

TO: James L. App, City Manager  
FROM: Ann Robb, Director Library & Recreation Services  
SUBJECT: Update on Volunteer Activities  
DATE: January 5, 2010

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NEEDS: For the City Council to receive a six-month update on new City Volunteer activities.

- Facts:
1. "Expand Volunteerism to Support Community Services" is a top priority in 2010 – 2013 City Council goals. Inclusion of youth work experience programming was also identified as a priority.
  2. Park maintenance is an area that has high priority in the community but reduced city staff resources; this led to the creation of new volunteer opportunities in city parks. In addition to parks, existing programs were augmented in the City Library and Senior Center.
  3. Since July, 2009, the following has been achieved:
    - a. Service clubs, youth groups, families and individuals have assisted in helping keep City parks clean and attractive through park "adoption" and through one-day clean and repair efforts.
    - b. Two new volunteer programs have been added to Senior Center activities.
    - c. The City Library has implemented two new volunteer programs, received a grant for and installed volunteer management software, and has been invited by neighboring library jurisdictions to recommend best practices for library volunteer programs.
    - d. An independent volunteer group has contracted with the City to initiate and administer a community demonstration garden at Centennial Park.
    - e. Teens and young adults have participated in a number of City work experience activities in partnership with Chamber of Commerce Youth Day in Government, Liberty High School, Cuesta College and CCC summer program.
    - f. The City has been the recipient of programmatic and capital project financial support of \$63,700 from non-profits and businesses. These donations paid for Century Plaza at Centennial Park, a new barbecue and walkway at BSP, Library Study Center programs, Oak Park Christmas Angel party, and Summer Reading Program activities.
  4. New volunteer efforts have resulted in approximately 3100 work hours in July-December, 2009; these hours are over and above other ongoing volunteer hours logged in existing programs. Per Independent Sector formula for volunteer work, this represents a value of over \$65,000.

ANALYSIS &

CONCLUSION: City Council identified an expansion of volunteer services as a top priority for fiscal years 2010-2013. Over 3000 hours of new volunteer service have been contributed since July in parks, City Library and Senior Center. As evidenced by this activity, Paso Robles citizens understand the importance of volunteer contributions to support parks, library, senior center and other city amenities and services.

FISCAL

IMPACT: Staff costs directed to new volunteer efforts in July-December is estimated at \$40,000. The value of new volunteer service those efforts have generated is estimated at \$65,000. Private cash donations supporting city projects and activities approximately \$63,700

- Options:
- a. Receive and file; or
  - b. Amend, modify, or reject the above option