

# Memorandum

**TO:** CITY MANAGER

**FROM:** Mayor Chuck Reed  
Councilmember Nora Campos  
Councilmember Madison Nguyen

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** November 6, 2009

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Approved *Chuck Reed* *Nora Campos* Date *11/6/09*

*Madison Nguyen*

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**SUBJECT: EXTEND OPERATING HOURS AT YOUTH CENTERS THROUGH THIS WEEKEND**

## RECOMMENDATION

Take immediate action to extend operating hours at the Alum Rock Youth Center to 11 pm on November 6-7 and to work with other agencies in the Mayfair community to similarly extend their operating hours on November 6-7. Furthermore, coordinate with community-based organizations that sit on the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force to both solicit their assistance in driving youth to open facilities over the weekend and to make gang intervention and prevention staff members available to work with youth who attend the centers this weekend. Furthermore, staff should make every effort possible to ensure that youth are provided with transportation to their homes upon leaving the centers. This effort may include partnering with community-based organizations who may not currently receive funding through the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force, but who already provide this service in the surrounding communities.

In addition, City staff should coordinate the Alum Rock Union School District to issue a notice to students and parents at middle schools serving neighborhoods surrounding these two centers to make them aware that these centers will be open this weekend until 11 pm.

The emergency response reserve funding available through the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force should be utilized to conduct these efforts.

## ANALYSIS

After the violent incident that occurred on Halloween night involving two youth from the Mayfair community, the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force response protocol mandated that we organize a community meeting to discuss the incident, the City's response to that incident, and to solicit feedback from the community about steps the City can take to enhance neighborhood security. There is a huge value in hearing directly from the community about actions they feel the City should take, and whether or not those actions should include providing our youth with safe late night activities. However, given that the community meeting has been scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, November 10, we, unfortunately, have not yet had an

opportunity to respond to any community needs before the weekend. We cannot wait until next week to take action given the imminent threat of a retaliatory incident occurring this weekend.

In response to both the well-publicized incident that occurred on Halloween night and the gang-related homicide that occurred on the night of November 3, we are recommending that the Alum Rock Youth Center and other facilities in the Mayfair community remain open until 11 pm this through this weekend in order to provide youth from those surrounding Strong Neighborhood Initiative areas with safe, alternative activities.