



Legislation Text

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Agreement for Operation and Programming of the Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center (B)

On July 23, 2001, the City Commission received a report on the recently renovated Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center (WJRC). An overview of the structural and cosmetic improvements made to the facility was presented. In addition, an update was given regarding steps taken to determine community and service agency interest in facility usage, operation, and programming.

At that time, the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) outlined a proposal for City operation of the facility to include a staffing summary and schedule of programs to be offered to the Community. The Recreation and Parks Department was also included with partnering with DCA to enhance programming options at the facility.

Citizen and Cultural Arts Coalition (CAC) Director Nkwanda Jah spoke to the matter and expressed an interest to manage the facility as a contractor for the City. Shortly thereafter, a number of other private agencies also expressed an interest in managing the facility. At this point, the Department of Cultural Affairs initiated a Request For Proposal and solicited agencies to submit their operational plans for the Center. The City received one (1) responsive proposal, from the Cultural Arts Coalition.

The Department of Cultural Affairs has prepared a contract agreement for the operation and programming of the WJRC by the CAC. This year's contractual amount will be prorated up to September 30, 2002 and the contract period will extend through the next fiscal year to September 30, 2003.

An annual appropriation of \$50,000 for facility operations and new programming has been budgeted.

The City Commission authorize the City Manager to execute the Facilities Operation and New Programs Agreement for the Wilhelmina Johnson Resource Center.