

April 1, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement and any necessary documents, including any necessary amendments, with The Regents of the University of California, a California Constitutional corporation, on behalf of the UCLA Stein Eye Institute - Center for Community Outreach and Policy, to allow the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services to host free vision clinics for children, including at the Celebration of the Young Child on April 26, 2025, for the period of March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2027, with the option to renew for an additional 3-year period, at the discretion of the City Manager. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In 2022, the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services launched Help Me Grow, an initiative focused on strengthening and expanding referral pathways to better connect families with services and supports to address their child's developmental concerns. The investment, part of the Help Me Grow LA Pathways Project, brought together cross-sector agencies and organizations in efforts to improve connections, collaboration and service delivery between providers so that every child is connected to early intervention supports. Through the work of Help Me Grow, our early development systems have become more coordinated, integrated and multidirectional.

Through the Help Me Grow collaborative network, we were presented with an opportunity to partner with the UCLA Stein Eye Institute – Center for Community Outreach and Policy, which operates a community outreach program called the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (“UMEC”). The UMEC and its staff, including, but not limited to, ophthalmologists, ophthalmology residents, ophthalmic technicians and/or optometrists, deliver free vision care and perform free basic eye examinations to members of underserved communities.

UMEC and its staff have offered to provide eye health screenings to pediatric patients and information and resources, including reading glasses, at the 2025 Celebration of the Young Child (Celebration). The 6th annual Celebration of the Young Child will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025. This free, one-day event brings together over 60 organizations to provide resources, hands-on learning and entertainment to over 1,000 participants. Children are provided opportunities to learn, explore and play through hands-on activities, sensory engagement and age-appropriate games.

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At the Celebration, UMEC will offer services at no cost to the patients, their families, or the City of Long Beach. By partnering with the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic, we will provide access to quality eye care services by connecting our community to free vision screenings and care, aligning with our strategic vision of investing in prevention strategies to ensure healthy communities.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Nicholas Masero on March 10, 2025, and by Budget Analysis Officer Greg Sorensen on March 13, 2025.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on April 1, 2025, to ensure the agreement is in place expeditiously.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommendation. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Alison King
Director
Health and Human Services

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER