



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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CONSENT
April 26, 2007

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

Title: Agreement: START Evaluation

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution 1)** authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement and any extensions, amendments, or other related documents with Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$97,499.02 during the term July 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007, for an evaluation of the 2006-2007 START after-school program.

Contact: Andee Press-Dawson, Recreation Superintendent, 808-6196; David Mitchell, Division Manager, 808-6076

Presenters: N/A

Department: Parks and Recreation

Division: Children and Family Recreation Services

Organization No: 4726

Description/Analysis

Issue: The Sacramento START after-school program receives funding from the California Department of Education. State law requires an annual evaluation of the program within specific parameters, which is performed by an outside professional evaluator. Council approval of the agreement for the evaluation of the 2006-2007 school year is requested. The term of the agreement is July 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007.

Policy Considerations: Continued participation of the Sacramento START program is consistent with the City's strategic plan to enhance livability.

Environmental Considerations: This report concerns administrative activities that will not have any significant effect on the environment and that do not constitute a "project," as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2)).

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: Approval will allow the evaluation of the START program to occur so that the program remains in compliance with State law.

Financial Considerations: The agreement specifies a maximum payment of \$97,499.02 for the 2006-2007 school year evaluation. The Sacramento START program has available funds within its existing operating budget in Fund 245 to pay the evaluator, and no General Fund appropriation is required.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. originally was selected as a result of a request for proposals in 2005. Its proposal met staff's minimum requirements and of the three proposals submitted, was the lowest cost by approximately \$80,000. Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. is not certified as an emerging/small business company.

Approved by: 
Cassandra H. B. Jennings, Assistant City Manager

Recommendation Approved:


Ray Kerridge, City Manager

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Attachment 1

Background

Sacramento START (Students Today Achieving Results for Tomorrow) was launched in 1996. Today, START is widely recognized as one of the most outstanding after-school literacy and enrichment programs in the country, serving more than 10,000 enrolled elementary school children in the most disadvantaged areas of the City and County. The City of Sacramento through its Parks and Recreation Department provides management and administrative support. Funding is provided through a partnership with the California Department of Education, the City of Sacramento, seven participating school districts (Del Paso Heights, Elk Grove Unified, Natomas Unified, North Sacramento, Rio Linda Union, Robla and Sacramento City Unified), and donations from foundations, businesses and individuals. A significant portion of the funding comes from the State. No fees are charged to the children or their parents.

State law governs the overall structure of the START program. Requirements cover the duration and frequency of the program, the required ratio of staff to children, staff background and education qualifications, reimbursement rate, the percent of local matching funds and the need for and design of the evaluation.

The State requires START to evaluate its program annually. For the evaluation of the 2005-2006 school year program, START contracted with Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. (City Agreement No. 2005-0128) as a result of a request for proposals process. For the 2006-2007 school year, staff asked Duerr to again conduct the evaluation; however, staff inadvertently failed to prepare either a supplemental or a new professional services agreement for the 2006-2007 school year. Consequently, as of July 1, 2006, Duerr began collecting daily attendance information to be used for the 2006-2007 school year evaluation without an agreement in place. This summer Duerr will begin to collect academic test data from the school districts. To remain in compliance with the State's funding requirements, the evaluation for the 2006-2007 school year must be turned in to the State by October 1, 2007. Duerr will then have until December 31, 2007, to prepare a narrative version of the evaluation for distribution to START staff and to the participating governing boards. For the agreement period July 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007, Duerr will be paid a maximum of \$97,499.02; of this amount, \$45,393 is for services that were rendered by Duerr from July 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007.

The agreement is available for review in the City Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTION NO.
Adopted by the Sacramento City Council
APPROVING START EVALUATION AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND

- A. The Department of Parks and Recreation has operated the START after-school literacy and enrichment program since 1996. A significant portion of the funding for the program comes from the State of California. The State requires an evaluation of the program each year.
- B. Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. was selected as the evaluation contractor in 2005 for the 2005-2006 school year as a result of a request for proposals process. For the 2006-2007 school year that began July 1, 2006, staff asked Duerr to again conduct the evaluation; however, staff inadvertently failed to prepare either a supplemental or a new professional services agreement for the 2006-2007 school year. Consequently, Duerr began work on the 2006-2007 school year evaluation on July 1, 2006, without an agreement in place.
- C. The professional services agreement specifies a maximum payment of \$97,499.02 for the evaluation of the 2006-2007 school year program; of this amount, \$45,393 is for services that were rendered by Duerr from July 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007. The Sacramento START program has available funds within its existing operating budget in Fund 245 to pay the evaluator, and no General Fund appropriation is required.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to execute a professional services agreement and any extensions, amendments, or other related documents with Duerr Evaluation Resources, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$97,499.02 during the term July 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007, for an evaluation of the 2006-2007 START after-school program.