

MOTION

The Police Department's Topanga Area Station is in need of additional community space for youth programming. While the Station itself promotes an incredible array of community activities, the facility does not have enough space to adequately serve the myriad of programs that are offered, including the Police Activities League (PALs) program. This program serves approximately 300 youth each year, and is in great demand and could serve even more youth if adequate space was provided.

Currently, Topanga PALs either operates out of the Topanga Area's Community Room and outdoor courtyard, or rents space in private facilities. The onsite spaces consist of a 900 square foot meeting room and an outdoor courtyard, and are primarily used for Neighborhood Watch Meetings and Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) Meetings. The small size of the Community Room and the regular use of the space for other needs limits its usefulness for the PALs program. Renting spaces offsite for PALs programming also imposes considerable cost constraints, which creates financial burdens on the program which restrict the PALs from providing separate, age-appropriate classes and programs, instead necessitating the consolidation of practices for youths of all ages.

Council District 3 has been a major supporter of the PALs program for many years, having provided approximately \$125,000 to the program this fiscal year alone. However, without a dedicated facility at the Topanga Area Station for PALs, these funds cannot be used in the most efficient manner possible on direct youth programming.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of General Services and Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Police Department and City Administrative Officer BE DIRECTED to conduct a feasibility study to assess the viability of constructing an onsite youth facility at the LAPD Topanga Area Station. This study should look at the availability of space at the site for the construction of an onsite facility, and provide a Rough Order of Magnitude estimate of costs for the construction of a facility for youth programs at this site.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

PK

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