



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO/First 5
Department No.: 990
For Agenda Of: September 15, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Ben Romo, First 5 Children and Families
Director(s) Commission of Santa Barbara County (884-8085)
Contact Info: Eileen Monahan, First 5 Children and Families
Commission of Santa Barbara County (560-1038)
SUBJECT: Betteravia Government Child Care Center Service Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Real Property

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the chair to execute a service agreement with Early Development Services (EDS) through June 30, 2020 (Attachment A), to operate Santa Barbara County's child care center for providing high quality affordable child care services, located at Betteravia Government Center, 2125 Centerpointe Parkway, Santa Maria; and
- b) Determine that the above action is not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the action is a creation of a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment B)."

Summary Text:

The establishment of a child care center (Center) for County employees and community families was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 1991. The current operator of the center, Bright Horizons has given notice that it intends to terminate its current contract effective September 26, 2015. A Request for Proposal (RFP) process was conducted, and resulted in the selection of a strong operator - Early Development Services (EDS) to take over operations of the center. Approval of this service agreement

will allow for continued operation of a child care program for children (ages 6 weeks through 5 years) through the new operator. A separate lease agreement with EDS is being created by General Services Real Property.

Up to 42 children will be served at any one time (more children may be enrolled if some are part time), with a priority for County employees. As part of the agreement EDS will contribute \$1,100 per month as part of this contract, which will go toward upkeep and maintenance of the facility.

Background:

The Betteravia Child Care Center is designed to provide high quality early care and education experiences for the child; and stable, affordable services for parents. It has always been the goal of the program to serve County employees as a priority. This goal directly meets key County interests; most specifically high quality, onsite child care reduces the lost time that occurs when employees’ offsite and/or unstable child care arrangements fall through, and increases productivity as parents are able to focus on work and not on child care arrangements.

In recent years, operators have struggled to serve County employees because the cost of running a high-quality preschool often exceeds the price point that local families, and many County employees are able to pay. This leads parents to choose lower quality and often less reliable options for care. Currently, nine County employees are enrolled at the Betteravia Child Care Center. The new operator, EDS, has experience running small programs for government, and is expected to make the center model work better for County employees.

In the near future, First 5 staff will facilitate a work session with the Board focused on preschool and child care in Santa Barbara County generally. Options the Board may pursue to help employees more effectively access high quality preschool and child care programs will also be discussed along with results from a recent survey of County employees about child care needs.

Performance Measure:

With approval from the Board of Supervisors, transition to EDS as the provider will commence on September 27, 2015, with September 28, 2015 as their first day of operations.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00	
Other:			
Total	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ -

Narrative:

As part of the agreement EDS will contribute \$1,100 per month (\$13,200 annually) as part of this contract, which will go toward upkeep and maintenance of the facility.

Key Contract Risks:

Limited risks, as the program poses no real fiscal impacts.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the minute order to EDS:

Shannan Watkins, Executive Director
Early Development Services
PO Box 1747
Seaside, CA 93955

Attachments:

- A. Service Agreement
- B. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

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cc:

Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO