

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: April 29th 2025

Item Number: 16

Item Description: Budget Referral Funding Afterschool Program Expansion

Submitted by: Councilmembers Terry Taplin and Shoshanna O'Keefe

Adding Councilmember O'Keefe as a co-sponsor with additional language an argument under Current Situation and Its Effects.



BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER
TERRY TAPLÍN
DISTRICT 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 29, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Terry Taplin (Author) Councilmember Shoshana O'Keefe (Co-Sponsor)

Subject: Budget Referral Funding Afterschool Program Expansion

RECOMMENDATION

Refer \$300,000 to fund afterschool program expansion to the Fiscal Year 26 Mid-Biennial Budget Update.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$300,000 and staff time.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Community members have reached out to the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) and the 2x2 Committee about insufficient aftercare. With the demand exceeding supply, students and families are subject to competitive enrollment and waitlists. In August, our office was informed by school board directors that there were 25 staff vacancies and hundreds of students on waitlists. With no guaranteed universal childcare, limited subsidized options, and a lack of adequate after school care, low- and middle-income families struggle to meet their childcare needs. This can cause immense and undue stress, put needed jobs at risk, and force desperate families to turn to substandard childcare arrangements. No family in Berkeley should have to sacrifice security for lack of high quality, affordable childcare.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley provides quality elementary afterschool programs at multiple locations that currently serve 245 BUSD youth. The programs are subsidized by the General Fund and offer 50% and 100% scholarships to those who need them. The programs are staffed by full- and part-time employees in the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department's Recreation Division.

The city's current afterschool program is at the following sites:

Live Oak Community Center (60)
James Kenney Community Center (75, includes Therapeutic Recreation Program)
Frances Albrier Community Center (65)
Willard Clubhouse (45)

The current cost per pupil is just under \$3,000 per school year. With the new Willard Clubhouse, the planned MLK Jr. Youth Services Center expansion, and an additional \$300,000, the city can serve an additional 100 elementary age youth.

Live Oak Community Center (80)
James Kenney Community Center (85, includes Therapeutic Recreation Program)
Frances Albrier Community Center (75)
Willard Clubhouse (65)
MLK Jr. Youth Services Center (40)

Additionally, the city would need to come up with a plan to expand its transportation program in order to ensure students can get from their school to the program site. Attached is a press release from Zum, a student transportation provider, who announced in August that they deployed an all-electric fleet of school buses in Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), making it the first major school district in the U.S. to transition to a 100% electrified school bus system.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

N/A.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Terry Taplin, District 2, 510-981-7120.

Attachments:

1 - Press Release: Zum Deploys Nation's First 100% Electric School Bus Fleet in Oakland, California for the 2024-2025 School Year



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