

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 44188 Agenda Number 9.

Meeting Date: 5/7/2015 Department: Parks and Recreation

Subject

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20140908-001) to accept and appropriate \$30,000 in grant funds from the National Recreation and Park Association to provide nutrition information, to implement nutrition and physical activity standards, and to promote programs that will lead to more sustainable meals.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$30,000 is available from the National Recreation and Park Association. A city match is not required.

A fiscal note is attached. Purchasing Language: Prior Council Action: For More Information: Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action: MBE / WBE: Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

The National Recreation and Park Association has granted the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) a total of \$65,000 in funding for the purposes of increasing healthy lifestyles through programs at PARD facilities. \$30,000 is allocated for nutritional initiatives.

Through a local partnership, PARD has been providing opportunities for children to receive healthy meals during the summer when school is out, and during after school programs, for the past 25 years.

Most recently, using grant funds and working in partnership with City Square, the PARD Youth Meal Programs provide free nutritional meals for children at PARD locations in communities with elementary schools where 50% or more of the children qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

This request allows PARD to receive funding to implement an evidence-based nutrition literacy curriculum for children who participate in the PARD Youth Meal Programs and the summer wellness programs. These wellness programs include increased opportunities for physical activity.

Grant funding will be utilized to expand an existing Fitness Enhancement Program. Funding will be allocated for staffing and supplies to increase participation in existing sites that are currently eligible for the food program. This program will continue to provide summer camp participants with opportunities to be physically active and also to learn about nutrition, along with access to a healthy snack or meal, in a qualifying neighborhood program. The proposed curriculum addresses the following components of health and wellness in youth and teens: introduction to physical activity as a tool for long term health, educating participants regarding the relationship between physical activity and maintaining a healthy body, and raising awareness of the importance of nutrition for good health.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, PARD's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Goals for the program:

- 1. Increase participation at existing youth programs.
- 2. Increase awareness of the importance of fruits, vegetables and other high-fiber, low-fat foods.
- 3. Increase awareness of food safety practices for children who prepare their own meals and snacks
- 4. Encourage daily physical activity