



## SUMMER AT CITY HALL Executive Summary

**Summer at City Hall Vision:** Communities and schools will collaborate to prepare students for college, career and civic life.

**Mission:** Create strong partnerships between school districts and local government entities to offer students opportunities to gain 21st century work skills, provide tools to become civically aware and engaged, and bring youth voice to authentic city issues.

### **Background for Summer at City Hall -- Oxnard**

In August, 2015, the Institute of Local Government (ILG), on the recommendation of Deanna Hanson, contacted Mary Anne Rooney of the Ventura County Civic Alliance (VCCA), the OUHSD Business Intermediary, to discuss the possibility of implementing a pilot program of the Summer at City Hall (SACH) with the Oxnard Union High School District and the City of Oxnard. This program is currently being offered in several cities around the state and first started in Sacramento. Ms. Rooney investigated the program and had conversations with the OUHSD CTE team (Jim Rose, Teresa Telles, and Clara Galvez) to see if there was interested in pursuing development of this program. It was determined that this would be good support of the City Council Resolution passed in March, 2015 declaring itself a Linked Learning City and a strong collaborator with the OUHSD.

After receiving a positive interest in this program from the CTE Team, Ms. Rooney reached out to the City of Oxnard and met with a City Councilmember and the City Manager's office in September, 2015 to seek their interest. Due to limitations in staffing at the City to develop such a program, the discussion stalled.

In mid-March, the CTE team met with Assistant City Manager Scott Whitney to revisit the development of a SACH program for Summer, 2016. Mr. Whitney was extremely interested in developing a program with the City of Oxnard. A two week program was initially proposed, but Mr. Whitney wanted to develop a five week program.

During the next couple months, a calendar and program was developed in concert with the City of Oxnard, OUHSD, VCCA, and ILG to deliver a program to students beginning June 27 and ending July 28, 2016.

The OUHSD determined that the Law and Public Services Academy students would be the best students to kickoff this program. Ms. Galvez, CTE Learning Design Coach, worked with the Law and Public Services Academy teacher (Jaime Moreno) to develop the curriculum for the SACH program. Ms. Rooney worked with Assistant Police Chief Eric Sonstegard on the internships for the afternoon session. Ms. Telles coordinated the guest speakers, worksite tours, lunch, and transportation for the students during this program.

Students worked in seven different departments within the City and had tours and guest speakers from departments and from County officials.

The departments included:

Public Relations	Fire	Library
Development Services	Police	Parks and Recreation
Performing Arts and Convention Center		

Guest speakers included:

Mayor Tim Flynn	Assistant City Manager Scott Whitney
County Supervisor John Zaragoza	County Clerk and Recorder Mark Lunn
County Public Information Officer Bill Nash	District Attorney's Office Stacy Ratner
City Clerk Daniel Martinez	City Attorney Stephen Fischer
Assistant Police Chief Jason Benites	Assistant Police Chief Eric Sonstegard

With a desire to compensate the students for their participation, Ms. Rooney secured a grant from SoCalGas in the amount of \$5,000 to provide stipends for the students.

Following the development and planned implementation of this pilot program, the ILG requested that the model for the City of Oxnard and OUHSD be presented at the California League of Cities conference in October to encourage other cities to participate in this program. That will occur on October 7, 2016 in Long Beach, CA.

Additionally, the ILG asked if the VCCA would be interested in participating in an accelerator grant for next year to expand to another city within the OUHSD jurisdiction. VCCA is desirous to expand this program to Camarillo and has had initial conversations with a councilmember from Camarillo. The ILG won their grant proposal and developed a Technical Task Force that included local members of Ms. Telles, Mr. Sonstegard, and Ms. Rooney to meet with other colleagues around the state to share best practices, opinions on program development, and develop a Tool Kit for the ILG to use in the expansion of other SACH programs across the state. Costs for any travel for these members of the Technical Team are paid by the ILG.

A presentation was made to the Oxnard City Council on September 13, 2016 describing the activities that occurred during SACH, 2016. The concept and history of the SACH program was introduced to the Council and we presented the video to the Council. In attendance were:

- OUHSD: Bijou Beltran, Teresa Telles, Jaime Moreno, and four students from the program;
- SoCalGas (sponsor): Maria Ventura;
- Ventura County Civic Alliance: David Maron and Mary Anne Rooney; and
- City of Oxnard: Scott Whitney and Eric Sonstegard.

Deliverables of program:

- Development of a five week program curriculum for SACH;
- Internships for each student in the amount of 45 hours;
- Each student received school credit in the amount of five (5) credits;
- Summer at City Hall Oxnard logo was developed;
- Donation in the amount of \$5,000 to pay for stipends for the students internship was secured;
- Students presented their projects at a session with leaders of the City, OUHSD staff, and VCCA members;
- Video documenting the program and student projects was developed;
- Students and participants made a presentation at City Council meeting;
- City received the following student projects:
  - Parklet Pilot Program Guideline booklet developed for the Development Services Department;
  - Flyer and participation in the Stand Down initiative with the Fire Department;
  - Students developed the Snap Chat page for the Public Relations Department;
  - Development of a Public Safety Announcement for the Police Department;
  - Assistance with the Summer Reading Program for the Library Department; and
  - Flyer developed for a community arts program for the Performing Arts and Convention Center.

# Program Timeline:

