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**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO**  
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PARKS AND RECREATION  
• NORTH  
• SOUTH  
• CITY-WIDE

June 19, 1990

Budget and Finance Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: "Expressions": A Joint Effort by the Department of Parks and  
Community Services and the Police Department

SUMMARY

This report provides information about the Department of Parks and Community Services and Police Department's jointly developed and implemented summer recreation program called "Expressions" as requested during the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of June 6, 1990. This report is for information only.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The need for a prevention program for youth as an alternative to gangs and drug involvement has been evidenced by increased gang and narcotics activity in Sacramento. The desire for a program for at risk youth was expressed by various community based organizations including the Hispanic Advisory Committee and the Black Youth Gang Task Force. A program called "Expressions" has been developed by staff from the Police Department and Department of Parks and Community Services in response to this need. The program will target school age youth ages 10 - 17 and will provide a diverse schedule of recreation activities and human service programs that appeal to varying interests and needs.

The program was named "Expressions" to present an open participation format with a structured curriculum that would provide youth with an appropriate atmosphere and schedule of recreation activities to be able to express themselves in appropriate styles while learning lifetime leisure pursuits and health and drug awareness.

In this its first year, "Expressions" will be held at two sites, one in north Sacramento and one in south Sacramento. The north site is Grant Skills Center, 577 Los Palmas Avenue; the south site is John Still Middle School, 2250 John Still Drive. The program will be eight weeks, beginning June 25, 1990, ending August 17, 1990, and will run Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Various activities will be scheduled for specific times of the day with a typical routine of:

- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon ...sports or arts programming
- 12 noon - 1:00 p.m.....lunch
- 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.....sports or arts programming
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.....human service and/or drug prevention education
- 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.....open gym programs

Weekly programs will include the following components:

Sports: Each week will feature a daily two-three hour sports camp in basketball, softball, tennis, volleyball, flag football, and track and field. Open gym programs will operate daily from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Visual and Performing Arts: Daily two to three hour instruction and workshops will be offered in visual arts (drawing, painting, and sculpting) and performing arts (acting, dance, music, and modeling).

Partners in Prevention: Police officers will conduct weekly discussions on aspects of drug prevention education.

Nutrition: A nutritious lunch will be served daily through the Department of Parks and Community Services Summer Food Program.

Human Services: Each day from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Cities in Schools Sacramento, Inc., a nonprofit organization, will have an "open door" policy on site with at the north region location and at Freeport Elementary School near the south region site. Cities in Schools will provide staff to facilitate health, educational, social, and volunteer services to "Expressions" participants.

Field Trips and Special Events: One day each week, "Expressions" participants will experience wholesome adventure through a variety of activities that will include dances, swim parties, roller skating, a talent show, and various field trips such as A's Baseball, numerous Old Sacramento attractions, Great America, and the Governor's Mansion.

#### FINANCIAL DATA

This report does not request City funds. The program will be funded through the existing budgets of both departments. Future funding requests will be based on the final evaluation of this summer's pilot "Expressions" program.

#### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The Council supports cooperative efforts between city departments and other agencies in providing recreation, leisure, and education programs for at-risk-youth.

MBE/WBE EFFORTS

Every effort will be made to support the City's MBE/WBE goals.

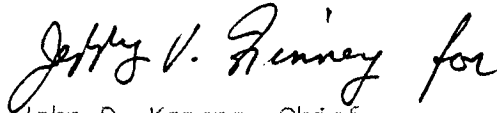
RECOMMENDATION

This report is for information only. Staff will report back with future recommendations for this exciting program at the end of the season.

Respectfully submitted,

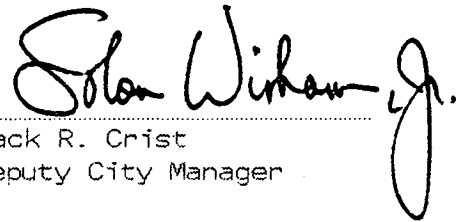


Robert P. Thomas, Director  
Parks and Community Services



John P. Kearns, Chief  
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Approved for Information:

  
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Deputy City Manager

July 3, 1990  
Districts 2 and 7

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