

Memorandum

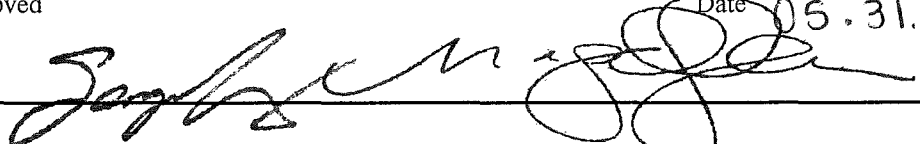
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Sergio Jimenez
Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: June 4, 2019

Approved


Date 05.31.2019

SUBJECT: MAYOR'S GANG PREVENTION TASK FORCE AUDIT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

1. Accept the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Audit Report.
2. Accept the Administration's Response to the Audit Report and amend Recommendation #15 to include the following additional item:
 - a. Recommendation #15: Create an at-risk, gang-impacted, or formerly gang-affiliated young adult membership and/or stakeholder position on the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) Policy Team.
3. Cross-reference this audit report to the next Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team meeting.
4. Direct staff to present a progress update of the MGPTF audit recommendations alongside the BEST Program Annual Report.

ANALYSIS

Thank you to the City Auditor's staff, the Parks, Recreation, Neighborhood Services team, and the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) for providing the information and recommendations in this audit.

The MGPTF Policy Team meeting on April 25 was filled with public comment from youth and community members expressing greater interest in Task Force engagement. We want to uphold these genuine concerns and direct staff to create a new seat on the MGPTF Policy Team for a formerly at-risk, gang-impacted, or previously gang-affiliated young adult. Providing young adults a seat at the table will allow our City to better serve and understand the needs of this targeted population.

The collaboration and groundwork performed by all our stakeholders, including BEST and Youth Intervention Services (YIS) grantees, is the foundation of the MGPTF. Without their work and commitment to gang-impacted populations, we could not continue to provide the quality of services for youth in this City.

Similarly, we must commit ourselves to improve our services to ensure our at-risk youth are being efficiently and properly supported. A noteworthy finding in this report is that more than half of the BEST Grantees serve participants outside of their contracted populations. For example, the audit found that for one particular grantee, almost 80 percent of the youth served through their program were not within the grantee's contracted target population. It's concerning that our most at-risk youth are not being adequately served. However, a corrective action plan will allow grantees an opportunity to comply with City requirements and focus on increasing services to gang-impacted and gang-intentional youth. Meanwhile, we explore funding opportunities to grantees who have the capability to serve the Task Force's targeted populations.

Through our recommendations above we hope to improve services and resources for youth across the City, and we urge our colleagues to support this effort.