



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: February 17, 2015
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Steven Zoet, Director of Community Services
Subject: Request by the Special Olympics World Games and the Beverly Hills Host Town Committee for the City to Contribute to Host Town Expenses
Attachments: None

INTRODUCTION

City Council endorsed the City becoming a Special Olympics Host Town at its January 6, 2015 Study Session meeting. Being a Host Town requires commitment to a variety of functions and responsibilities. Primary amongst these are housing the hosted athletes and their coaches for approximately three days, meals, local transportation, access to training spaces and providing access to local cultural and/or entertainment opportunities. Representatives from the local Host Town committee will be asking City Council for financial support from the City to help offset costs incurred for being a Host Town.

DISCUSSION

Host Town obligations are typically coordinated through the efforts of a local organizing committee. Susan Berk and Alissa Roston are co-chairing these efforts along with the assistance of other community members including former Mayor Alan Alexander and representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and the Conference and Visitors Bureau. Costs that are associated with these obligations are the responsibility of the local committee to fund raise. A Host Town is not obligated to financially contribute to these efforts though many choose to do so. Ms. Berk and Ms. Roston will be in attendance at the Study Session to request consideration of the Council for financial support and will provide an overview of the planned activities for the athletes during their stay, the local costs incurred to be a Host Town and the funds that have been raised to date.

FISCAL IMPACT

As previously stated, there is no financial obligation for the city to contribute to or cover the costs of being a Host Town. The anticipated cost to host approximately 100 athletes and their coaches is \$70,000 for the duration of their stay (July 21-24). The committee is requesting City Council to commit half of that cost, \$35,000, with the understanding that the balance of funds would be the obligation of the committee to raise. Should the

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committee raise more than their match requirement, surplus funds are typically given to the Special Olympics organization to help assist with other costs in providing the games.

Approximately \$18,000 has been raised by the committee to date with relatively little organized efforts having yet occurred. As a result, the committee does not anticipate that they will have a problem in raising the additionally required funds.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests City Council direction regarding the financial request of the Home Town committee. If City Council does not wish to fund this request, in full or in part, staff will continue to work with the committee to fundraise and cover the costs associated with the Host Town obligations.

Steven Zoet
Approved By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zoet', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and extends above and below the line.