



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

August 1, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with the State Department of Education for continued operation of the Even Start Family Literacy Program, for the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, and any subsequent amendments as needed to complete the agreement; increase appropriations by \$202,500 in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150) in the Department of Community Development (CD); and, execute a contract with the Long Beach Unified School District in the amount of \$182,500 to provide family literacy services. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

The Workforce Development Bureau has been the recipient of Even Start Grant funds to operate a family literacy program since July 2000. The Even Start Program is designed to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving educational opportunities for low-income families by helping parents gain the skills needed to become full partners in the education of their young children. The Program integrates early childhood education, adult literacy or adult basic education, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. In Long Beach, the Workforce Development Bureau and Long Beach Unified School District further enhance program activities by linking the workforce development programs of the Career Transition Center into the mix of services for the participating adults.

Services are delivered at the Long Beach School for Adults, the Career Transition Center and at various Head Start locations throughout the community. The Program also provides books for participating families to create at-home libraries to encourage ongoing reading. Of the \$202,500 grant, the District will utilize \$182,500 to coordinate direct program services to thirty families and the Bureau will utilize \$20,000 for grant oversight costs.

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This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Charles Parkin on July 5, 2006 and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on July 19, 2006.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on August 1, 2006, to facilitate processing of required documents.

FISCAL IMPACT

An appropriation increase of \$202,500 is requested in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150) in the Department of Community Development (CD). An appropriation increase is included in the recommendation. There is no impact to the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICK H. WEST  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER

PHW:BSR:sjg  
Even Start.07