

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 03/09/2009		Item Number: A-5	
AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Fee Waiver/Reduction Requests from the Westside Regional Center.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Pam Robinson		Phone Number: (310) 253-6000	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☒
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (03/04/09); Representatives of: Westside Regional Center (by telephone – 03/04/09).			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (03/04/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/04/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (03/04/09)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (03/05/09)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council consider fee waiver/reduction requests from the Westside Regional Center and direct staff as deemed appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City Council adopts various fees and charges for the City as part of the budget process. In 2007, the City Council authorized a comprehensive review of all of the City's fees. As part of that process, a consultant was selected to perform a comprehensive update to the City's fees and charges. Effective for Fiscal Year 2007/2008, the updated fees and charges, many of which had increased as a result of inflation and a higher level of cost recovery, were adopted by the City Council. Pursuant to the newly adopted fees and charges, staff has been informing various groups and individuals of the fees and charges now applicable.

DISCUSSION:

At a recent Council meeting, the Westside Regional Center requested a fee waiver.

Westside Regional Center (WRC)

Based upon information from their website, the WRC "offers assessment, case management and support to persons with developmental disabilities... The regional center system that serves people with developmental disabilities in California has grown from the first two centers in 1966 to a network of 21 agencies covering every area of the state. Each center is a private, nonprofit corporation, funded by a

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contract with the State Department of Developmental Services. Each has a Board of Directors that includes clients, parents, professionals, and other concerned community members.” The service area for the Westside Regional Center includes Culver City.

The WRC has rented a room at the Veterans Memorial Building since 2005. Each year, the WRC was charged approximately \$2,500 depending on the number of rooms they rented. This year, the WRC was quoted a rental fee of \$2,504 for their Westside Jam on March 27, 2009 (please note, under the new fees and charges schedule, this fee is for a lower number of rooms).

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The revenues projected for Fiscal Year 2008/2009 and those to be projected for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 have been based upon the fees and charges included in the adopted fees and charges schedule. Therefore, each fee waiver/reduction granted would lower the amount of revenues received by the City. Given the current deficit estimated at \$500,000, every reduction in revenue would require either an increase in revenue in another General Fund area or a further reduction in expenditures above the \$500,000 in reductions already needed to end Fiscal Year 2008/2009 with an operating surplus.

Should the City Council grant the fee waivers/reductions as requested, the following revenue impacts would be realized:

ORGANIZATION	FY 2009/2010	FY 2010/2011
Westside Regional Center	\$2,504	\$2,604*

- **City User Fees and Charges are typically increased on an annual basis to account for, at minimum, cost-of-living-allowances (COLA). In order to address potential COLA increases, the table above includes a 4% increase to the 2010/2011 estimate.*

ATTACHMENTS:

1. E-Mail from the Westside Regional Center

MOTION:

That the City Council:

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- (1) Approve the fee waiver request as presented; OR
- (2) Approve the fee waiver request in the amount of \$_____ resulting in a revised fee of \$_____; OR
- (3) Deny the fee waiver request (thereby leaving the current fee in the fee and charges schedule applicable);

AND

- (4) (If motion 1 or 2 is adopted) Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents including the amended fee amounts authorized by the City Council; and,
- (5) (If motion 1 or 2 is adopted) Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.