

January 7, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement, all necessary documents, and any subsequent amendments, including the term, with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Unified School District, for the City Employees Youth Mentoring Program, for a seven-month period estimated to begin January 1, 2025, with the option to extend for three additional one-year periods, at the discretion of the City Manager. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In partnership with Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), Long Beach Public Libraries, Long Beach Police Department, Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Pacific Gateway Workforce Innovation Network, the Office of Youth Development (OYD) is continuing the City Employees Youth Mentoring Program (Program). Initially funded by the Long Beach Recovery Act, this program created 22 mentoring connections between City employees and LBUSD middle school students from Spring 2023 through December 2024. The program will continue from January 2025 to July 2025 without City funding, to maintain and create mentoring connections for students at Lindbergh Middle School, Stephens Middle School, Franklin Middle School, Hamilton Middle School, and Hoover Middle School. The City is continuing to partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles to facilitate the program and mentoring connections. The City is also continuing to partner with LBUSD to ensure the participation of middle school students and provide space at the designated middle schools for mentors to meet with their mentees.

The City of Long Beach has approximately 6,000 employees. City employees play a role in serving as positive role models for the next generation. Connecting City employees with middle school students builds the needed social capital among students from neighborhoods that experience disproportionate amounts of violence. The City has an untapped potential of connecting professionals, who can be effective mentors, with young people in the City's communities. These relationships support positive youth development among youth and place City employees in roles that increase students' academic readiness, social connectedness, and social capital.

Goals of this Program include the following:

1. Continue the City Program by pairing City employees with Middle School students in the

Spring semester of 2025.

2. Serve students from middle schools in neighborhoods affected by disproportionate amounts of violence, poverty, and adverse health impacts.
3. Students served from these middle schools show increases in academic readiness, social connectedness, and social capital.
4. Collaborate with the LBUSD to collect the necessary data to measure program effectiveness for Goal 3 of this project.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Nicholas Masero and Budget Management Officer Nader Kaamouch on December 16, 2024.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to authorize the execution of an agreement is requested on January 7, 2025, to begin implementing program services.

FISCAL IMPACT

The requested agreement will be at no cost to the City. There is no fiscal impact associated with this request. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. No match or in-kind service is required. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Alison King
Director
Health and Human Services

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER