



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2019**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: UPDATES ON THE YOUTH INNOVATION CENTER AT ARLINGTON PARK

ISSUE:

Receive an update on the construction and programming components of the new Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission receive and provide feedback on a report highlighting updates on the construction and programming components of the new Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park.

BACKGROUND:

On December 16, 2014, City Council directed staff to re-design existing plans for a childcare center to serve as a Youth Innovation Center and allocate funding for the design phase. Staff held off on bidding the project until January 29, 2018, so funding would be available for operating the facility once constructed.

On July 30, 2018, Act 1 construction was issued a notice to proceed with constructing the approximately, 9,000 square foot Youth Innovation Center at Arlington Park.

DISCUSSION:

Construction

The project is substantially completed excluding a few trades such as millwork (cabinets, countertops and backsplashes), painting, flooring and furniture.

Programming

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) Staff continue to accept proposals for contract classes. Course proposals include topics in coding, tutoring, STEM clubs, and computer courses. Newest secured classes are a mommy and me (12-18 months) STEM program, a pre-K STEM drop-off program (ages 2-3), a STEM Lego camp, and common core

math for all ages (including parents for homework help).

PRCSD Staff is currently waiting on two MOUs to be finalized with Learn 4 Life, a charter school functioning on an independent study model, and Music Changing Lives, a non-profit that teaches at-risk youth how to produce their own music.

PRCSD staff are currently interviewing to fill the Coordinator position. This candidate will oversee day to day operations of the building and play a crucial role in the further development of new and innovative programming. PRCSD staff are also filling the Instructor positions. These two new hires will have expertise in various subjects to provide instruction for classes, workshops, and seminars. Topics will range from film and photography, music production, computers, maker space equipment, and STEM related fields.

The Department goal is to raise \$2,000,000, or more, for an endowment for ongoing operations. Since the inaugural Innovators' Gala, held on October 30, 2019, the Department has received a commitment of \$206,100. This commitment has come in the form of naming rights for three of the center's rooms, sponsorship tiers, and donations.

A Dedication Ceremony for the building was held on November 21st from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Attendance was around 120 people, with many City of Riverside residents, future partners and City Dignitaries in attendance. A certificate in recognition of the event was presented to Councilmember Chris Mac Arthur by Eddie Torres, Field Representative for Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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