



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

June 4, 2007

Agenda Item No. 40
Roll Call No. 07-
Communication No. 07-346
Submitted by: Richard A. Clark,
City Manager

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Submittal of a Multiple Education Pathways Blueprint Grant Application to the United States Department of Labor and Authorizing Mayor to Sign.

SYNOPSIS:

Requesting approval of a grant application to the Department of Labor. This grant is supported by three (3) of the City Council's established goals: World-Class, Lifelong Learning Opportunities, Quality Jobs of the Future, and Youth as Community Stakeholders. The grant is intended to be used as a catalyst to bring together community partners to assess and address the challenge of serving youth who are at risk of dropping out or have dropped out of school. Only cities may apply for this grant. If received, the grant will be monitored by the City, but implemented by a partnership including Des Moines Public Schools and Des Moines Area Community College.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$300,000 (Pass Through Revenue)

Funding Source: The accounts to implement the grant will be established upon receipt of the grant.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The May 8, 2007 Federal Register contains a Notice of Availability of Funds (NOFA) and Solicitation for Grant Applications for Multiple Education Pathways Blueprint Grants (MEPB). This solicitation for grant applications envisions funding up to \$300,000 for a one year project for up to ten (10) cities that would create a blueprint for multiple systems of educational pathways.

These pathways would provide an alternative and relevant career path for youth who are at risk of dropping out or who already have dropped out of school. The theory is that by creating multiple paths for education, crime is prevented, employment rates are increased, and workforce needs can be more effectively met in the community.

The grant, if awarded, will pay for the following types of activities:

- Creation of a blueprint
- Creation of consortium/partnership
- Development of funding strategies
- Determination of ways to leverage resources
- Creation of system-wide benchmarks

- Gap analysis
- Feasibility studies
- Development of a RFP for agencies that provide services and associated costs
- Creation of a case management system that would be common to all youth
- Identification of model programs and evidence-based remediation strategies for literacy and numeracy achievement.

The grant application itself is on file at the City Clerk's Office and is attached to the roll call.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE