

Date: July 8, 2022

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Brent Dennis, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine



For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Hoops After Dark Program Restart**

Hoops After Dark (HAD) is a program in Long Beach patterned after Midnight Basketball that provides a safe environment for area youth to develop athletic and leadership skills in conjunction with educational workshops. Mentorship and career counseling are additional areas of the focus contained within the workshops.

History of the Program

HAD was originally included in the Long Beach Police Department's (LBPD) group of Long Beach Recovery Act (LB Recovery Act) funded initiatives planned for winter 2022 with an estimated budget \$250,000. Partners of Parks facilitated the program in partnership with LBPD as a fiscal agent who coordinated planning efforts between LBPD and the HAD Team led by Leonard Adams with the assistance of Erroll Parker who oversaw the workshop/education programs. The winter season was planned for six weeks and held at CALREC gym in McBride Park. Partners of Parks utilized approximately \$64,000 of the City of Long Beach's (City) \$250,000 allocated for this program to cover expenses incurred.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Omicron surge, an outbreak within program participants and coaches along with a gym roof leak causing significant water damage to the wooden gym flooring, the winter season was suspended. The HAD program was not resumed due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and the lack of suitable, alternate facilities.

Funding for Summer and Future Seasons

Partners of Parks was able to raise \$30,000 towards the required \$90,000 to fund the Summer season, supplementing the City's \$60,000 contribution of LB Recovery Act funding. The LBPD's remaining LB Recovery Act funding of approximately \$162,000 will be transferred to the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (PRM) for development of two additional HAD seasons that would follow the summer season proposed by Partners of Parks.

The funding transfer allows PRM to contract with Partners of Parks as a qualified, local non-profit or community-based organization for the delivery of this program as a third-party administrator. The third-party administrator carries all LB Recovery Act compliance requirements, including following City financial reporting requirements and data collection, and reporting requirements for quantitative and qualitative data.

The PRM, Health and Human Services, Public Works, Police, and City Manager departments are working together in a collaborative effort in planning for the resumption of HAD seasons. These efforts considered several facility sites as options that would have gyms and workshop spaces conducive to support a restart of a HAD season. Alternate sites that were evaluated but identified as incompatible or unavailable include Silverado, King, and Cesar Chavez Parks, and Long Beach Polytechnic high school.

Solution for the Summer Season Identified

This past week, a new plan has been established for a summer 2022 HAD season from August 1 – September 14, 2022, at the new Salvation Army facility on Long Beach Boulevard and Spring Street. The summer HAD season will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30-9:30 pm throughout the seven-week season, except for the Labor Day holiday. An additional benefit of the Salvation Army facility agreement is that Chef Rico will provide meals for the players and coaches each evening as part of facility rental fees. Workshops will be held from 6-8pm nightly.

The HAD program can accommodate six teams of ten players, per the model organized in the winter 2022 season program. The HAD Team provides the trained coaches, referees, program and workshop coordinators and leaders, scorekeepers, videographers, and game announcers.

Meals are provided nightly for all participants and staff. Equipment required includes 20 basketballs, 20 referee and coaches' whistles, 60 uniforms including jerseys and shorts for players, 60 binders for the workshop component, and other miscellaneous office supplies.

The required budget for summer HAD season is \$94,500 which will be supported by a Partners of Park Grant of \$30,000 and a City contribution of \$64,500. Leonard Adams has confirmed with City staff that the HAD Team, workshop providers, and coaches are all available for the newly established summer 2022 HAD season that will be held at the Salvation Army.

CALREC roof and gym floor repairs are projected for completion by Labor Day as coordinated by PRM and Public Works. Gym floor repairs are estimated at \$30,000. Upon completion of this work, two additional post-summer seasons to be held in the CALREC Gym in McBride Park will be planned and scheduled cooperatively with the HAD Team.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (562) 570-3170.

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