

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

SEP 06 2006

NO. 06-260

DATE September 6, 2006

BOARD OF RECREATION and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. 8

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RALPH M. PARSONS PRESCHOOL AT EXPOSITION PARK INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER - FUNDING FROM LOS ANGELES UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL FOR LICENSED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

*J. Combs	<u>YWC (m)</u>	J. Kolb	_____
H. Fujita	_____	F. Mok	_____
S. Huntley	_____	K. Regan	_____
B. Jensen	_____	M. Shull	_____

as amended

Robert H Jensen (fa)
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Accept \$55,000 from Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) for the licensed preschool program at Ralph M. Parsons Preschool at Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center (EPICC);
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City, and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.8 et seq., as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval by the City Attorney as to form; and
Mayor and Council and by
3. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the agreement to the Mayor, *in accordance with Executive Directive 3, and the City Attorney.*

SUMMARY:

Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) is an independent public benefit corporation, funded by First 5 LA and dedicated to making voluntary high-quality preschool available to every four-year-old child in Los Angeles County. In the 2006 round of funding, LAUP is seeking applications for funding for projects that will increase preschool capacity in 34 selected zip codes that represent the areas of greatest need in Los Angeles County. In each of the 34 zip codes

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

NO. 06-260

selected, there are at least 500 more four-year old children than there are licensed child care spaces. In many of these zip codes, the need is for at least 1,000 new spaces.

Child Care Programming is a vital component of the Department's overall recreation services, providing a much needed recreational service to the community. In order to receive LAUP funding, the Department's Child Care Center must be located within a targeted zip code. Ralph M. Parsons Preschool meets this requirement. Funding will allow the Department to offer free or low cost preschool to families in the areas served by those centers. Many of the families in the area would benefit from a preschool program but can not afford it. The one-time, non-refundable "Investment Fee" (between \$0 and \$400) would be determined based on the median family income of the neighborhood and is set on a sliding scale to reflect the families' ability to pay.

Ralph M. Parsons is currently licensed for preschool, and is seeking funding for 30 children (morning and afternoon sessions). Funding is based on the number of eligible four-year-olds enrolled and in attendance, and on the rating of the program following an evaluation by LAUP. As part of academic curriculum, emphasis will be placed on developing a solid recreational foundation to keep children healthy and offset early childhood obesity by incorporating gross motor skills such as running, jumping, skipping and climbing. The rating is determined by teacher education, environmental rating scale scores, adult to child ratios, and other factors. Allowable expenditures are those ordinary and necessary expenses directly benefiting or resulting from the LAUP preschool program operations including, but not limited to: salary, benefits, reduction of parent fees, preparation and planning time, parent involvement, participation in professional and community events, and the coordination of social services for children and families.

LAUP has awarded \$55,000 to Ralph M. Parsons as a successful provider. This is a five-month Provisional Contract with Payment Schedule in attached Appendix A. The Department will seek Mayor and City Council approval before entering into the contract. During the five-month period, LAUP will work with recipients to prepare them for site visits to determine the rating for which funding is calculated. Providers that receive successful ratings will enter into an additional contract to continue in the LAUP Provider Contracts through November 30, 2007.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

This grant does not require a match and results in no fiscal impact to the General Fund. The grant would provide for the preschool program to be offered to patrons for free or low-cost.

Prepared by Debby Rolland, Superintendent, West Region.

**APPENDIX A
PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Month	LAUP Payment
July 1, 2006	\$11,000.00
August 1, 2006	\$11,000.00
September 1, 2006	\$11,000.00
October 1, 2006	\$11,000.00
November 1, 2006	\$11,000.00