


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 4, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) FOR THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of a grant application to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for funding from the "Summer Food Service Program for Children."

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit the grant application to the United States Department of Agriculture for continued funding and an estimated reimbursement amount of \$112,000 for program expenses; and
- (2) Execute all necessary documents that may be required.

The grant application is due to the United States Department of Agriculture on May 13, 2005. Staff will submit the grant proposal to the agency, contingent upon City Council's approval at its April 27, 2005 session.

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities has administered the Summer Food Service Program since 1979. In order to participate, program sites must meet the criteria established by the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program of USDA, in that they are "located in a geographical area served by a school in which 50 percent or more of the enrolled children are eligible for free or reduce priced school meals." Eligible programs will be able to serve up to two of the following meals; breakfast, lunch or snacks at no cost to the participants. The meal program will commence on June 27, 2005, operate Monday through Friday, excluding the July 4 holiday and end August 12, 2005. As with the USDA After School Snack Program, the Department will contract with the Alexandria City Public Schools Food Service Department to prepare and deliver meals to 26 summer programs located at; Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Mt. Vernon, Nannie J. Lee, Patrick Henry, William Ramsay and Charles Barrett Recreation Centers; Power-Up Program at Minnie Howard Ninth Grade Center;

Tancil Court, John Adams, Jefferson-Houston, Warwick Village, MacArthur and Ben Brenman Park Playgrounds; Therapeutic Recreation-Teen Scene and Camp Kaleidoscope at Lee Center, Alexandria Olympic Boys and Girls Club; Campagna Kids at Polk, Lyles Crouch, Charles Barrett, Patrick Henry and MacArthur Elementary Schools, the Court Services Unit Day Reporting Center; Essex House Apartments; and, Shiloh Baptist Church. An estimated 1,923 program participants, age 18 years and under, who attend one of the eligible sites will be served.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The meals must be served free of charge in order to receive reimbursement from USDA. There is no requirement for the City to provide either cash or an in-kind match for this program, however, the City is responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant. These costs include financial and reporting oversight provided by the administering agency (Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities), as well as by the Office of Management and Budget and by the Finance Department. It should be noted that there are no additional monies available in the City budget to continue these activities once the estimated \$112,000 in program funds has been exhausted.

**STAFF:**

Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

William Chesley, Division Chief, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Deborah Brown Anderson, Division Chief, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Margaret Orlando, Recreation Supervisor IV, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities