

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation 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)

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Presenter name: Diana Nuñez, Community Outreach Manager (Mayor's Office), Tera Pierce, Deputy Chief of Staff (Mayor's Office), Karen Birt, Montavilla Community Center Director and Teen Program Supervisor (PP&R), Maximo Behrens, Matt Dishman Community Center Director (PP&R), Cynthia Castro, Teen Services Program Specialist (PP&R), and other key stakeholders

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The purpose of this report is to update Council about the work that has been done thus far under the Mayor's Community Center Initiative during Fiscal Year 2015-16.

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.

PP&R is the lead bureau in implementing the initiative as major focuses are providing teens free access to PP&R run community centers and expanding PP&R's existing teen services program. Working in conjunction with PP&R are seven community partners who were awarded grants under the Mayor's Community Center Initiative to leverage their resources to provide pro-social activities for at-risk youth in safe, supervised environments, including PP&R community centers.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

To implement the Mayor's Community Center Initiative, PP&R had close to \$2 million added to its Teen Services Program budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16. While the Mayor's intent is for PP&R's Teen Services Program to receive this amount on an annual basis, the funding is only secure through Fiscal Year 2016-17. It is up to Portland City Council, including the new Mayor, to continue funding the Mayor's Community Center Initiative beyond Fiscal Year 2016-17.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Since the beginning of Fiscal Year 2015-16, thousands of youth have been impacted by the Mayor’s Community Center Initiative. As a result of the Mayor’s Community Center Initiative, youth gained free access to Matt Dishman Community Center all summer through the new Summer Youth Pass program. Over 2400 youth registered for a Summer Youth Pass and Matt Dishman Community Center saw over 1000 youth visit the center daily. The Summer Youth Pass was eventually expanded to East Portland Community Center in response to the high demand at Matt Dishman and to reach youth living in that area.

During the school year, youth continued to have free access (during out of school times) to Matt Dishman and East Portland community and also gained free access to PP&R’s other “Teen Centers,” Montavilla Community Center, Mt. Scott Community Center, and Charles Jordan Community Center. At each of the Teen Centers, youth can participate in drop-in activities like basketball and teen nights, relax in the teen lounges, or sign up for a variety of classes such as cooking or art. PP&R also offers youth groups such as Q Crew and the Teen Volunteer Corp.

Seven community partners received grants to provide pro-social activities for at-risk youth in safe, supervised environments including PP&R community centers. For example, partners invited youth to teen nights on Saturdays at PP&R community centers to enjoy a variety of activities such as basketball, movies, board games, culturally specific activities, guest speakers, leadership development, creative expression, and more. The seven community partners include: Boys and Girls Club of Portland, IRCO – Africa House, Latino Network, NAYA, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc, Rosewood Initiative, and Self Enhancement, Inc.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES: Please complete the information below.
- NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

 DIANA FIELITZ for JEFF SHAFFER 2/26/16

Finance Manager, PP&R

(Jeff Shaffer)

Date