



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS DATE: JULY 15, 2019

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF THE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS BETWEEN THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, OUTSIDE AGENCIES AND LOCAL ARTISTS TO COMPLETE ART PROJECTS IN THE COMMUNITY

ISSUE:

Recognition of the collaborative efforts between the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, outside agencies and local artists to complete art projects in the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission receive this report and provide feedback as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of Project BRIDGE is to transform the lifestyle of gang-involved youth and their families and reduce gang violence in the community. The program provides comprehensive services to gang-involved youth between the ages of 12-22 and their families in the City of Riverside. Project BRIDGE focuses on delinquency prevention and early intervention for participants. Various services are provided to program participants at home, in school and within the community through Outreach Workers. The program includes community service projects, group discussions, career workshops, peer relationships and mentors to develop personal and social competence.

Community service projects play a major role when working with youth, as the projects keep participants involved and focused. Project BRIDGE staff work alongside with Riverside Probation, Youth Court, Neighborhood College Young Offender Program, Youth Accountability Team (YAT), and Creative Option for Positive Education (COPE) to recruit and provide a unique service to youth in the community.

DISCUSSION:

Currently, there are 100 youth enrolled in Project BRIDGE and are led by Lead Outreach Worker Ron DelCid. Through Ron's collaboration efforts, Project BRIDGE trained 30 youth in mural painting. Throughout the year, Ron DelCid and local Artist Jesus Castaneda led three murals with Project BRIDGE participants, volunteers and elementary school students which included

Fairmount Park Golf Course, Cesar Chavez Community Center basement and El Rancho Market.

The Fairmount Park Golf Course mural incorporated a picture of the historic Mt. Rubidoux, Fairmount Golf Course and Lake Evans.

The second mural was located at the Bobby Bonds Cesar Chavez Basement. Project BRIDGE participants were able to transform the basement into a giant work of art. Stairway walls, stairs, pillars, and one long wall were painted with the sense of diverse culture, community and sports. Artwork included a mariachi player, youth playing sports and a portrait of Bobby Bonds.

The third mural was a collaboration between Ward 6 Councilmember Jim Perry, Arlanza Elementary School, John Muir Charter School, local artist Jesus Castaneda, and PRCSD staff member Ronald DelCid. To determine what artwork would be painted on the wall, students, grades 3-6th were asked to submit what the Arlanza neighborhood meant to them. Of the 300 students who submitted artwork, 10 drawings were selected. All 300 students were given the opportunity to assist with painting the mural. Project BRIDGE teens assisted the elementary students, facilitating areas to paint on the mural, mixing and pouring colors, and setting up and breaking down at the end of the day.

John Muir Charter School student, Bryan Hernandez, said: “Participating in the mural was really cool. I had fun being a part of such a big thing in the community.”

The PRCSD is committed to collaborating with outside agencies to continue expanding services for Project BRIDGE participants and the community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Robin Metz, Deputy Director

Approved by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director

Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager

Attachment: Presentation