

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Dennis J. Campa, Director, Department of Community Initiatives

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; City Attorney's Office; Finance Department; Office of Management & Budget; Parks & Recreation Department; File

**SUBJECT:** **AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS WITH THE SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (SAISD) FOR THE URBAN SMARTS PROGRAM IN SIX SAISD SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** November 6, 2003

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes the execution of two contracts for \$50,000 and \$13,780, respectively, from the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) to implement the Urban smARTS Program administered by the Department of Community Initiatives' Youth Services Division at four SAISD 21<sup>st</sup> Century elementary schools (Carvajal, Rodriguez, Ruiz, and Washington) from September 8, 2003 to May 31, 2004 and two Reconnect middle schools (Cooper and Davis) from October 28, 2003 to June 30, 2004. This ordinance also approves a budget.

Staff recommends the approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Urban smARTS Program was initially made possible by a \$64,488 competitive grant award from the Criminal Justice Division and by additional funding from the City of San Antonio in 1994. The program was a research project of the Americans for the Arts who had selected San Antonio, Portland and Atlanta as sites for art enrichment as a youth prevention/early intervention model. The program continued for a five-year period as a unique partnership between the Department of Community Initiatives, the Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs and the San Antonio Independent School District. In 1998, the City of San Antonio assumed total funding responsibility for this research-based program. The Department of Community Initiatives, Youth Services Division, has managed the administration and implementation of the program since 1999. General Fund support provided between FY98-99 and FY02-03 funded eight schools in several school districts. Contracts with SAISD allowed DCI to increase the number of schools participating in the program depending on contract funds available.

The goals of Urban smARTS are many:

- Diverting at-risk youth from the juvenile justice system
- Improving social behavior and social skills
- Increasing resiliency, i.e., the ability to bounce back from adversity or trauma
- Improving academic performance and commitment to school
- Developing art skills
- Providing opportunities for artistic performances and exhibitions
- Providing an adult mentor/role model
- Providing an after-school safe haven

Research by Caliber Associates in 2000 demonstrated that students still experienced improved grades and attendance one year after completing the program. Prevention activities such as these are an investment in our youth and in a safer, healthier community.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

The program will be offered in only six schools this FY as a result of the department's budget reduction plan, which eliminated the operating budget of the Urban smARTS program. SAISD will provide all support for this program through 21<sup>st</sup> Century rollover funds and the Reconnect program. SAISD selected the following six schools for this program:

#### **2003-2004 Urban smARTS Schools**

<b>School</b>	<b>Council District</b>	<b>Other COSA Programs</b>
Carvajal Elementary School	5	Challenge, Kinder Readiness
Rodriguez Elementary School	5	Challenge
Ruiz Elementary School	5	Challenge, Kinder Readiness
Washington Elementary School	2	Challenge
Cooper Middle School	5	Challenge
Davis Middle School	2	Challenge

Program services will include nine hours of arts enrichment activities each week with teaching artists; case management provided by caseworkers; a daily nutritional snack provided by the Parks and Recreation Department's After School Challenge Program; and field trips and daily transportation coordinated through the school districts. In addition, Youth Services caseworkers will provide one hour of life skills/character traits training weekly to build students' ability to bounce back from adversity or trauma. SAISD will identify one teacher liaison at each school to facilitate the Urban smARTS after-school program for participants. YSD proposes to serve 180 students through these SAISD contracts.

This ordinance continues current City policy to prevent delinquent behavior and to make a concerted effort to intervene in the lives of juveniles by offering research-based early intervention services.

### **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

The contract in the amount of \$50,000 from the San Antonio Independent School District will be used to hire and train eight temporary teaching artists and eight temporary art assistants; to cover the cost of field trips; and for the purchase of art supplies and curriculum materials to implement the Urban smARTS Program in four schools identified by the district. The contract in the amount of \$13,780 will be used to provide similar services in two Reconnect Schools in SAISD.

In 2003, General Fund support of \$80,820 for Urban smARTS was withdrawn as a result of the department's budget reduction plan.

### **COORDINATION**

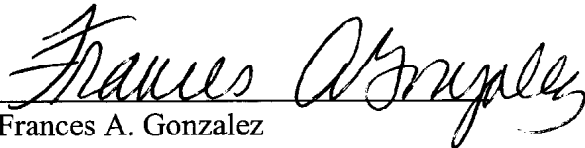
The Department of Community Initiatives coordinated services with the City Attorney's Office, Finance, Office of Management & Budget, Parks & Recreation Department, and the Commission for Children and Families.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.





Dennis J. Campa, Director  
Department of Community Initiatives



Frances A. Gonzalez  
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved:



 Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager

**Department of Community Initiatives**  
**Urban smARTS - SAISD**  
**26-xxxxxx**  
**September 8, 2003 - May 31, 2004**

INDEX CODE	ESTIMATED REVENUES	OBJECT CODE	BUDGET
xxxxxx	SAISD - 21st Century		\$ 50,000
xxxxxx	SAISD - Reconnect		\$ 13,780
	<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>		<u><u>\$ 63,780</u></u>

**APPROPRIATIONS**

	<b>38-07-12</b>		
xxxxxx	Temporary Services	02-161	43,400
xxxxxx	Binding, Printing, and Reproduction	02-181	600
xxxxxx	Clothing and Linen Supplies	03-214	900
xxxxxx	Food	03-216	1,800
xxxxxx	Recreation Supplies	03-238	16,480
xxxxxx	Computer Equipment	05-360	600

<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<u><u>\$ 63,780</u></u>
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**Fund Only Index Code: xxxxxx**