



Kate Harrison
Councilmember, District 4

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 11, 2023

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Harrison, Mayor Arreguín, and Councilmember Hahn

SUBJECT: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds and Co-Sponsorship of the César Chávez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution approving an expenditure of D13 funds and cosponsorship of the César Chávez/Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project, with \$250 relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose each from Mayor Arreguín's and Councilmember Harrison's discretionary Council Office Budget Funds, and from any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

The current statewide curricula that covers the life and work of labor and environmental organizers, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta, does not adequately cover their rich legacies nor their direct impact on Berkeley. However, new lesson plans developed as part of the "César Chávez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project" will include both in-class and experiential learning at the tribute site on the waterfront at Berkeley's César Chávez Park. The founders of the curriculum project, Santiago Casal and Beatriz Levya-Cutler, aim to "...honor the equitable relationship, work and words of César and Dolores and others in the farmworker struggle. The synergy of their partnership is what made them highly effective."

Casal and Levya-Cutler plan to apply for the Berkeley Public Schools Fund grant, LEARNING for Equity, which provides \$1,000 - \$15,000 grants to projects focused on addressing systemic oppression through strategic, justice-oriented programming. This funding would allow complete curriculum implementation across Berkeley schools by Spring 2024. The funds provided by Council discretionary budgets, will help provide supplemental compensation for teacher leaders who will utilize summer 2023 to develop prototypes and recruit grade-level teacher consultants. It is in the public interest to donate to this project which serves the fundamental municipal purpose of education.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impact. \$250 is available from Mayor Arreguín and Councilmember Harrison's office accounts.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Not applicable.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Kate Harrison, (510) 981-7140

Mayor Jesse Arreguín, (510) 981-7100

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution Granting Office Funds for a Municipal Purpose

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CITY SPONSORSHIP OF THE CESAR CHAVEZ DOLORES HUERTA
TRIBUTE SITE CURRICULUM FOR BERKELEY STUDENTS

WHEREAS, César Chávez and Dolores Huerta were civil and human rights activists, labor leaders, and environmental justice organizers who dedicated their lives to the earth, to agriculture, and to the farmworkers; and

WHEREAS, the synergy of their partnership and combined legacy uplifts workers across the world; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley re-named Berkeley's Waterfront Park as César Chávez Park in 1996 and the City of Berkeley supported the creation of a solar calendar at the Park as a tribute to these two social and environmental justice warriors; and

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta is, to this day, a long-standing community advocate and promotes the educational importance of land stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the Chávez/Huerta curriculum will expose students in Berkeley's public schools to the importance of service to the community and to four virtues located in the four directions of the Chávez/Huerta Tribute Site: Hope (East), Determination (South), Courage (West), and Tolerance/Non-Violence (North); and

WHEREAS, the children and students of Berkeley now more than ever need and want to inherit a planet that is safe and sustainable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by Mayor Arreguín and Councilmember Harrison from their Office budgets of up to \$250 each and from their office budgets of an amount to be determined by other Councilmembers, shall be granted to the Chávez/Huerta Tribute Site Curriculum Project to serve a municipal public purpose.

