



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NORA VARGAS
First District

JOEL ANDERSON
Second District

TERRA LAWSON-REMER
Third District

NATHAN FLETCHER
Fourth District

JIM DESMOND
Fifth District

DATE: October 5, 2021

14

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

ALLOCATE \$2.0 MILLION IN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR INVESTMENTS IN YOUTH SPORTS AND CAMPS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The County of San Diego (County) Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) facilitates youth sports both directly and indirectly by offering camps and leagues and provides sports fields and courts for over 120 outside youth sports organizations. Additionally, DPR facilitates a wide range of youth camps for toddlers to high school age participants. Programs include seasonal camps that occur during school breaks and a variety of themed programs centered around fitness and arts.

However, during the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis, many of these programs were paused or adjusted due to State and federally mandated closures. As a result, youth across the region have not had the opportunity to participate in these recreation activities. Additionally, many families continue to face financial hardships that prevent youth from participating in youth sports and camp programs.

On June 8, 2021 (03), the Board of Supervisors (Board) established appropriations of \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for investments in youth sports and camps. If approved, DPR would use this funding to offset the costs associated with registration in DPR-led youth camps and sports leagues and for organizations that use DPR facilities for recreational youth sports and camp activities. Additionally, lessees of DPR facilities and organizations in the unincorporated areas of the County that do not currently run recreational youth sports and camp activities on DPR property will also be eligible for the reimbursement of costs associated with registration through the program. It is anticipated that 15,000 – 20,000 youth will benefit from the program.

Using the California Healthy Places Index (HPI), DPR would prioritize funding for families and communities that have been most impacted by the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis and organizations that serve those communities. Approximately \$1,800,000 would be used to issue fee waivers and reimbursements, and up to \$200,000 of these funds would be used to support the

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administrative costs of operating the program, including assisting families and organizations with the application and registration process.

Today's request would result in costs and revenues of \$2,000,000 in the Department of Parks and Recreation to support youth sports and camps. Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operational Plan for the Department of Parks and Recreation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

1. Find that the proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(3) and 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines because it involves government fiscal activities, including the identification and allocation of funding without a commitment or approval of specific projects.
2. Waive Board Policy B-29: *Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery*, for fees relating to facility use for youth sports and camp activities.
3. Transfer appropriations of \$2,000,000 from Finance Other, General Miscellaneous Expense, Other Charges to the Department of Parks and Recreation, Services & Supplies (\$1,800,000), and Salaries & Benefits (\$200,000), for the Youth Sports and Camps Program, based on available American Rescue Plan Act funds.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Youth Sports and Camps Fee Waiver Program will reduce financial barriers that would otherwise limit participation in DPR programs or prevent youth organizations from participating in youth sports and camp activities. It will have a positive impact on residents within the County of San Diego by promoting healthy childhood environments and improve physical and mental health by expanding opportunities to participate in organized sports and youth camps.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operational Plan in the Department of Parks and Recreation. If approved, this request will result in costs and revenue of \$2,000,000 in the Department of Parks and Recreation. A waiver of Board Policy B-29: Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery (Board Policy B-29) is requested for fees related to facility use for youth sports and camp activities. The proposed ARPA funding may not offset all administrative costs. Any unrecovered cost per Board Policy B-29 up to \$200,000 through December 31, 2024 will be funded with existing General Purpose Revenue in the Department of Parks and Recreation. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

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BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Today’s actions benefit local organizations and the community at large by improving accessibility to youth sports programming and youth camps. This contributes to enhanced community recreational opportunities and a healthy environment.

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

N/A

BACKGROUND

The County of San Diego (County) Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) facilitates youth sports both directly and indirectly by offering camps and leagues and provides sports fields and courts for over 120 outside youth sports organizations. Youth leagues include Little League Baseball and Softball, AYSO Soccer, Pop Warner Football and Cheer, and other similar groups. Additionally, DPR facilitates over 40 youth camps and programs. Youth camps and programs run through the year with increased offerings during school intersessions. Camps and programs include seasonal camps that occur during school breaks and a variety of themed programs centered around fitness and arts.

However, during the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis many of these programs were paused or adjusted due to State and federally mandated closures. As a result, youth across the region have not had the opportunity to participate in these recreation activities. Additionally, many families continue to face financial hardships that prevent youth from participating in youth sports and camp programs.

On June 8, 2021 (03), the Board of Supervisors (Board) established appropriations of \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding for investments in youth sports and camps. If approved, DPR would use this funding to offset the costs associated with registration in DPR led camps and sports leagues, and for organizations utilizing DPR facilities for recreational youth sports and camp activities. Additionally, lessees of DPR sports facilities and recreational youth sports and camp organizations in the unincorporated areas of the County that do not currently run activities on DPR property will also be eligible for the reimbursement of costs associated with registration through the program. It is anticipated that 15,000 – 20,000 youth will benefit from the program.

Using the California Healthy Places Index (HPI), DPR would prioritize funding for families and communities that have been most impacted by the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis and organizations that serve those communities. The HPI combines multiple community characteristics, including economic, education, housing, health care access, neighborhood, clean environment, transportation, and social factors into a single indexed score for individual census tracts. The scores from multiple census tracts are then compared across the state to provide an overall report on the health of individual communities and neighborhoods. Using this report, a total of 36 zip codes within the unincorporated areas of the County and areas in which DPR facilities are located were identified as fifty percent “less healthy” than other census tracts. These zip codes were then categorized as being in the third and fourth quartile. Participants, facilities and

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organizations that fall within the HPI's third and fourth quartile would be eligible for full waivers and reimbursements of costs associated with registration up to a \$100. Participants, facilities, and organizations that fall outside of those quartiles would also be eligible for partial waivers and reimbursements of 50% of costs associated with registration through the program up to \$50.

Approximately \$1,800,000 would be used to issue fee waivers and reimbursements, and up to \$200,000 of these funds would be used to support the administrative costs of operating the program, including assisting individuals and youth organizations with the application and registration process.

For youth sports, eligible types would include:

- Waiving individual program registration costs up to \$100 for all DPR-administered youth sports programs that are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes and partially reduce registration costs by 50% for youth sports programs that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.
- Waiving individual program registration costs up to \$100 for recreational youth sports organizations using DPR facilities that are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes and partially reduce registration costs by 50% for recreational youth sports programs that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.
- Waiving individual program registration costs up to \$100 for recreational youth sports organizations in the unincorporated areas of the County that do not currently operate in DPR facilities and are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes. Partially reduce registration costs by 50% for recreational youth sports programs that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.

For youth camps/programs, eligible types would include:

- Waiving registration costs for youth camps and programs facilitated by DPR that are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$100 and partially reduce registration costs by 50% for youth camps/programs that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.
- Waiving registration costs for youth camps and programs offered by organizations using DPR facilities that are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$100 and partially reduce registration costs by 50% for youth camps/programs that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.
- Waiving individual program registration costs for youth camps in the unincorporated areas of the County that do not currently operate in DPR facilities and are in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$100. Partially reduce registration costs by 50% for youth camps that are not located in the HPI third and fourth quartile zip codes up to \$50.

If approved, DPR would immediately begin outreach efforts to engage participants and youth organizations to implement this program prior to their next registration period. DPR will work

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with recreational youth sports and camp organizations ahead of their next registration period to ensure that the necessary adjustments are made to registration fees so that individuals will receive this benefit during the registration period. Registration periods vary therefore DPR would process requests in the order received. Requests will be reviewed by DPR staff to determine eligibility. Once eligibility has been confirmed, DPR would work with a single contact at each organization to issue the reimbursement.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(3) and 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines. Per Section 15050(c)(3), an activity is exempt from CEQA if it is not a project as defined in Section 15378. Section 15378(b)(5) is applicable because the action before the Board of Supervisors is administrative in nature and would not result in a physical change to the environment. The proposed action is administrative, as it would allocate funding that would offset the costs associated with registration for programs and waive fees for organizations using Department of Parks and Recreation facilities for youth sports and camp activities. Administrative activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment are not projects as defined by Section 15378.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's action supports the Building Better Health Strategic Initiative in the County of San Diego's 2021-2026 Strategic Plan by promoting equitable access for youth sports and developmental programs by removing financial barriers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,



SARAH E. AGHASSI
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED

 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

June 8, 2021 (03), Approve the Recommended Framework for the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funding, Establish Appropriations to Support Proposed Actions, and Authorize the Auditor & Controller to Establish a Trust Fund for the American Rescue Plan Act Program Funds.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

B-29: Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

Board Policy B-29 mandates that departments seek to recover the full cost of all services provided to agencies or individuals outside the County of San Diego organization. Reimbursement by fees, contracts and grants will be for the full cost of all services, with certain exceptions approved by the Board.

The proposed ARPA funding may not offset all administrative costs. Any unrecovered cost per Board Policy B-29 would be funded by existing General Purpose Revenue in the Department of Parks and Recreation, as determined by the nature of the project(s) or program(s). The projects to be funded will enhance the quality of life in San Diego County by offering the public exceptional parks and recreation experiences.

In accordance with Board Policy B-29, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation certifies that the activities proposed to be funded ARPA would be worthy of County funding if external financing were unavailable.

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Department of Parks & Recreation

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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