

REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council
From the City Manager

March 23, 2009

SUBJECT

Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt by resolution the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council's Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County

BACKGROUND

The Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council (PPLC) is made up of leaders from multiple disciplines throughout San Mateo County, whose mission is to formulate policies that effectively address the needs and foster the healthy development of children, youth and families in San Mateo County. The PPLC believes that all children and youth, regardless of where they live, their race/ethnicity, or income level, deserve the same rights.

The San Mateo County Youth Commission worked closely with the PPLC in the development of the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth. The PPLC also hopes that the Bill of Rights will lead to strategic conversations about how well a particular community is doing in achieving these rights and what kinds of policy changes may be needed.

PPLC's goal is that every city council, local school board, and community and service organization in San Mateo County that address the needs of children and youth adopt the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County. Jurisdictions and entities that have already adopted this Bill of Rights include the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, the cities of San Mateo and Belmont, the San Mateo County Board of Education, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation and seventeenth school district Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs).

Various City of Redwood City departments, including Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Library, Police, Human Resources and Fire, work closely with youth and the current work of these departments is closely aligned with the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth. Some examples of City programs include: Police Activities League, YO-It's Youth Outdoors, Project Read, Teen Homework Center, Teen Reach, Junior Fire Academy, Teen Advisory Board, and a variety of after school and enrichment programs, to name a few.

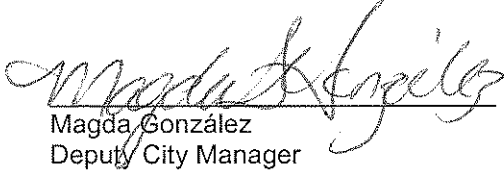
The City of Redwood City is a lead partner in Redwood City 2020, the renowned community collaborative that focuses on the health and welfare of children, youth and families living in the attendance area of the Redwood City School District. On February 11, 2009, the Coordinating Council of Redwood City 2020, its policy governance body, unanimously endorsed the Bill of Rights for Children and Youth in San Mateo County and in the same action asked members to take the Bill of Rights to their own boards and councils for action. Mayor Foust and Council Member Pierce represent the City of Redwood City on the Redwood City 2020 Coordinating Council.

ALTERNATIVES

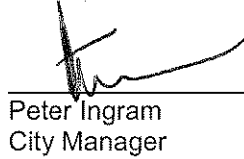
Provide other direction to staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

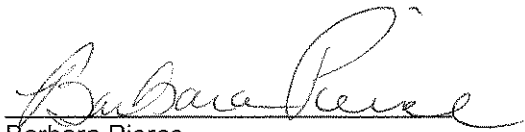
There is no fiscal impact. The document is not legally binding. It is principally intended to guide policy makers and to set forth goals and initiatives on behalf of the children and youth of San Mateo County.



Magda González
Deputy City Manager



Peter Ingram
City Manager



Barbara Pierce
Council Member



Rosanne Foust
Mayor

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. PPLC's Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County

RELATED DOCUMENTS IN CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

None

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY
ADOPTING THE PENINSULA PARTNERSHIP LEADERSHIP
COUNCIL'S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH OF SAN
MATEO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council (PPLC) is made up of leaders from multiple disciplines throughout San Mateo County, whose mission is to formulate policies that effectively address the needs and foster the healthy development of children, youth and families in San Mateo County; and

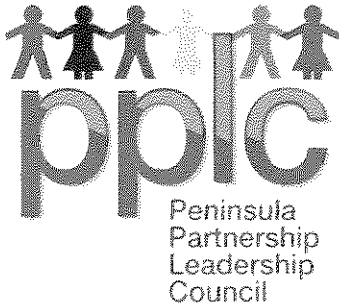
WHEREAS, the PPLC has set a goal that every City Council, local school board and community & service provider organizations in San Mateo County that address the needs of children and youth adopt a Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, various departments in the City of Redwood City work closely with youth, such work exemplifies the City's service alignment with the PPLC's Bill of Rights for Children and Youth; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City of Redwood City adopt the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council's Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County.

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Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council Bill of Rights for Children and Youth of San Mateo County

We resolve to invest in all children and youth so that:

- They have a healthy mind, body and spirit that enables them to maximize their potential.
- They develop a healthy attachment to a parent, guardian, or caregiver and an ongoing relationship with a caring and supportive adult.
- Their essential needs are met - nutritious food, shelter, clothing, health care, and accessible transportation.
- They have a safe and healthy environment, including homes, schools, neighborhoods and communities.
- They have access to a 21st century education that promotes success in life, in future careers and a love of life-long learning.
- They have training in life skills that will prepare them to live independently, be self-sufficient and contribute to their community.
- They have employment opportunities with protections from unfair labor practices.
- They have freedom from mistreatment, abuse and neglect.
- They have a voice in matters that affect them.
- They have a sense of hope for their future.

Leaders in Action for Children, Youth, and Families