



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: May 25, 2011

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Franklin Youth Drop-In Center

RECOMMENDATION: That Commission receive a report on the Franklin Youth Drop-In Center.

DISCUSSION:

The Franklin Neighborhood Center opened in 1975 to provide services to the area's low income community through the Parks and Recreation Department Community Services (now Neighborhood and Outreach Services) and a variety of non-profit organizations. The need for a youth drop-in center at this location was recognized soon after the center's opening, but never realized, due to limited space and budget limitations. In 2009, the Neighborhood Improvement Task Force, at the request by the Franklin Neighborhood Center Advisory Committee, submitted a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) proposal for \$25,000 to fund a youth drop-in center project, which was approved.

The project called for the modification of existing vacant office space, including the removal of two walls, removal of non-functional and dilapidated storage cabinets, installation of new flooring and ceiling tiles, re-cabling for an internet/computer room, and finally finishing up with a fresh coat of paint. The total cost for the project was \$25,628.

Neighborhood and Outreach Services staff is currently working with area youth to determine relevant programs and activities to be provided at this safe, accessible, and welcoming center. It is expected that the center will provide a positive community resource to assist in the on-going efforts to reduce juvenile crime, delinquency, vandalism, and violence in the neighborhood.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 10 a.m. at the Franklin Neighborhood Center located at 1136 E. Montecito Street. The Parks and Recreation Commission and public are invited to attend.

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