

Parks and Recreation Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

September 9, 2003

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Steven Weissman, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission

Subject: Berkeley Unified School District Pool Use and Finances

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the City Manager to: 1) provide the Commission with a complete and current accounting report of receivables and payables between the City and the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) regarding the joint use of pools; 2) continue to track accounts regarding the pools with separate line items to the extent reasonable; 3) credit the Parks Recreation and Waterfront Department program for any revenue collected from BUSD for shared pool use; and 4) report to Council if there is a revenue shortfall.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Implementing these recommendations will require staff time to gather and compile the necessary financial information and provide an accounting of accounts receivable and payable between the City and the BUSD. Costs for staff time are estimated to be \$4,000 each year.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On June 23, 2003, the Parks and Recreation Commission took the following action:

Action: Moved, seconded, carried (Gurdziel/Huang) to adopt the staff recommendation that the Commission reframe their previous recommendation to Council and request: 1) a complete and current accounting report of receivables and payables between the City and the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) regarding the joint use of pools; 2) that the City continue to track accounts regarding the pools with separate line items to the extent reasonable; 3) that any revenue collected from BUSD for shared pool use will be credited to the Parks Recreation and Waterfront Department program; and adding item 4) that if there's any revenue shortfall, it should be reported to Council. (5-0-0-2) (ABSENT: Barrantes, Thornton.)

In the future, with economic situations and budget cuts anticipated, it would benefit the City to know more precisely the amount the City pays for Measure Y parks—King and Thousand Oaks—schools and school activities, so that informed budget decisions can be made. Inasmuch as a significant portion of the funds comes from the Parks and Recreation Department, proper accounting is needed in order to fully analyze the Department's budget.

BACKGROUND

Currently, there are Measure Y parks located at school sites, including Thousand Oaks, Washington Elementary School, Rosa Parks, LeConte, Malcolm X, John Muir, and King. Further, the City manages pools at the Adult School, Berkeley High School, Willard and King. The agreements provide that the City has maintenance responsibilities for Thousand Oaks School and King, only, and that the School District is responsible for the other school park sites. Each entity pays for its pro rata share for pool maintenance depending upon usage. However, despite this agreement, the City has paid for the pool usage, school groups regularly request. The City in turn is charged various amounts for use of BUSD facilities.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Parks and Recreation Commission noted the following statements as the rationale for their recommendation:

- 1) BUSD and COB have joint responsibilities and share usage over swimming pools in Berkeley; and
- 2) The financial relationships lack clear record keeping and accounting procedures; and
- 3) The current financial climate requires cost reductions in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Further, it is possible that a clear financial record will indicate that the receivables to the City are greater than the payables.


ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative is to permit the current situation to continue.

CONTACT PERSON

Virginia Vafa, Senior Management Analyst, 981-6707

Approved:


For Steven Weissman, Chair, Parks & Recreation Commission

RESOLUTION NO.

-N.S.

DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO: 1) PROVIDE THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION WITH A COMPLETE AND CURRENT ACCOUNTING REPORT OF RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (BUSD) REGARDING THE JOINT USE OF POOLS; 2) CONTINUE TO TRACK ACCOUNTS REGARDING THE POOLS WITH SEPARATE LINE ITEMS TO THE EXTENT REASONABLE; 3) CREDIT THE PARKS RECREATION & WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT PROGRAM FOR ANY REVENUE COLLECTED FROM BUSD FOR SHARED POOL USE; AND 4) REPORT TO COUNCIL IF THERE IS A REVENUE SHORTFALL.

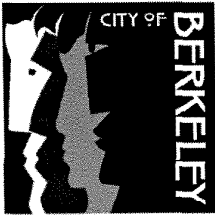
WHEREAS, the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) and the City of Berkeley (City) have joint responsibilities and share usage over swimming pools in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, all BUSD funds relating to the use of the City's pools and other facilities are currently directed to the General Fund and not separately identified by use or facility; and

WHEREAS, the current financial climate requires cost reductions in the Parks and Recreation Department budget; and

WHEREAS, a report on the accounting receivables and payables between the City and the BUSD regarding the joint use of pools will provide valuable information that the City may wish to use when considering budget reductions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley directs the City Manager to: 1) provide the Parks & Recreation Commission with a complete and current accounting report of receivables and payables between the City and the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) regarding the joint use of pools; 2) continue to track accounts regarding the pools with separate line items to the extent reasonable; 3) credit the Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department program for any revenue collected from BUSD for shared pool use; and 4) report to Council if there is a revenue shortfall.



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 9, 2003

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: *WR* Weldon Rucker, City Manager

Subject: Berkeley Unified School District Pool Use and Finances

- The City Manager concurs with the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.
- The City Manager takes no position concerning the recommendations of the Commission.

Note: If the City Manager does not concur or takes any other position a council action report must be prepared.

CONTACT PERSON

Virginia Vafa, Senior Management Analyst 981-6707

Approved:

Lisa Caronna, Director
Parks Recreation and Waterfront