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DEPARTMENT OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
BUDGET AND POLICY REVIEW

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

October 10, 2001

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City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

AG 2001-195

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A JOINT USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF  
SACRAMENTO

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report recommends that City Council approved a joint use agreement between the Natomas Unified School District and the City of Sacramento.

CONTACT PERSON:

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FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: October 30, 2001

SUMMARY

This report requests approval of a joint use agreement between the City of Sacramento and the Natomas Unified School District.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION

The joint use agreement has been discussed with the Parks and Recreation Citizens Advisory Committee during the course of its development.

The joint use agreement has been reviewed and ratified by the Natomas Unified School District Board.

## BACKGROUND

The Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) is a new district formed to address the growing Natomas area community. This report recommends approval of the first joint use agreement between Natomas Unified School District and the City of Sacramento.

A joint use agreement provides a framework for a cooperative relationship of reciprocal facility use that is mutually beneficial to both agencies and the community. Under the agreement, the City has access to school facilities to provide recreation, afterschool and community programs while the School District has access to city facilities for training and other programs. The agreement addresses costs, scheduling and use of facilities. Joint use does not provide for existing facility users to be displaced by city or school activities. Specific projects or high use programs (such as START) have separate memorandum of understanding with the School District under the umbrella of the joint use agreement.

The agreement with Natomas Unified School District is very similar to previous agreements approved by City Council with other school districts. One exception is the emphasis on mutual planning of new and adjacent facilities to expand and maximize the joint use opportunities in meeting community needs.

Discussions to develop a joint use document with Natomas Unified School District began in 1999 with agreement around the following principles:

- 1) **Maximize Limited Resources:** The School District and the City seek to maximize the use of limited resources.
- 2) **Public Accessibility/Programming Based on Need:** Public facilities should be accessible to the public and the use and programming of schools and community centers should be based on the needs and strengths of the student body and the community surrounding the facility.
- 3) **Flexible and Innovative Approach:** Improving the implementation around joint use of facilities and broadening the concept of how public facility space can be used will require flexibility and new and innovative thinking.
- 4) **Sharing of Costs:** Additional costs from joint use and community access should be shared between the School District and the City.
- 5) **Common Vision:** There should be a common vision around joint use and community access. Planning and development of facilities include the participation of all stakeholders including the District, the school sites, parents, students, union representatives, the City and the community.

Meeting community needs and community access should be a primary factor in developing facilities.

- 6) **Mutually Beneficial/Clear Roles:** The joint use agreement should be mutually developed and mutually beneficial for both agencies. The roles of each entity (District, City, school sites, community) should be clearly defined, regular opportunities for communication established and operational areas of mutual interest identified including areas where mutual decision making or input will be sought.
- 7) **Notification of Actions:** The actions of one agency can have unintended effects on the other agency or the neighborhood. The joint use agreement should identify areas where each agency shall consult with each other, and possibly neighborhood groups, before taking action (e.g. external physical modifications to a building).

During the time it has taken to formalize the final joint use agreement, there has been an opportunity to forge a stronger working relationship between the School District, the City and the Community. This has resulted in an improved win-win problem solving orientation and a public benefit focus.

Some city facilities and school district facilities are not covered by the joint use agreement due to unique operating or cost requirements. Examples of city owned facilities not included are those self-supporting entities such as the convention center, softball complex and parking lots. School district facilities not included are the Natomas Charter School and high school theater.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This report does not request additional financial support. Under the joint use agreement, both agencies would not pay facility rental fees for use of facilities covered by the agreement. The agreement provides for the payment of additional costs created as a result of facility use (for example, custodial overtime).

#### POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed joint use agreement is consistent with the direction of City Council and supports the City's Strategic Action Plan objective of establishing and expanding partnerships with local schools.

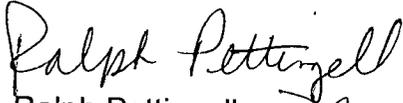
#### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ESBD EFFORTS

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Recreation Manager

  
Richard Ramirez  
Deputy City Manager

APPROVED:

  
ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager