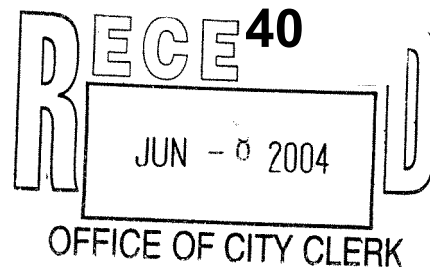


Consent Calendar



Date: 5-15-04
To: Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Councilmember Dona Spring
Subject: **FY 2004-05 Budget Recommendations**

Recommendation: Refer to the FY 04-05 budget process the restoration of funding to the following community organizations: **Berkeley Drop In Center** -- \$88,500; **Berkeley Food and Housing Project, Quarter Meal**-- \$53,000; **Jobs for the Homeless**--\$19,000; **Hobitot**--\$25,000 ; add additional funding **Traffic Circles** --\$50,000; **Community Event Waivers** \$35,000 ; and funding for **Youth Programs** -- \$50,000 and **Creek Restoration**..

Please take into consideration the following recommendations:

Restore Community Organization Funding:

Restore funding from proposed reallocation \$168,068 (refer to page 305 in the proposed FY 2004-2005 budget)

Fund: **Berkeley Drop In Center** -- \$88,500. The City Council restored cut to this agency last year. This organization needs and priorities of enabling people in poverty to attain self-sufficiency and enabling people with disabilities to live independently.

Fund: **Berkeley Food and Housing Project, Quarter Meal** \$18,000 plus an additional \$25,000 for a total of \$53,000 to provide meals an additional 2 days a week. The Quarter Meal program has been rescued with donations from Berkeley churches. An additional grant is needed so that the meals can be served more days. This organization has made the structural changes required by city staff. Food is a baseline service for the homeless and should be a top priority because without good nutrition, the rest of the social services are moot.

Fund: **Jobs for the Homeless** \$19,000 The City Council restored funding last year when it was proposed to be cut. This organization needs and priorities of

enabling people in poverty to obtain self-sufficiency and enabling people with disabilities to live independently and be housed.

Fund : **Hobitot** \$25,000 The City Council restored funding last year when it was proposed to be cut. This funding allows for the hiring of development me disabled children and scholarships for homeless in very low income women. This organization is in compliance with its contract. This organization needs and priorities of serving prenatal to five-year-olds and mentoring.

For at least two prior fiscal years, city staff has proposed cutting the above organizations (except for Quarter Meal) and the City Council has seen their value and restored cuts. The Council raised parking ticket fines to pay for these organizations.

Berkeley Community Media reduce cuts in FY 2004-5 to know more than 10% of funding in FY 2003-04. (City Manager is an agreement)

Restore funding for some **Youth Swimming and Recreation programs** \$50,000 as recommended by the Youth Commission (teen programs and summer swimming).

Fund **Community Event Waivers** and additional \$35,000 for small organizations offering free community events. Attached is a letter from Shotguns Players detailing with a hardship it is for performing nonprofit groups will give free events not to get fee waivers.

Total 270,500 which is offset by \$168,068 allocation that already exists in the budget result in an additional need of \$102,432 for community programs.

Funding Additional Infrastructure needs:

Increase funding for **Traffic Circles** \$50,000. Traffic circles are one of the few remaining traffic calming devices that the City can offer congested and dangerous neighborhoods and they are in high demand.

\$7,500 for a **Design Charrette process** for modeling a daylighted Strawberry Creek on the Center Street block between Oxford and Shattuck. Consultant to work with the community stakeholders and the UC developer. This design charrette was requested by representatives of the Sierra Club on the UC Berkeley

Task force. Money to come from previous \$20,000 allocation for the Sedgway creek feasibility study which never happen.

Propose funding **Creek Restoration** at an annual \$150,000 if revenues permit. The City Council will not be seeking a clean water parcel tax at this point in time, but increased future revenues could allow funding for creek daylighting. This is an example of what could be funded with additional revenues from a utilities tax. The hundred and \$150,000 would be accumulated annually for several years and matched with Coastal Conservancy or state grants.

SHOTGUN PLAYERS

(Break it Down.)

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Councilmember Spring
2180 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

June 1, 2004

Dear Councilmember Spring,

For the last 8 years our theatre company has had the privilege of performing 1-2 plays a year in Berkeley parks. Our productions have always been free admission making it possible for us to make our special brand of theatre accessible to all Berkeleyans. In the past, we have been granted a waiver for the park fee, which amounts to \$122 a day or \$1,708 for the 14 free performances we have scheduled. That \$1,708 may not seem like a lot of money when you're trying to close a 3 million-budget gap, but for a group our size it's pretty significant. Companies like SF Shakespeare that use the parks for classes and charge tuition are now asked to pay for park fees. Perhaps a fair compromise is to allow groups that provide a free service (especially local groups!) the chance to qualify for a park waiver while charging the nominal fee to others. Does this sound fair?

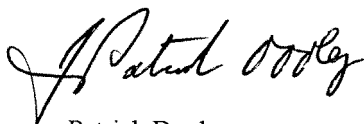
Additionally, since the bathrooms in the clubhouse were condemned 3 years ago, John Hinkel Park (where we perform) has not been as attractive to folks looking to rent the park for weddings and other events. People going to see a Greek tragedy, on the other hand, don't seem to mind port-a-potties. We share the cost of the port-a-potties (roughly \$2,000) with the other arts groups who rent the park.

The dates we have reserved with the parks commission are: 7/11, 7/17, 7/18, 7/24, 7/25, 7/31, 8/1, 8/7, 8/8, 8/15, 8/21, 8/22, 8/28, and 8/29.

On another note, keep an eye out for an invitation to some special events we have coming up at our new home The Ashby Stage (formerly the Transparent). We are making plans with muralist O'Brien Thiele (La Pena, People's Park, Willard Jr. among others) to paint a mural of the history of Berkeley arts on the sides of our building. Should be magnificent!

Please call me if you have any questions.

Gratefully,



Patrick Dooley
Artistic Director

Cc: Mayor Bates
Councilmember Breland
Councilmember Hawley
Councilmember Maio
Councilmember Olds
Councilmember Shirek
Councilmember Worthington
Councilmember Wozniak