

Office of Mayor Charlie Hales City of Portland

COVER MEMO

To:

Portland City Council

From:

Office of Mayor Charlie Hales

Re:

Report to Portland City Council on the work to engage at-risk youth under the

Mayor's Community Center Initiative during FY 2015-16 (Report)

Date:

March 9, 2016

Rising out of an uptick in gang violence in the first quarter of 2015, particularly among young low-income youth, and youth of color, Mayor Hales recognized that Portland was not offering enough opportunities to provide safe, supervised spaces and programs to facilitate positive youth development and offer alternatives to the unsafe and negative activities that have been damaging our community. In response, Mayor Hales announced a \$2 million annual investment in a new Community Center Initiative.

The Mayor's Community Center Initiative was developed in collaboration between the Mayor's Office, Portland Police Bureau (PPB), the Office of Youth Violence Prevention, and Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) with input from community stakeholders. The initiative not only involves the City of Portland and its resources, but also calls to duty community groups, service providers and anyone else who cares about keeping Portland youth off the streets and engaged in constructive opportunities.

It was determined that the best approach for the Mayor's Community Center Initiative would be to focus on two distinct, but interrelated communities, 1) high risk gang involved youth and, 2) general population of Portland teens, with an emphasis on those residing in gang affected areas. The following strategies were established to support this approach:

High Risk Gang Involved Youth: Provide dedicated spaces, necessary staff, and other resources to facilitate programs for high risk gang involved youth. These programs will utilize community partners, especially culturally specific partners, to recruit, transport, supervise, and actively engage with this group.

General Population of Portland Teens: Expand and extend existing PP&R teen programs to increase the available hours, diversify the slate of offering, enhance the appeal of community centers to teens, especially youth of color, and ensure that these efforts harmonize with existing programs and user groups.

This report presents the work completed thus far to implement the aforementioned strategies of the Mayor's Community Center Initiative during Fiscal Year 2015-16.

Agenda No. **REPORT**

Title

Report to Portland City Council on the work to engage at-risk youth under the Mayor's Community Center Initiative during FY 2015-16 (Report)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Mayor Hales	CLERK USE: DATE FILED MAR 01 2016	_
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman Position 4/Safety - Novick BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Portland Parks & Recreation Bureau Head: Mike Abbaté Prepared by: Cynthia Castro Date Prepared:2/26/2016	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portlan Deputy ACTION TAKEN: MAR 0 9 2016 ACCEPTED	d
Impact Statement Completed ☑ Amends Budget □	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code. easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan Council Meeting Date 3/9/2016		

	AGENDA TIME CERTAIN ⊠ Start time: 2:00 PM			
	Total amount of time needed: 60 min. (for presentation, testimony and discussion)			
	CONSENT			
	REGULAR Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)			
	*			

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:				
	YEAS	NAYS		
1. Fritz	\checkmark			
2. Fish	-			
3. Saltzman	/			
4. Novick				
Hales	✓			
	AS FOLLOWS: 1. Fritz 2. Fish 3. Saltzman 4. Novick	AS FOLLOWS: YEAS 1. Fritz 2. Fish 3. Saltzman 4. Novick		