, 2005

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

There is a shortage of people going into the profession of Librarianship, and while Oakland Public Library has many dedicated, long-term non-professional staff, many born and raised in Oakland, the impediment to their advance to the professional level has been the expense of obtaining the Master's Degree required of Librarians.

Now that the California State Library has added its funds to other scholarships, many more worthy candidates are obtaining the M.A. and becoming professional librarians in Oakland.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Nine employees of Oakland Public Library will be reimbursed for the costs of their tuition as they obtain Master's Degrees in Library and Information Science.

Students will submit proof of payment of tuition and the Library will provide them with a reimbursement check.

Grant funds will also sponsor quarterly meetings where the students and professional librarians will talk about library school issues, and give support and suggestions to help students succeed.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The students attending library school will be obtaining a masters degree which will make them eligible for employment as professional librarians and substantially increase the amount of money they can make, and their economic standing, over a lifetime.

Environment: Several of the students attending school are educating themselves as to current public library issues. One topic in the forefront of the American Library Association's recent committee work and publications urges "Libraries Build Sustainable Communities."

Once these students receive their degrees and begin working as librarians at Oakland Public Library, they will be likely to plan programs that feature environmental and economic sustainability and to purchase materials that involve their communities in sustainability.

Social Equity: Obtaining a graduate degree gives these students the opportunity to achieve equity in employment, housing and further education.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The Public Library Staff Education Program accepts all eligible applicants regardless of age or disability. Both the universities that the students are attending, and all Oakland Public Library facilities, programs and services are ADA accessible.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Council approve this resolution in order to support these employees as they better themselves and the Oakland Public Library by obtaining the education they need in order to become professional librarians.

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 \$31,439 from the California State Library, Library Services and Construction Act, Public Library Staff Education Program, for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.

Respectfully submitted,


Carmen Martínez
Library Director

Prepared by:
Leslie Rodd, Manager
Grants and Development

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING TO THE
LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE:


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Handwritten signature

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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

2005 SEP -1 PM 12: 02 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 \$31,439 FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY, LIBRARY SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION ACT TO SUPPORT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006

WHEREAS, the California State Library has made available Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding for a Public Library Staff Education Program in fiscal year 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland desires to apply for and accept a grant in the amount of thirty-one thousand four hundred thirty nine dollars (\$31,439) from the California State Library LSTA for fiscal year 2005-2006 to support the Public Library Staff Education Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Administrator or her designee is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and accept an LSTA grant in the amount of thirty-one thousand four hundred thirty nine dollars (\$31,439) 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, 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