



Terry Taplin
Councilmember District 2

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: May 14, 2024

Item Number: 23

Item Description: Budget Referral: BYA Counseling Center and Summer Jam Day Camp

Submitted by: Councilmember Taplin

This item has been revised to remove the BYA Counseling Center from the referral, as this program has already been referred to the budget process through community agency grant funding. The budget referral now only covers the costs of the Summer Jam Day Camp.



BERKELEY CITY COUNCILMEMBER
TERRY TAPLÍN
DISTRICT 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
May 14, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Taplin

Subject: Budget Referral: BYA ~~Counseling Center and~~ Summer Jam Day Camp

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Fiscal Year (FY) 25-26 budget process ~~\$35,000~~~~110,000~~ for the Berkeley Youth Alternatives (BYA) ~~Counseling Center and~~ Summer Jam Day Camp.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

~~\$35,000~~~~110,000~~ in General Fund impact.

BACKGROUND

For over 40 years, Berkeley Youth Alternatives (BYA) has served the children and families of Berkeley and the surrounding cities in Alameda County and Contra Costa Counties by providing comprehensive services in a supportive and bias-free haven. Founded in 1969 as a runaway youth shelter, BYA has since expanded to provide comprehensive youth and family services.

In 2022, the City of Berkeley allocated \$160,000 to BYA “to support their counseling center and \$35,000 for the Summer Jam Day Camp” as part of a suite of violence prevention investments in Phase II of Reimagining Public Safety (see Attachment 1). However, due to a period of high inflation, BYA is facing higher operating costs as it struggles to retain counseling staff with competitive salaries.

BYA ~~sought~~ ~~is requesting a~~ smaller amount in this fiscal year and obtained community agency grants funding to support counseling staff retention. ~~BYA is seeking, and~~ ~~\$35,000~~ ~~the same amount~~ to support the Summer Jam Day Camp. The latter program provides free and low-cost recreation and educational opportunities during an 8-week period in the summer for low-income youth in the community. Research has consistently found that summer recreation programs have a positive impact on violence prevention.¹

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

None.

¹ Fischer, K. N., & Teutsch, S. M. (2014). Safe summer parks programs reduce violence and improve health in Los Angeles County. *NAM Perspectives*. Retrieved Apr. 22, 2024 from <https://nam.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/BPH-SafeSummerParks.pdf>

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachments:

- 1: Reimagining Public Safety - Phase II Presentation (May 5, 2022)
- 2: BYA Letter (March 22, 2024)