

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: <u>01/13/14</u>		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission Regarding the Draft PRCS Department Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure.		
Contact Person/Dept.: Dan Hernandez, PRCS Director		Phone Number: (310) 253-6655
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒
Commission Action Required: Yes ☒ No ☐		Date: <u>12/03/13</u>
Public Notification: (Email) Meetings and Agendas – City Council (01/07/14); (Email) Department Updates – Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (01/07/14); (Email) Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission (01/07/14).		
Department Approval: Dan Hernandez (01/02/14)	City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (01/06/14)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (01/07/14)	City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (01/07/14)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the City Council consider a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission regarding the Draft PRCS Department Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure and take action as deemed appropriate. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> At the July 22, 2013 City Council meeting, Mayor Cooper requested and received consensus from the City Council to direct the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to explore the enhancement of the PRCS Department's anti-bullying policy and procedure for all of the City's park programs and facilities. Specifically, the City Council asked the PRCS Commission to look at ways to educate those involved in the park and recreation programs regarding the issues of bullying and develop procedures by which those who do not abide by the policy would be removed from participation in City programs. The ultimate goal is to create a bullying-free environment that promotes mutual respect, tolerance and acceptance. In accordance with the City Council's direction, on August 6, 2013 the PRCS Commission established the Anti-Bullying Policy Development Ad Hoc Subcommittee and appointed Chair Greene and Commissioner Stuart as members. Subsequently, the Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure was submitted to the Commission by the members of the Anti-Bullying Policy Development Ad Hoc for review and discussion at the October 1, 2013 Commission.		

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Related to the Commission's participation in crafting a PRCS Department Anti-Bully Policy and Procedure, on November 19, 2013 the Commission hosted a Community Conversation titled, *"Words Matter Part II" – A Discussion about Bullying and Anti-Bullying Tactics and Policies*. It was a panel discussion featuring guest speakers Earl Ofari Hutchinson, noted writer, talk show host, MSNBC analyst; Patrice M. Grant, Ph.D., Program Head Edelman-Westside Mental Health Center; and Robert Sowell, Project Supervisor, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations Community and Senior Services. Elena Halpert-Schilt, Assistant Executive Director, Los Angeles Commission on Human Relations, Community and Senior Services was also in attendance. The discussion, which featured audience participation, included topics such as defining "bullies" and "bullying," recent news stories about bullying and their relevance to the current culture of competition, the role of power differentials in aggressive behavior, "Restorative Justice" as an approach to reducing bullying and how members of an involved community can model positive behavior to help eradicate bullying.

DISCUSSION:

The Commission's final review of the Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure occurred at the December 3, 2013 meeting. An excerpt of the Draft December 3, 2013 PRCS Commission meeting minutes relating to this Item is provided as Attachment 1. Based on suggestions made at that meeting, staff and the Ad Hoc Subcommittee finalized the Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure to present to the City Council, and it is provided as Attachment 2. The PRCS Commission's recommendation is that the City Council "review and adopt" the Draft Policy and Procedure (Attachment 1). Therefore, staff is recommending that the City Council take action as deemed appropriate in this matter.

Reference materials used in the creation of the Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure include: the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education Policy 5131.2(a) Bullying, and the current Code of Conduct for participants in the PRCS Department's Camp Programs overseen by the Recreation Division. These reference materials are provided as Attachment 3. In addition, a copy of the Senior and Social Services Division's brochure "Participant Guidelines and Information" is provided as Attachment 4.

Should the City Council be inclined to adopt the draft policy, staff recommends the City Council direct the City Manager to schedule this item on a future City Council agenda for final consideration. Additionally, staff also recommends the City Council direct the City Attorney to (1) review in-depth the draft policy to ensure the final policy and procedures for participant removal from a program and the appeals process are adequately addressed and (2) prepare a draft resolution approving the final policy.

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There are currently insufficient PRCS Department staffing and budgetary resources to implement new policies and procedures of any type. If the Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure is to be implemented, the PRCS Department will request that the City Council consider providing associated funding during the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Budget process. For example, staff anticipates that approximately \$2,500 will be needed for the fabrication and installation of additional signage at all parks and facilities related to the new Policy.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Excerpt of the Draft December 3, 2013 PRCS Commission meeting minutes relating to Agenda Item A-2: Consideration of Recommendation to the City Council Regarding a Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure
2. Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Draft Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure
3. Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure Reference Material #1: Culver City Unified School District Board of Education Policy 5131.2(a) Bullying and the Current Code of Conduct for Participants in the PRCS Department's Camp Programs Overseen by the Recreation Division
4. Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure Reference Material #2: The Current Code of Conduct for Participants in the PRCS Department's Camp Programs Overseen by the Recreation Division
5. Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure Reference Material #3: The Senior and Social Services Division's brochure, "Participant Guidelines and Information"

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Consider a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission regarding the Draft PRCS Department Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure; and,
2. Direct the City Manager and City Attorney as deemed appropriate.