



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. VII.BD.
11/24/2015

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: James D. Couch, City Manager

Memorandum of Understanding with the Oklahoma City-County Health Department and the Independent School District No. 89 known as Oklahoma City Public Schools, to provide construction and operation of the South Regional Health and Wellness Campus, specifically the Southern Oaks Learning and Wellness Center, adjacent to Parmalee Elementary School in Southern Oaks Park, 6818 South Walker Avenue. Ward 4.

Location Southern Oaks Park – 6818 South Walker Avenue.

Background The Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) and the Oklahoma City Public Schools (OCPS) propose to construct and operate the South Regional Health and Wellness Campus, specifically the Southern Oaks Learning and Wellness Center (Center), in Southern Oaks Park, adjacent to Parmalee Elementary School. It would be separate from, and not affiliated with, the City's MAPS 3 health and wellness facilities.

On July 15, 2015, representatives of OCCHD and OCPS presented a preliminary concept plan to the Oklahoma City Park Commission. They indicated the Center would serve students and residents with the goal of improving their overall health outcomes. In addition, it would allow for a tutoring lab to help students and provide experience for aspiring teachers. The Center would also support neighborhood associations and other gatherings. At that meeting, the Park Commissioners expressed overall support for the concept and asked the parties to further refine the proposal and prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for consideration at a future Park Commission meeting.

On August 11, 2015, a neighborhood meeting was held to inform nearby residents of the proposal and to solicit feedback. On September 9, 2015, the Park Commission recommended approval of the MOU, with the stipulation that at least three public meetings be held. Three additional public meetings were held: one on October 17, 2015, and two on October 19, 2015. Attendees at all four public meetings expressed consensus support for the plan.

The MOU establishes a framework to coordinate the Center's design, construction, and operation. Under the MOU, OCCHD would fund the wellness center, and OCPS would fund the gymnasium. The City would provide Parks and Recreation Department staff for programming at both facilities.

The parties would develop a Facility Use Agreement allowing them to collectively manage the Center to meet programming needs and ensure community access according to each entity's mission, vision, and goals. The MOU would be effective for one year from the date of approval by the City. Upon mutual consent, it could be renewed for two, one-year terms, for a total of three years.

Review

Parks and Recreation Department

Recommendation: Memorandum of Understanding be approved.