

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Dan Lindheim
From: Neighborhood Services Division, Office of the City Administrator
Date: November 10, 2009

Re: Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, On Behalf Of The City Of Oakland, To Accept And Appropriate Grant Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed One Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$142,000) From The U.S. Department Of Justice, Office Of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, In Support Of Fourth Year Program Operations Associated With The Elmhurst Weed And Seed Initiative, A Comprehensive, Community-Based Strategy For Local Law Enforcement, Crime Prevention, And Community Revitalization

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 \$142,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office. The funds will be used in support of fourth year program operations associated with the Department's Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative. The proposed program period is July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

FISCAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that the Neighborhood Services Division will receive federal grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$142,000 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.

Personnel (one half of regular salary and benefits for one Site Coordinator, 40 hours of overtime for one Police Services Technician, and 555 hours of overtime for ten Sworn Personnel)	\$94,683
Supplies	\$3,477
Sub-Committees / Program Expenses	\$43,840
TOTAL	\$142,000

Of the \$94,683 directed toward Personnel Costs, \$57,324 is allocated to the Office of the City Administrator. The remaining \$37,359 will be allocated to OPD. Central Services Overhead (CSO) charges associated with the \$37,359 for salary and wages equals \$5,096, based on a 13.64% calculation rate. However, the granting agency specifically disallows CSO charges.

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

Therefore, the Department requests a waiver for applicable Central Services Overhead charges. There is a required match of \$51,115 that will be provided through in-kind services of the Neighborhood Services Division.

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, \$200,000 in funding in Fiscal Year 2007-08, \$150,000 in Fiscal Year 2008-09 and is now in its fourth year of funding. The first year funding was overseen by the Police Department but the project was transferred to the Neighborhood Services Division in its second year, where it remains today.

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. 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.
November 10, 2009

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

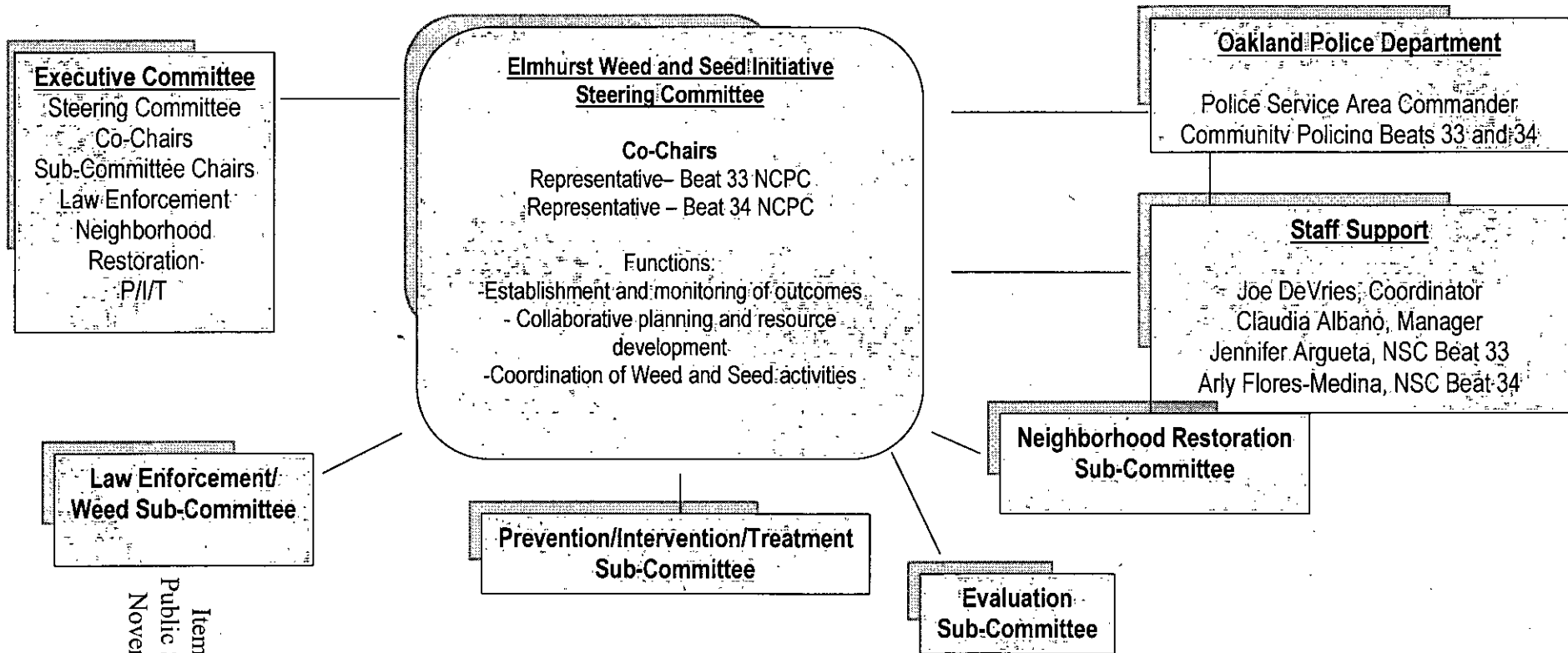
Elmhurst Weed and Seed Steering Committee

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.

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.

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative Organizational Chart



Item:
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

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 fourth 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

In years one and two the Steering Committee created a working relationship with the Police Department and the Alameda County District Attorney to see that targeted enforcement activities are coordinated and effective. In year two, the Steering Committee was successful in collaborating with the DEA and The U.S. Attorney's Office. In year two The U.S. Attorney agreed to apply federal standards to any case OPD presents to them involving parolees who are in possession of controlled substances and a firearm. These cases are given priority due to the huge impact of gun violence in Oakland. In year three, the U.S. Attorney's Office provided a Law Enforcement Coordinator to assist the site with better Federal Coordination and participation. This has resulted in a shift of resources to coordinated efforts targeting parolees and probationers with violent criminal records.

- **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

In years one and two the Steering Committee collaborated with the two Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils for Beats 33x and 34x to identify area hot spots and directed Problem Solving Officers to focus their enforcement efforts on these locations. The level of prostitution has decreased, as have the number of robberies, specifically along the International Boulevard Corridor that runs through the center of the target area. With the support of the Steering Committee, in year three the limited overtime resources were expended targeting parolees and probationers with violent criminal records.

- **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

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

Goal 7: Provide supportive services to at-risk adults in the community

The Steering Committee funded a variety of effective programs in the target area during the first two years of this initiative including after school programs, nutrition classes, Drug Education for Youth Camp, and re-entry programs for ex-offenders. In Year Two, the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Program provided \$22,500 to Men of Valor Academy and the Dr. J. Alfred Smith Sr. Training Center to assist ex-offenders returning to Oakland from San Quentin State Prison. Over 100 ex-offenders have successfully completed a Computer Training Class funded through Weed and Seed. Over 350 youth participate at the many programs funded by this initiative on a daily basis in the target area. This includes programming at the Elmhurst Library, the East Oakland Boxing Association, the East Oakland Youth Development Center, Precision Drill Ministries, and the Police Activities League. In year three many of the same organizations were funding. One group added in Year Three was the “Green Stampede” which provides homework tutoring for children in the area and then treats them to an Oakland A’s game.

- **Neighborhood Restoration**

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

The Initiative sponsored a very successful Health and Safety Fair this past summer in Elmhurst Plaza Park (Beat 33) which provided valuable resources to the community ranging from Public Health, to Neighborhood Watch. Over 25 different providers had booths set up and almost 300 area residents participated. Also, this fall, the initiative collaborated with Rebuilding Together Oakland in their annual Block Building Event during which eight (8) homes of low-income seniors were rehabilitated, improvements were made at Allen Temple Baptist Church’s Green Building Training Center, and planter boxes were built to establish a community garden at Highland Elementary School. This was the second year in a row that Rebuilding Together Oakland selected the Elmhurst Weed and Seed target area for its event. Some members of the steering committee have worked closely with the City’s Service Delivery System Team 6 to distribute information, provide enhanced enforcement, and clean-up activities along the International Boulevard Corridor.

- **Evaluation**

Goal 9: Develop a community revitalization vision and plan

Currently, the Steering Committee is working with the City’s Redevelopment Agency to identify neighborhood commercial revitalization opportunities along International Boulevard. Also the SDS 6 team has selected the portion of International Boulevard between 82nd and 88th Avenues to target efforts.

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

- **Safe Haven**

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

There are three established Safe Havens that are in the target area and receive funding for programs from the initiative: The Elmhurst Library, the Police Activities League, and The East Oakland Youth Development Center. Geographically, these facilities are in different parts of the target area providing local opportunities for residents without requiring them to travel too far from home or school. In the third year, the Tassafaranga Recreation Center joined the Steering Committee, providing a potential new Safe Haven in the northwest corner of the target area.

Community Resources

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

Schools

- Elmhurst Middle School
- Highland Elementary School
- Rise Academy

Public Agencies

- City of Oakland, Police Department
- United States Attorney, Northern District of California
- Alameda County District Attorney
- Alameda County Probation Department
- Oakland Police Activities League
- City of Oakland, City Attorney's Office, Neighborhood Law Corps
- City of Oakland, Community Economic Development Agency
- City of Oakland Parks and Recreation Department
- City of Oakland Service Delivery System Team 6
- Oakland Public Library – Elmhurst Branch
- Oakland Housing Authority
- Alameda County Public Health Department
- United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency

Public-Private Collaboratives

- Family Violence Law Center
- Donald P. McCullum Youth Court
- East Bay Recovery Center

Item: _____
Public Safety Comte.
November 10, 2009

Non-Profit Organizations

- East Oakland Youth Development Center
- East Oakland Boxing Association/Smart Moves Program
- East Bay Community Recovery Project
- J. Alfred Smith Sr. Training Academy

Faith Organizations

- Allen Temple Baptist Church
- Men of Valor Academy
- Acts Full Gospel 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.
November 10, 2009

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.

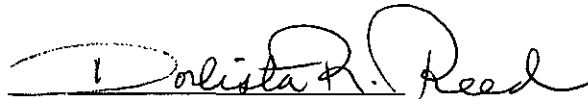
RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 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 authorizing the City Administrator to accept grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, and appropriate said funds to the Neighborhood Services Division.

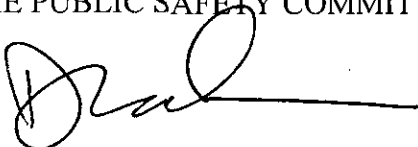
Respectfully submitted,



Dorlista Reed
Public Safety Coordinator

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.
November 10, 2009

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

2009 OCT 29 PM 3:56 RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

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 One Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$142,000.00) From The U.S. Department Of Justice, Office Of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, In Support Of Fourth Year Program Operations Associated With The Elmhurst Weed And Seed Initiative, A Comprehensive, Community-Based Strategy For Local Law Enforcement, Crime Prevention, And Community Revitalization.

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that grant funds totaling up to \$142,000 will be received from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Community Capacity Development Office, in support of third year program operations associated with the Elmhurst Weed and Seed Initiative in the City Administrator's Office, Neighborhood Services Division; 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 his designee to accept and appropriate a grant in an amount not to exceed \$142,000 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, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the City of Oakland, California