

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** \*Authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Oregon, on behalf of Portland State University, to conduct research and co-create criteria and key data for measuring success of future youth programs for Portland Parks & Recreation for an amount not to exceed \$30,000 (Ordinance)

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**Presenter name:** None

### **Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

In 2015, Mayor Hales announced a \$2 million ongoing investment in Portland Parks & Recreation's (PP&R's) Teen Services Program to implement a Community Center Initiative to engage at-risk youth.

The first year of the Mayor's Community Center Initiative was treated as a pilot and included the following primary components: free youth (ages 11-20) access to PP&R community centers during out of school times, expanded PP&R youth programming, and pro-social activities for high risk youth designed and executed by community partners. Although the early impact of the Initiative has been satisfactory, this has been based largely on number of youth accessing the community centers and programs, and anecdotes. In order to better quantify the impact of the Mayor's Community Center Initiative, PP&R has requested the services of Portland State University's Center for Public Service to co-create criteria and metrics for measuring success of the Initiative.

The Mayor's Community Center Initiative is one of a number of efforts within PP&R focused on engaging Portland youth. To avoid operating in isolation, Portland State University will also examine other PP&R youth programs and involve a broad spectrum of key stakeholders as part of this project.

Under this Intergovernmental Agreement, Portland State University will: lead a series of facilitated discussions with key stakeholders, research positive youth development models and best practices, share findings from facilitated discussions and research with a core team of PP&R staff, and work with the core team to establish criteria and key data for measuring success of future youth programs. PSU will also produce a report of findings from this project and a separate report that captures the first year of the Mayor's Community Center Initiative.

### **Financial and budgetary impacts:**

PP&R is requesting Portland City Council authorize this Intergovernmental Agreement so that the bureau may compensate Portland State University for their services. The amount of

compensation will not exceed \$30,000 and will be drawn from PP&R's Teen Services Program budget. PP&R believes this is a reasonable compensation given the scope of work for this project.

Portland State University's services are important to help PP&R lay a solid foundation for the Mayor's Community Center Initiative and future youth programs. This project will help PP&R be more strategic about how it spends funding on youth programs and enhance youth programs, ultimately leading to a greater positive impact on the lives of Portland youth.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

The Mayor's Community Center Initiative was established in response to record levels of gang violence occurring in Portland. The intent of the Initiative is to provide youth with safe and supportive environments where they can recreate, develop skills, and build meaningful relationships with peers and positive adults.

PP&R determined the best approach for the Initiative was to bring in community partners who would design and execute pro-social activities for high risk, gang-impacted, and gang-involved youth and for PP&R to expand programming for the general population of Portland youth. Other City bureaus have also been involved in the Initiative such as the Portland Police Bureau, Mayor's Office, Office of Youth Violence Prevention, and Commissioner Fritz Office. The primary target audience for the Mayor's Community Center Initiative is youth ages 11-20, especially youth living in high need areas, youth of color, and low-income youth. Since the inception of the Initiative, ~ 12,000 youth have been reached by the Mayor's Community Center Initiative.

Other PP&R youth programs also impact Portland youth, community partners, other City bureaus, and the community at large.

**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



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Jeff Shaffer, Portland Parks & Recreation Finance Manager