

APPROVED
3-15-2017

BOARD REPORT

**BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS**

NO. 17-071

DATE: March 15, 2017

C.D. 1

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MACARTHUR PARK – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH YOUTH POLICY INSTITUTE TO IMPLEMENT AN EVIDENCE-BASED BYRNE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROJECT WITHIN THE LOS ANGELES PROMISE ZONE

AP Diaz _____ *V. Israel _____
R. Barajas _____ N. Williams _____
H. Fujita _____



General Manager

Approved ✓ _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Retroactively approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) herein included as Attachment 1, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and Youth Policy Institute (YPI), for a proposed three-year project period, from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2020, to be implemented in Years Two and Three of the MOU project period through supplemental grant funding provided to RAP by YPI for youth programs and services at MacArthur Park, after the Year One planning phase is completed;
2. Retroactively authorize the RAP General Manager to execute the MOU;
3. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account and/or to appropriate funding received within "Recreational Program Grant" Fund 205 to accept the YPI funds through this MOU for MacArthur Park; and
4. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to make any technical corrections as necessary to effectuate the intent of these funds.

SUMMARY

The Youth Policy Institute, a non-profit organization (YPI) has been awarded a grant through the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) grant program, which is focused on implementing a crime reduction strategy within the Promise Zone of Los Angeles, which includes the community of MacArthur Park located at 2230 West 6th Street, Los Angeles. YPI wishes to collaborate with RAP, along with the Los Angeles Police Department, and use the grant funds to address public safety and revitalize MacArthur Park. The Los Angeles Promise Zone consists of five diverse

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neighborhoods including Hollywood, East Hollywood, Koreatown, Pico-Union, and Westlake. With a population of approximately 165,000 residents within this Zone, 35% of these residents live in poverty, and 25% have a household income of less than \$15,000 per year. The goals of the Los Angeles Promise Zone are to promote jobs, improve educational opportunities, address public safety, preserve affordable housing, and provide livable communities.

The term of the MOU is three years, from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2020, with the first year being the planning phase, and the second and third years being the implementation phase. Its purpose is to establish a commitment to work with YPI and BCJI and to support the Byrne program's overall goal of reducing crime and improving community safety. The Byrne grant funding provided to RAP by YPI is anticipated to increase community participation in existing recreational programs at MacArthur Park, with the intent of reducing crime and addressing other socio-economic issues.

RAP has previously collaborated with YPI on grant related projects, including another Byrne grant to address crime and public safety issues at Lemon Grove Recreation Center in East Hollywood, which will serve as a successful model for the MacArthur Park project. YPI will be the Lead Agency and Fiscal Agent for this BCJI grant and will be responsible for all grant administration, coordination with involved agencies, and reporting as required to BCJI.

YPI provides education, training, and technology services for low-income families and communities. Developed from the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Fund and incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency in 1983, YPI was originally headquartered in Washington, D.C., but moved operations to California in 1996. YPI has an annual budget of \$41 million (including affiliated charter schools) and offers families early childhood education, parenting services, college preparation, computer technology training, physical education, nutrition services, financial literacy, job training, and summer youth employment. Each year, YPI helps more than 100,000 youth and adults through these programs. In 2014, YPI became the lead implementation partner for the Los Angeles Promise Zone initiative targeting high-poverty neighborhoods in East Hollywood, Pico-Union, and Koreatown. YPI is also the only agency in Los Angeles operating City-funded Youth Source, Family Source, and Work Source Centers.

The MacArthur Park community and residents gain access to a variety of cultural, educational, fitness, and sports programs provided by RAP and its partners, including Senior Bingo, After-School Club, Kid's Zone Program, Aztec Dancing, Piano, Summer Day Camp, Adult Zumba, and 50 Summer Concerts in the Park at the Levitt Pavilion Band Shell, as well as annual events such as the Spring Egg Hunt, Fishing Derby, Halloween, and Winter Holiday. Many of the programs are free or offered at minimal cost to patrons. These programs give children, youth, and their families affordable recreational pursuits for their leisure, and enhances their quality of life in a historical and highly dense area of Los Angeles.

RAP staff and existing programs at MacArthur Park have a great opportunity to interact with the YPI/Byrne grant by collaborating programs and staff in order to enhance the existing programs with additional qualified instructors and additional programs during after-school and evening timeframes, as well as on Saturdays.

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Retroactive approval of the MOU to provide supplemental funding for youth programs and services at MacArthur Park will result in no impact to the RAP General Fund.

This Report was prepared by Jennifer Sapone, Senior Management Analyst I, Partnership Division.

LIST OF ATTACHMENT(S)

1. MOU with the Youth Policy Institute and Partners

Memorandum of Understanding
With The Youth Policy Institute and Partners
(MacArthur Park in the Zone)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is hereby entered into for the purpose of implementing an evidence-based Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Planning and Implementation Project within the Los Angeles Promise Zone in the City of Los Angeles. The proposed project area is also served by the Los Angeles Promise Neighborhood in the Promise Zone, and will offer a wide array of place-based cradle to college and career services in support of the overall Byrne program goal to reduce crime, increase trust, and improve community safety as part of a comprehensive strategy to advance neighborhood revitalization.

The broad cross-sector partnership team described here and in the proposal consists of Lead Agency Youth Policy Institute (YPI), a community-based nonprofit organization in Los Angeles, law enforcement partners that include the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), cross sector partners such as the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, public sector partners, public safety and community revitalization leaders, research partners, and additional community-based organizations committed to improve the MacArthur Park neighborhood targeted by the project.

The cross-sector partnership proposed to support MacArthur Park is new, but flows directly from existing cross sector partnerships that Lead Agency Youth Policy Institute administers with current partners to support place-based neighborhood strategies in initiatives such as the Los Angeles Promise Zone and LA Promise Neighborhood. YPI is the Lead Implementation Partner of the City of Los Angeles for the Los Angeles Promise Zone as well as the Lead Agency and Fiscal Agent for the LA Promise Neighborhood in the Promise Zone project serving this same community. Proposed BCJI services will be implemented through the Promise Zone Public Safety Working Group led by the YPI Chief Community Development Officer Angelica Solis, who has worked with the core partners to address public safety issues in the LA Promise Zone of which the proposed project is a part for the past three years. She works in coordination with the Promise Neighborhood and its extensive array of partners and subcontractors led by YPI Senior Director of School Impact and Integration Karina Favela-Barreras.

All collaborative partners signing this MOU will join the Byrne Leadership Council (a component of the existing and ongoing LA Promise Zone Public Safety Working Group) to provide oversight of all strategies, services, and activities in the proposed MacArthur Park in the Zone project.

All collaborative partners signing below agree to support the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) model by fully participating in implementation of services and in management/oversight of all services as needed throughout the proposed three-year project period (October 1, 2017- September 30, 2020). Each partner signing this Memorandum of Understanding and participating in the MacArthur Park in the Zone

project fully agrees to the following partner services and activities in order to implement a successful program:

- Share all client and program data gathered in the course of providing services and provide access to relevant data sources to the U.S. Department of Justice. All partners further agree to work closely with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) competitively selected TTA partner as permitted by governing bodies of State and Federal Law. This will potentially include participation in information sharing sessions, facilitation of peer-to-peer exchanges of information, and administration of subject matter expertise relevant to BCJI neighborhood efforts.
- Attend all applicable planning and implementation partner meetings of the Byrne Leadership Council and provide feedback on services throughout the three-year planning and implementation period. Each Partner signing this document agrees to attend quarterly Leadership meetings regarding BCJI services to assess planning and implementation services, review program data, and provide oversight of evaluation and ongoing public safety initiatives implemented in the project as required by the Lead Agency and the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Implement agreed upon programs and services (further identified in Agency Roles, below), recruit residents, area businesses, and other stakeholders to participate in program activities, and take an active role in assessing services while working with YPI (and partner) staff.
- Facilitate quality improvement processes and evaluation by participating in related activities and providing access to and integration with data and data systems as needed during the three-year planning and implementation grant period (October 1, 2017- September 30, 2020).
- Work with YPI to create a system of accountability to monitor, maintain and measure performance in accordance with this MOU.
- Continue to work on sustainability with YPI during the term of the BCJI grant and afterwards.

Youth Policy Institute (YPI)- Lead Agency and Fiscal Agent

The Youth Policy Institute will be the Lead Agency and Fiscal Agent for the proposed BCJI Grant. YPI will be responsible for grant administration and for reporting and gathering of information, while coordinating services of all partners in the program. YPI personnel will attend required conferences related to grant services. The vision and mission of YPI is to transform Los Angeles neighborhoods using a holistic approach to reduce poverty by ensuring families have access to high quality schools, wrap-around education and technology services, enabling a successful transition from cradle to college and career. Relevant programs and support services for youth and families in support of proposed BCJI services include direct leadership of place-based initiatives targeting neighborhood revitalization, such as the LA Promise Zone, the LA Promise Neighborhood in the Promise Zone that is serving the same community as Byrne, and the LA Choice Neighborhood planning grant.

The YPI programmatic commitment to the proposed Byrne project through education and community revitalization efforts in place through Promise Neighborhoods includes full

time staffing space for the LA Promise Zone and VISTA AmeriCorps member provided by the City of Los Angeles for BCJI planning and implementation services throughout the three-year project period (2017-20). As well, it will include ongoing Promise Neighborhood support services, including early childhood education, K-12 academic supports (intake and assessment, tutoring, health and nutrition education, gang prevention, before and afterschool programs; college and career services such as one-on-one college advising, college field trips, and summer jobs and internships; and family and community supports that include workforce development, family case management, financial capability programs, and adult education). The financial commitment of these resources will total \$X over the three-year program period.

As Lead and Fiscal Agent for Byrne funding, YPI will ensure meaningful engagement of residents and other partners in the planning and implementation of a comprehensive and coordinated strategic plan. Our agency demonstrates commitment and a clear history of strong partnerships, including the local law enforcement agency and a research partner, to support the data collection and analysis throughout the life of the grant. YPI will hire and support a skilled BCJI Manager under the supervision of the YPI Chief Community Development Officer who will oversee and facilitate coordination and collaboration among criminal justice and service providers. YPI commits to facilitate collaboration with relevant local, state, or federal initiatives (e.g., National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, Project Safe Neighborhoods, other Promise Zones, National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice, anti-gang programs, or other neighborhood revitalization programs) located in, adjacent, or overlapping the jurisdiction that addresses issues that relate to the crime issues identified. YPI will support the planning and sustainment of the program through proactive program management tied to rigorous research and data analysis, program assessment, and leveraging other funding and resources.

City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department - Cross Sector partner

The City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks (RAP) Department oversees MacArthur Park, the focus for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation project. RAP manages core park services at MacArthur Park- as well as over 16,000 acres of parkland in the City of Los Angeles. We offer recreational, social and cultural programs at 444 park sites. This includes hundreds of athletic fields, 422 playgrounds, 321 tennis courts, 184 recreation centers, 72 fitness areas, 62 swimming pools and aquatic centers, 30 senior centers, 26 skate parks, 13 golf courses, 12 museums, 9 dog parks, and 187 summer youth camps throughout the City of Los Angeles. Our Department is pleased to build on our existing partnership with YPI, in which we addressed crime and public safety issues at Lemon Grove Recreation Center in East Hollywood, and which will serve as a successful model for proposed BCJI project.

Programmatic and financial commitments from existing services and resources will be aligned with the BCJI program at MacArthur Park. These will include providing an afterschool program five days per week for children ages 5-12; offering a morning preschool program; facilitating youth sports programs such as soccer or basketball; and providing full-day summer camps for children ages 5-12. In addition, RAP partners with

Levitt Pavilion to offer an annual summer concert series at MacArthur Park, which includes 50 shows and diverse variety of artists and genres. RAP also provides staffing at MacArthur Park, which includes one full-time Director, plus part-time recreation assistants and instructors, and seasonal summer camp staff. The financial commitment of these resources is \$X for the project period.

We commit to working with the Byrne partnership and participating in quarterly Leadership Council meetings during planning and implementation to support strategies and align the above resources with grant-funded activities to address public safety and revitalize MacArthur Park and the surrounding neighborhood.

MacArthur Park in the Zone

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

I have reviewed this Memorandum of Understanding, including the specific roles and duties for my organization, and commit to these roles and duties as described.

AGREED TO:



Vicki Israel, Assistant General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks