

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
FROM: MICHAEL A. SHULL, GENERAL MANAGER
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
SUBJECT: SUMMER NIGHT LIGHTS PROGRAM UPDATE



SUMMARY

The Summer Night Lights Program (SNL) was created in 2008 to address high levels of violence and ensure the full use of city recreation centers by leveraging city and community resources. SNL creates safe, inclusive public spaces in traditionally high-crime communities. Local parks are transformed into neighborhood hubs on summer evenings with free meals and programming that targets all ages from toddlers to seniors. SNL exemplifies the power of community-based and cross-sector collaboration as a way to engage community members and build both individual and non-profit organizational capacity.

In 2008, SNL began at 8 recreation centers and has since grown to 32 locations over the years. Several factors were examined when identifying and selecting SNL sites; indoor/outdoor facilities, RAP staffing capacity, lighting, parking, kitchen and storage amenities, capacity to implement various sports, distance between SNL sites, crime statistics and gang information. Currently, 30 of those sites belong to RAP, and 2 operated by non-profit organizations. List of 2019 SNL is attached.

In 2015 the Mayor requested RAP take over as the fiscal agent for SNL. Prior to each summer RAP hires approximately 438 seasonal employees (GRYD Workers) for SNL. GRYD Worker positions include Cluster Coordinators (16), Site Coordinators (64), Lead Youth Squad (32), Youth Squad (320), Regional Assistants (4), Sports/Fitness Coordinator (1) and Art Coordinator (1). GRYD through RAP also hires fitness and art instructors to conduct workshops at all 32 sites.

RAP staff conducts all youth and adult sports leagues, facility maintenance, administrative functions and supportive tasks which are handled by the CLASS Parks Administration. This past Summer RAP had over 11,008 participants in SNL sports leagues. Each SNL site offered two to three of the following sports to youth and adults; basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball and flag football.

The GRYD Office along with the guidance of RAP oversees GRYD Workers at each of the SNL sites. GRYD Workers are responsible for all programming aspects such as arts & crafts, sports clinics, weekly themed activities, health and wellness screenings and workshops, movie nights, art and culinary workshops, fitness and Zumba workshops, food preparation and distribution. The GRYD Office partners with several organizations to provide sports clinics and other sports programming such as rugby, tennis and bike repair.

In addition to programming, each night community members can enjoy a free meal. Approximately 434,644 meals are served this past summer during SNL. Since inception, Hungry Hog and Starvin' Steer have been the sole food providers for SNL.

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

Page 2

The GRYD Office contracts prevention and intervention workers for each SNL site. Prevention provider's role and purpose is to make prevention services accessible and available to youth 10-15 years old and engage them in pro-social activities. Intervention provider's role is to make intervention services accessible and available to gang involved youth 15-25 years old and their families by engaging them in pro-social and peace-making activities. Intervention providers assign one lead Community Intervention Worker to oversee intervention programming activities, staff, safe passage, and incident response at each SNL site. Additionally, each intervention provider hires 2-3 seasonal intervention workers to support with activities, safe passage, and incident response. All providers work with the GRYD Office to develop a programming plan that details prevention or intervention related activities that may include: information workshops, sports and food related activities, table games, artistic activities, and community resource fairs.

The GRYD Foundation which is the fiscal administrator for SNL, supports the Mayor's Office in addressing the lack of community safe spaces and promoting workforce development and employment opportunities for youth. GRYD Foundation hires and pays over 260 sports officials each summer and provides supplies for culinary, artist, fitness and Zumba instructors. GRYD Foundation also contracts some of the prevention and intervention providers.

The SNL program has been very successful over the past 11 years. In 2018, we saw reductions or no change in crime at 31 out of 32 sites. Work Readiness (Hire LA) Certification was completed by 227 youth squad. Each summer there's an estimated 650,000 or more visits across all 32 SNL sites

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The SNL Program has no negative fiscal impact on RAP's General Fund.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES AND GOALS

Approval of this Board Report advances RAP's Strategic Plan by supporting:

Goal No. 2: Offer Affordable and Equitable Recreational Programming

Outcome No. 1: Improved health and social equity for young Angelenos

Key Metric: Number of youth participants in sports and fitness programs

Result: Increased participation in youth sports, fitness and aquatics programs by removing barriers to enrollment, specifically in low income communities of color.

This Report was prepared by Chinyere Stoneham, Principal Recreation Supervisor I, CLASS Parks, Metro Region.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- 1) SNL Sites

SUMMER NIGHT LIGHTS SITES

CD	Facility	Address
1	Cypress Park	2630 Pepper Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90065
1	Highland Park	6150 N. Piedmont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90042
1	Montecito Heights	4545 Homer St., Los Angeles, CA 90031
1	Normandie	1550 S. Normandie Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90006
1	Toberman	1725 Toberman St., Los Angeles, CA 90015
2	Valley Plaza	12240 Archwood St., North Hollywood, CA 91606
3	Lanark	21816 Lanark St., Canoga Park, CA 91304
6	Delano	15100 Erwin St., Van Nuys, CA 91411
6	Sun Valley	8133 Vineland Ave., Sun Valley, CA 91352
7	Hubert H. Humphrey	12560 Filmore St., Pacoima, CA 91331
7	Sepulveda	8825 Kester Ave., Panorama City 91405
8	Algin Sutton	8800 S. Hoover St., Los Angeles, CA 90044
8	Jackie Tatum Harvard	1535 W. 62nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90047
8	Martin Luther King, Jr.	3916 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90062
8	Mount Carmel	830 West 70th St., Los Angeles, CA 90044
8	Van Ness	5720 2nd Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90043
9	Green Meadows	431 E. 89th St., Los Angeles, CA 90003
9	Ross Snyder	1501 E. 41st St., Los Angeles, CA 90011
9	Slauson	5306 S. Compton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90011
9	South Park	345 E. 51st St., Los Angeles, CA 90011
10	Jim Gilliam	4000 S. La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90008
13	Glassell Park	3650 Verdugo Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90065
13	Lemon Grove	4959 Lemon Grove, Los Angeles, CA 90029
14	El Sereno	4721 Klamath St., Los Angeles, CA 90032
14	Hazard	2230 Norfolk St., Los Angeles, CA 90033
14	Lou Costello	3141 E. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90023
14	Ramon Garcia	1016 S. Fresno St., Los Angeles, CA 90023
15	109th Street	1464 E. 109th St., Los Angeles, CA 90059
15	Imperial Courts*	2250 West 114th St., Los Angeles, CA 90059
15	Nickerson Gardens*	11251 Compton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90059
15	Normandale	22400 S. Halldale Ave., Torrance, CA 90501
15	Wilmington	325 N. Neptune Ave., Wilmington, CA 90744

***Site not operated by RAP.**