REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PPROVED

OCT 0 6 2010

N.O. 10-270

DATE October 6, 2010

BOARD OF RECREATION and PARK COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RENEWAL APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE 2010-2011 SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

R. Adams
H. Fujita
S. Huntley
V. Israel

F. Mok
K. Regan
M. Shull

General Manager

Approved

Disapproved

Withdrawn

# **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### That the Board:

- 1. Approve the submission of a renewal grant application for approximately \$1.3 million in reimbursements to the California Department of Education for the 2010-2011 Summer Food Service Program;
- 2. Direct Staff to transmit the renewal grant application to the Mayor and City Council, requesting approval; and,
- 3. Authorize the General Manager to represent the City and execute the corresponding grant agreement, and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

## SUMMARY:

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is an entitlement program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the California Department of Education (CDE). The Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) submits an annual application to CDE each program year that includes both the traditional summer and school periods.

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Funds are used to provide a free nutritious lunch at recreation centers Citywide to children age one through 18 years who are on summer vacation from school. Funds are also used to provide an afternoon snack year-round. The purpose of this valuable program is to ensure that low-income children continue to receive a nutritious meal when school is not in session and a healthy afternoon snack. All recreation centers are "drop-in" sites where meals are available to all children in the area. Children do not need to apply, meet eligibility requirements, sign up or sign in. Lunches and snacks are nutritious and well-balanced meals that meet Federal requirements.

The current reimbursement rate is \$3.1950 per lunch and \$0.7450 per snack. An increase in the rate of reimbursement is determined by the USDA each January. Costs vary depending on the bid price for meals, number of lunches and snacks ordered and served, number of meals, any regulation violations, and the annual reimbursement rate. Rates are calculated based on the number of "first" meals (those meals served that do not include leftovers or second servings to the same children), with an allowable conversion of second meals of 2%.

The total estimated cost of the program is \$1,394,317 and is based on the projected number of meals served using the current year's data. The exact figures above are unknown until the end of the grant year when actual costs are available. The Department's program is conducted as a part of the Community Block Grant funded Youth Recreation and Nutrition program, also known as "LA Kids," which covers program costs beyond the total reimbursement.

In the 2009-2010 program year, 220,383 snacks and 407,260 lunches were served (including the lunches served during the off-track year-round schedule). Adjustments are made this year to include after-school snacks at 100 sites and the elimination of the off-track lunch schedule. Lunches are being served during the summer only at 106 sites, due to changes in the Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) school calendar which eliminated year-round schedules.

The SFSP has been in existence since 1975, and since then has added various services such as serving lunches year round while LAUSD maintained a year-round school calendar, and serving snacks after school. The Summer Lunch Program provides an important service to the City of Los Angeles, serving thousands of children each year. Additionally, the Summer Lunch Program supplements programs already in place at recreation centers, giving recreation centers the ability to use time and resources that would have otherwise been spent on meals and snacks. The program also brings children to recreation centers where they will be more likely to participate in other programs and be more physically active.

## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Based on the projected number of meals served using the current year's data, there is no anticipated cost to the Department's General Fund for this program.

This report was prepared by Alexa Esparza, Senior Management Analyst, West Region.