



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

CITY HALL
10300 TORRE AVENUE • CUPERTINO, CA 95014-3255
TELEPHONE: (408) 777-3223 • FAX: (408) 777-3366
CUPERTINO.ORG

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: November 2, 2020

Subject

Consider investigating potential acquisition of Cupertino Union School District (CUSD) property located on Finch Avenue next to D. J. Sedgwick Elementary School and discuss other potential steps to assist CUSD in light of potential school closures in Cupertino; provide direction to staff on these issues.

Recommended Action

Provide direction to staff to investigate potential acquisition of CUSD property located on Finch Avenue next to D. J. Sedgwick Elementary School, and provide direction on any other potential steps.

Discussion

Due to concerns regarding potential CUSD school closures in Cupertino, Councilmember Chao requested this item and Mayor Scharf agreed. While school district matters are outside of the City's purview, there are potential partnerships that could be beneficial to both CUSD and the City.

One mutually beneficial strategy could be for the City to purchase unused land from CUSD. This would provide revenue for CUSD and provide land the City could use for purposes such as a public park. Last year, City Manager Deborah Feng discussed such an agreement with CUSD regarding property located on Finch Avenue next to Sedgwick Elementary School. It is recommended that Council direct staff to investigate this potential acquisition and any other potential locations suggested by CUSD, as well as discuss other potential alternatives.

Existing City Support for CUSD

The City has existing programs that provide support for the schools in Cupertino and benefits to the City. For example, the City funds approximately \$600,000 annually to operate a Safe Routes to School Program to encourage students to walk and bike to schools throughout the City, reducing the City's carbon footprint. The City also funds approximately \$542,000 for School Resource Officers for all schools in the City to promote safety and foster positive interactions with law enforcement. These programs support CUSD and Fremont Union High School District (FUHSD).

To summarize the support provided to CUSD, the below table includes half of the costs of the programs shared with FUHSD, as well as the full cost of other programs supporting of CUSD specifically:

Service	Annual Estimated City Cost	Annual District Cost Paid to City	Annual City Net Cost After District Contribution
Safe Routes to School: CUSD cost was estimated to be half of the program cost.	\$300,000	\$ -	\$300,000
School Resource Officers: CUSD cost was estimated to be half of the program cost.	\$271,000	\$ -	\$271,000
Field Maintenance: the City maintains nine school sites in Cupertino in exchange for field access to program activities during non-school hours. CUSD pays for some of the water costs through the Joint Use Agreement.	\$1,572,920	\$180,000	\$1,392,920
Creek Tours: staff leads creek education tours for third graders. Cupertino's support of this program is part of the City's Non-point Pollution Education Program.	\$28,000	\$ -	\$28,000
Cupertino Educational Endowment Foundation (CEEF) 5K Run: CEEF is a non-profit foundation for CUSD.	\$7,400	\$ -	\$7,400
Costshare Social Worker/Community Resource Position: CUSD pays the other \$50,000 of the position but the cost does not pass through the City.	\$50,000	\$ -	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$2,229,320	\$180,000	\$2,049,320

Sustainability Impact

No sustainability impact.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of the proposed acquisition will be evaluated during the investigation if it is directed by Council.

Prepared by: Katy Nomura, Assistant to the City Manager
Approved for Submission by: Deborah Feng, City Manager