

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2007 AUG 30 PM 8:03

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Neighborhood Services Division, Office of the City Administrator
Date: September 11, 2007

Re: **A Report and Proposed Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator, on Behalf of the City of Oakland, to Accept and Appropriate Grant Funds in an Amount Not to Exceed Two Hundred (\$200,000) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, in Support of Second Year Program Operations Associated with the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative in the Office of the City Administrator**

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared authorizing the City Administrator, on behalf of the City of Oakland, to accept and appropriate a grant in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office. The funds will be used in support of second year program operations associated with the Department's Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative. The proposed program period is July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

FISCAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that the Neighborhood Services Division will receive federal grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the City's Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative. Revenues and appropriations will be allocated in the Federal Grant Fund: (2112), City Administrator's Administration Unit (02111); in a Program and Project Account to be determined. The program will be managed by the Neighborhood Services Division of the Office of the City Administrator. There is no match requirement. Expense allocations are as follows:

Personnel (one third of regular salary for one Coordinator, 72 hours of overtime for one Police Services Technician, and 220 hours of overtime for ten Sworn Personnel)	\$88,037
Travel	\$7,500
Equipment	\$14,920
Supplies	\$7,881
Sub-Committees / Program Expenses	\$81,662
TOTAL	\$200,000

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

BACKGROUND

Operation Weed and Seed was established in 1991 by the U.S. Department of Justice as a community-based, multi-agency partnership approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration. The goals of Weed and Seed are to control violent crime, drug trafficking, and drug-related crime in targeted high-crime neighborhoods, thereby providing a safe environment for residents that is free of crime and drugs.

In June 2005, the City received Official Recognition status for a new Weed and Seed site in East Oakland: the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative. The target area for the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative is comprised of Community Policing Beats 33 and 34, in census tracts 4094, 4095, 4096, 4097 (40%), and 4103; (bounded on the northwest by 81st Avenue, on the northeast by Bancroft Avenue, on the southeast by 98th Avenue, and on the southwest by San Leandro Boulevard). Official Recognition status made it possible to submit a competitive application for initial federal grant funding in the Fall of 2005. The initiative received \$175,000 in funding for Fiscal Year 2006-07 and is now in its second year of funding. The first year funding was overseen by the Police Department but the project has been transferred to the Neighborhood Services Division as that is where the Neighborhood Services Coordinators are now managed.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Elmhurst District – Historical Overview

The Elmhurst district was originally a small suburb of Oakland, officially annexed by the larger city in 1909. Its character is a working class bedroom community of mainly single family homes. The rise of Elmhurst began immediately after the 1906 earthquake, when displaced San Francisco residents began to move to Oakland in large numbers. A Ford automobile assembly plant, located on the site that is now the Eastmont Mall, provided employment for a mixed population of African Americans and Eastern European immigrants.

World War II brought further prosperity to Elmhurst, as Oakland became a major embarkation point for troops leaving for the Asian theater of the war; Oakland shipyards built one-third of the cargo ships built on the Pacific Coast, and its canneries provided 60% of the canned goods used by the troops overseas. Increasing numbers of African Americans, drawn from the south by the prospect of good jobs and greater racial tolerance, began buying homes in Elmhurst, and the area entered the 1950's as a prosperous, stable, multiethnic community.

Elmhurst's economic decline began with the closure of the Kaiser Shipyards in the 1950's and reached its nadir when the Ford Assembly Plant closed in 1969. The area's spiritual decline reached its lowest point nearly 20 years later, November 23, 1986, when the funeral procession

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

of assassinated drug lord Felix Mitchell drew 10,000 mourners following an enormous wreath in the shape of a dollar sign. The shock of that event drew together religious and community leaders who began a series of community revitalization efforts that have struggled to reshape the community. Lockwood and Coliseum Gardens Housing Developments—the former domain of the Felix Mitchell gang—have been torn down and rebuilt into mixed income housing featuring both rental and owner occupied properties. Portions of International Boulevard—the community’s major thoroughfare—have been revitalized, and the area is home to a large number of active churches and non-profit service agencies. Nevertheless, the community is still struggling to find its way.

The area immediately adjacent to Elmhurst includes the Port of Oakland, the fourth busiest container port in the United States, the Oakland International Airport, and the Oakland/Alameda Coliseum Complex, home of the Oakland Raiders football team, the Oakland A’s baseball team, and the Golden State Warriors basketball team.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

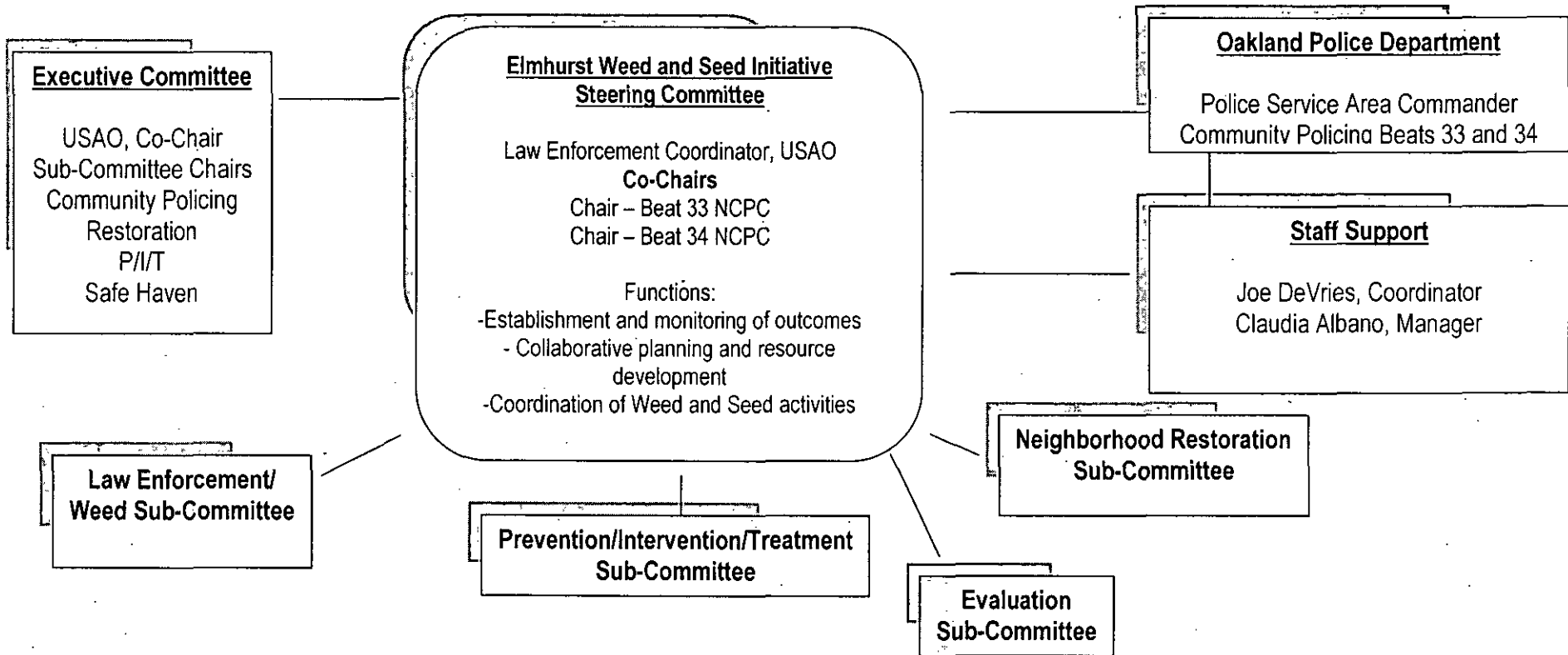
Elmhurst Weed and Seed Steering Committee

The Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative (Elmhurst) is governed by a Steering Committee which is Co-Chaired by a representative of the U.S. Attorney’s Office, and the chairpersons of the Beat 33 and Beat 34 Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils (NCPC). The Elmhurst Steering Committee is made up of NCPC representatives, community residents, and representatives of community organizations and public agencies serving the target area. The steering committee has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the Weed and Seed strategy. Sub-committees focus on each component of the approved strategy. The Elmhurst Steering Committee meets monthly, and its sub-committees meet monthly to ensure effective coordination in meeting the goals and objectives established in the Elmhurst strategic plan (see organization chart on page 4).

Federal grant funds serve as a catalyst for the Elmhurst strategic plan by providing additional resources to assist the community in maintaining focus on the achievement of its short and long-term goals and objectives. The partners, identified and established in the planning process, provide additional resources to meet the needs of target area residents. Weed and Seed sites are also given technical assistance and preferences for funding consideration by many government programs and private sector initiatives that focus on crime reduction, community restoration, and self-sufficiency.

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative Organizational Chart



Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The six basic components of the Weed and Seed strategy are Law Enforcement; Community Policing; Prevention, Intervention and Treatment; Neighborhood Restoration; Evaluation; and Safe Haven. Program goals developed in relationship to the strategic plan for second year Elmhurst programs are:

- **Law Enforcement**

- Goal 1: Reduce the level of drug-related crime within the community
- Goal 2: Reduce the level of domestic violence within the community
- Goal 3: Reduce the level of prostitution crimes within the community

- **Community Policing**

- Goal 4: Reduce the number of locations that are hot spots for drug sales and use
- Goal 5: Reduce prostitution along commercial corridors and adjacent residential streets

- **Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment**

- Goal 6: Provide services for youth and families, including recreational opportunities, academic mentoring and support, job skills training, parenting classes, and leadership and “life skills” development
- Goal 7: Provide supportive services to at-risk adults in the community

- **Neighborhood Restoration**

- Goal 8: Restore the community by encouraging home ownership and the rehabilitation of dilapidated properties

- **Evaluation**

- Goal 9: Develop a community revitalization vision and plan

- **Safe Haven**

- Goal 10: Provide children with safe after-school environments that provide stimulating academic, cultural, and recreational activities

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

Community Resources

The Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative participants have identified a rich array of community resources for the project. These include:

Schools

- Highland Elementary School
- High Schools at Castlemont
- Business Information and Technology School
- Leadership Preparatory High School
- East Oakland School of the Arts

Public Agencies

- City of Oakland, Police Department
- United States Attorney, Northern District of California
- Alameda County District Attorney
- Alameda County Probation Department
- CalTrans
- City of Oakland, Fire Department
- Oakland Police Activities League
- City of Oakland, City Attorney's Office, Code Enforcement
- City of Oakland, City Attorney's Office
- City of Oakland, Community Economic Development Agency
- Oakland Dept. of Health and Human Services, Serious and Violent Offender Re-entry Program
- Oakland Public Library – Elmhurst Branch
- Oakland Housing Authority
- Alameda County Public Health Department
- United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency
- United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- United States Marshals Office

Public-Private Collaboratives

- Safe Passages
- Family Violence Law Center
- Donald P. McCullum Youth Court
- Humanistic Alternatives to Addiction Research and Treatment, Inc.

Non-Profit Organizations

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

- East Oakland Youth Development Center
- East Oakland Boxing Association/Smart Moves Program
- East Bay Community Recovery Project
- A Collaborative Effort, Inc.
- J. Alfred Smith Sr. Training Academy
- Family Resource House of Unity

Faith Organizations

- Allen Temple Baptist Church
- St. John's New Beginning Church
- Love Temple Missionary Baptist Church
- Amos Temple CME Church

Neighborhood and Community Groups

- Beat 33 Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council
- Beat 34 Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council
- International Boulevard Merchants Association

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic

Grant funds shall be used to enhance service delivery in the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative target area for the direct benefit of Oakland-based firms and community residents.

Environmental

Environmental opportunities will be identified as program implementation continues to address such issues as neighborhood commercial revitalization, and the clean-up and mitigation of blighted properties.

Social Equity

The Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative is a "social equity" program. Grant funds and other resources contributed by partnering agencies, and the volunteer work of community residents and businesses, are directed toward achieving increased service levels and long-term benefits for the target area. The program goals will be evaluated annually by the Elmhurst Steering Committee, and the Committee will develop a plan of action aimed at sustaining the gains made beyond the period of Federal grant funding.

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative operates in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Older Americans Act. Meeting places are accessible and senior citizens are well represented on the Steering Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, and appropriate said funds to the Neighborhood Services Division.

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

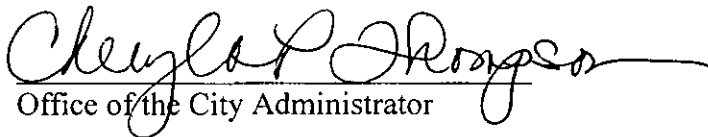
Respectfully submitted,



Claudia Albano
Neighborhood Services Manager

Prepared by: Joe DeVries
Neighborhood Services Division
Office of the City Administrator

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:



Office of the City Administrator

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
September 11, 2007

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Mark Tass
City Attorney

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

2007 AUG 30 PM 8:03

Introduced by Councilmember _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OAKLAND, TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000) FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, COMMUNITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, IN SUPPORT OF SECOND YEAR PROGRAM OPERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ELMHURST WEED AND SEED INITIATIVE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that grant funds totaling up to \$200,000 will be received from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, in support of second year program operations associated with the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative in the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice provides funding through Weed and Seed Initiatives as a community-based, multi-agency partnership approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration; and

WHEREAS, funding for the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative will assist in the Police Department's goal of decreasing incidents of violent crime, gang violence, drug trafficking, and drug-related crime in targeted high-crime neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the proposed spending plan will facilitate the City Council's goal of crime reduction through City-wide community policing and other strategies; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator or her designee to accept and appropriate a grant in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program, Community Capacity Development Office, to be allocated to the Federal Grant Fund: 2112, City Administrator's Administrative Unit 02111, in a Program and Project Account to be determined; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That grant funds received for the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled by the City of Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby appoints the City Administrator as agent of the City to conduct all negotiations, applications, agreements, and related actions which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned grant agreement.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California