AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Presenter: Mary Howard, Chief Resident Services Officer

Recommendation
The Chief Executive Officer recommends that the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Housing Authority (“CHA”) approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”) with the Chicago Park District (“CPD”) for a one-year term from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to provide year-round park district programs for Chicago Housing Authority youth residents and tenants in an amount not to exceed $550,000.

The requested action complies in all material respects with all applicable federal, state and local laws, and Chicago Housing Authority Board policies. Staff have completed all necessary due diligence to support the submission of this initiative.

Funding
MTW Block Grant Funds

Background
Since 2002, CHA and CPD have collaborated to provide year-round park district programs for CHA youth who otherwise may not be able to participate due to cost. CPD programs provide youth with age-appropriate activities, while assisting working parents by offering safe and constructive programs for children during out-of-school time. This IGA offers reduced program fees for CHA youth for year-round programs (e.g., Park Kids, Summer Camp, Vacation Camps, etc.) and the remaining program fees are split between CHA and CPD. CHA and CPD will also continue to bring supplemental programming to Park Districts near CHA developments (e.g., Windy City Hoops, Counselor in Training Program, Junior Bears football, etc.).

During 2019, the following changes were implemented to enhance the partnership:

- CHA residents with disabilities were encouraged to use the CHA discount to attend Special Recreation Leisure Ed Programs where these programs were offered.
- Starting in Fall 2020, CHA residents can take advantage of early online registration by obtaining a CHA Membership either online or in-person at any park district location. Once the CHA Membership is applied to the resident’s Park District account, residents are pre-qualified for CHA discounts. This new step will allow residents to register online and pay the CHA discounted price for all programs covered through the IGA. Residents...
can also continue to register in-person at the Park District, however the paper voucher will no longer be required.

**Expected Outcomes Under New Contract (2021)**

- **Registration Process:** Starting in Fall 2020, CHA residents can take advantage of early online registration by obtaining a CHA Membership either online or in-person at any park district location. Once the CHA Membership is applied to the resident’s Park District account, residents are pre-qualified for CHA discounts. This new step will allow residents to register online and pay the CHA discounted price for all programs covered through the IGA. Residents can also continue to register in-person at the Park District, however the paper voucher will no longer be required.
  - This new process will also improve tracking and reporting for other Commensurate Benefit Agreements (e.g. Ellis Park, Addams/Medill Park) and Lease Agreements (e.g. Mandrake Park).
- **Cost:** Residents will continue to contribute $15 for Park Kids and Summer Camp programs, and $5 for Vacation and Extended camps; the remaining program fees are split between CHA and CPD.
  - CHA residents will continue to receive access to programming at no cost at locations where there is an active community benefit agreement.
- **Camps**
  - CPD will offer a variety of activities including field trips, arts and crafts, fun with nature, sports, team games and much more for approximately 3,400 CHA youth.
- **Enhanced Park District Programs**
  - **Counselor in Training Program**
    Up to 40 CHA youth, age fifteen, will work seasonally at park locations in proximity to their community serving as “counselors in training”. These youth work and serve in various capacities in park district field houses during the summer session.
  - **Specialized programs**
    - **Junior Bears** – An instructional activity, which allows football players to participate in a variety of drills, as well as proper conditioning techniques. Cheerleading is a component of this program, as well. Through this IGA, CHA supports Junior Bears at Carver Park, Taylor Park, Altgeld Park, Washington Park and Fosco Park.
    - **Windy City Hoops** – Operates on Friday and Saturday nights, keeping field houses open until 10:00 p.m. and providing a safe place for teens to participate in an organized basketball league. Each site has activity instructors that serve as coaches, referees, and most importantly youth workers/mentors for the teens. Through this IGA, CHA supports Windy City Hoops at Carver Park and Taylor Park.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Tracey Scott, Chief Executive Officer
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-CHA-

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Housing Authority has reviewed the Board Letter dated September 15, 2020 entitled “Authorization to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District”.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY:

THAT, the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or her designee to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for a one-year base term from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to provide year-round park district programs for Chicago Housing Authority youth residents and tenants in an amount not to exceed $550,000.

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Angela Hurlock
Chairperson
Chicago Housing Authority