



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2007

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL CIVICS PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2007

FROM: CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

PRESENTATION BY: THOMAS R. HATCH, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: THOMAS R. HATCH AT 714-754-5288

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council provide any additional direction or clarification to staff on educational civics programs for youth.

BACKGROUND:

At the January 16, 2007 meeting, the City Council voted 3-2 to receive and file the attached staff report (Attachment 1) on the Youth In Government Program deciding not to proceed forward with the Program at this time. The City Council also reviewed the Youth In Government Program at its Study Session of February 13, 2007. Council Member Foley has requested that the issue of a Youth In Government Program be added to the March 6, 2007 City Council Agenda.

As part of the initial research for the Youth In Government Program, staff compiled information from other cities as to what kind of programs they operate and how they are structured. A listing of the various types of programs offered by a few neighboring communities is provided as Attachment 2 of this staff report.

ANALYSIS:

There is a broad range of activities that local educational civics programs offer for youth. Each agency has different ideas and objectives for their programs. The following bullet points summarize the types and ranges of activities that could be offered in a program:

- Participating in joint meetings and/or providing reports to City Councils, Parks and Recreation Commissions, etc., as well as informational and advisory sessions with department staff. This could also involve touring facilities and learning about public programs and services;
- Planning, and organizing special events such as city shadow programs, youth job fairs, Teen Summit Day, and a wide range of social events like Battle of the Bands;

- Maintaining established programs and projects such as the Laguna Niguel Teen Website, Youth Community and Volunteer Service Directory, and Youth Employment Directory;
- Organizing, promoting, and participating in volunteer service projects or fundraising campaigns like a disaster relief effort or a clean-up day; and
- Interning with an agency through direct, competitively-appointed positions. These intern positions can be either volunteer or paid positions.

Local youth programs typically require attendance at monthly meetings throughout the school year. Program activities reflect a range of emphasis from technical internship or instruction to acting in an advisory capacity to the City Council. Developing leadership skills is also a part of many programs. Finally, the involvement of the local school district or the business community varies from program to program.

FISCAL REVIEW:

No further fiscal review is required for this item.

LEGAL REVIEW:

No further legal review is required for this item.

THOMAS R. HATCH
Assistant City Manager

DISTRIBUTION: Allan L. Roeder, City Manager
Carol Proctor, Management Analyst/Liaison to Youth Council

ATTACHMENT 1: [Staff Report from January 16, 2007 City Council meeting](#)
ATTACHMENT 2: [Comparison of key elements of programs from other cities and sample agenda](#)

CM Youth Council Rpt3-6-07