

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

April 19, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents from the State Department of Education to receive an additional \$4,500 to augment the Even Start Family Literacy Program and extend the contract with Long Beach Unified School District through September 30, 2005. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

At the City Council meeting of October 19, 2004, the Council authorized receipt of a \$172,500 award from the State Department of Education for the Workforce Development Bureau to deliver family literacy program services for the period of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

The Even Start Family Literacy Program (Even Start) is an education program for low-income families that is designed to improve the academic achievement of young children and their parents, especially in the area of reading. Services include early childhood, parent, and adult basic education to enhance parent and child time together. The program also provides books for participating families to create at-home libraries to encourage ongoing reading.

The program links the employment and education programs at the Career Transition Center (CTC) with planned literacy development efforts through Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD). The State has notified the City of an additional Even Start award of \$4,500; this additional funding will enable LBUSD to purchase children's books and children's size computers for Even Start parents to use with their children at home. It will also support family literacy summer school activities and services.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Everett L. Glenn on March 28, 2005, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on April 6, 2005.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on April 19, 2005, to facilitate processing of required documents.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds to support this activity are budgeted in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150). There is no impact to the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Adopt the recommendation.

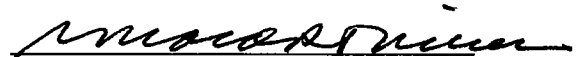
Respectfully submitted,



MELANIE S. FALLON
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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EvenStart.Amend.2005

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER