

AN ORDINANCE 2008-08-14-0701

**AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF SAN ANTONIO TO REVISE FEES  
FOR THE AFTER SCHOOL AND SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS  
MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES  
AND THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**WHEREAS**, in order to expand and enhance the After School and Summer Youth programs' current offerings, City Council, in the FY 2008 Budget, approved a sliding scale fee for the After School and Summer Youth Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, fees were implemented in a four (4) tiered structure based upon federal poverty guidelines and determined according to family income, household size, and number of children participating in the programs; and

**WHEREAS**, registration for the Summer Programs began earlier than usual because of the fee changes; and

**WHEREAS**, however, there has been public concern about the rates associated with the lowest income levels; and

**WHEREAS**, changes to the fees were necessary to ensure that no child be turned away from the summer program; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2008, City Council considered and adopted a revised fee schedule for the Summer Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 7, 2008, the Departments of Community Initiatives and Parks and Recreation recommended adoption of a revised fees schedule to reduce After School Program fees to equal Summer Program fees that were adopted on June 12, 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 7, 2008, City Council directed staff to revisit the fee schedule for these Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, City representatives and community groups met to negotiate a mutually acceptable revised fee schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the benefit provided by the revised fee schedule is that it significantly supports families earning below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), which is consistent with most public benefit programs, including Food Stamps, CHIP, Medicaid and VITA; and

**WHEREAS**, families above 200% of the FPL also benefit in that the fees are significantly less expensive than other private programs; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to encourage parents to participate in the program, the registration process has been streamlined to include pre-certification of income for families who have previously enrolled in either the After School or Summer Youth Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, families will be able to access services through an affordability plan that is made available to participants through the DCI Center for Working Families (CWF); and

**WHEREAS**, through the CWF program, families can apply for assistance with the fee in conjunction with financial counseling and budgeting designed specifically to facilitate their long-term financial stability; and

**WHEREAS**, participants are also provided work and training opportunities, public benefits enrollment, including access to \$1.2 million in utility credits and access to mainstream financial services; and

**WHEREAS**, this program ensures that no family is denied care based on an inability to pay for the program services; **NOW THEREFORE:**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 22-21.1(c) of the City Code of the City of San Antonio shall be amended to read as follows:

(c) An annual fee shall be charged for participation in after school youth programs in accordance with the fee structure set forth below:

<b>After School Recreation Program and After School Challenge Program Fees</b>		
Federal Poverty Level* (FPL)		
	200% of FPL and below	201% and over of FPL
Annual Cost for 1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$20.00	\$250.00
Each Additional Child	\$10.00	\$150.00
Annual Maximum Per Family	\$40.00	\$550.00

\* depending on family or household size and as updated and published annually in January of each calendar year in the *Federal Register* (eg., the January 2007 Federal Poverty Guidelines are published in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 15,2007, pp 3,147 – 3,148)

**SECTION 2.** Section 22-21.1(n) of the City Code of the City of San Antonio shall be amended to read as follows:

(n) An annual fee shall be charged for participation in a summer youth program in accordance with the fee structure set forth below:

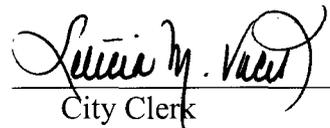
<b>Summer Youth Program Fees</b> <i>(Kid Quest, Play Zone and other summer youth programs)</i>		
Federal Poverty Level* (FPL)		
	200% of FPL and below	201% and over of FPL
Annual Cost for 1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$20.00	\$250.00
Each Additional Child	\$10.00	\$150.00
Annual Maximum Per Family	\$40.00	\$550.00

\* depending on family or household size and as updated and published annually in January of each calendar year in the *Federal Register* (eg., the January 2007 Federal Poverty Guidelines are published in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 15,2007, pp 3,147 – 3,148)

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage by eight (8) affirmative votes of the entire City Council; otherwise, said effective date shall be ten (10) days from the date of passage hereof.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008.

  
M A Y O R  
**PHIL HARDBERGER**

ATTEST:   
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:   
for City Attorney



## Agenda Voting Results - 21

<b>Name:</b>	21						
<b>Date:</b>	08/14/2008						
<b>Time:</b>	03:03:08 PM						
<b>Vote Type:</b>	Motion to Approve						
<b>Description:</b>	An Ordinance amending the City Code of San Antonio to revise fees for the After School Programs managed by the Department of Community Initiatives and the Parks and Recreation Department. [Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager; Dennis J. Campa, Director, Community Initiatives]						
<b>Result:</b>	Passed						
<b>Voter</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Not Present</b>	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>
Phil Hardberger	Mayor		x				
Mary Alice P. Cisneros	District 1		x				x
Sheila D. McNeil	District 2	x					
Jennifer V. Ramos	District 3	x				x	
Philip A. Cortez	District 4		x				
Lourdes Galvan	District 5		x				
Delicia Herrera	District 6		x				
Justin Rodriguez	District 7	x					
Diane G. Cibrian	District 8		x				
Louis E. Rowe	District 9		x				
John G. Clamp	District 10			x			



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
**Request for Council Action**

Agenda Item # 21  
Council Meeting Date: 8/14/2008  
RFCA Tracking No: R-3745

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**DEPARTMENT:** Community Initiatives

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Dennis J Campa

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S) IMPACTED:**  
City Wide

**SUBJECT:**  
City of San Antonio After School Programs

**SUMMARY:**

This Ordinance will amend the City Code and revise fees for After School Programs managed by the Department of Community Initiatives (DCI) and the Parks and Recreation Departments.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Department of Community Initiatives' After School Challenge Program (ASCP) provides after school care for over 13,000 youth in eight school districts and 133 elementary and middle school sites. Youth, ages five to 14 are provided structured activities, as well as a free daily snack, with a 1:25 staff to participant ratio.

In order to expand and enhance the program's current offerings, City Council, in the FY 2008 Budget, approved a sliding scale fee for the After School Challenge and Summer Youth Programs. Fees were implemented in a four tiered structure based upon federal poverty guidelines and determined according to family income, household size, and number of children participating in the program.

City Council approved a revision for both the Parks and Recreation and Department of Community Initiatives' Summer Youth Programs. In order to align youth fees, staff recommended the After School Challenge Program fee structure be revised to reflect the same fees as the Summer Youth Programs. The new fee schedule combined the two lowest income levels into a new category (Level 3). The Level 3 program rate for families is a minimum of \$20.00 for the first child with a family maximum of \$40.00 for the entire school year. No changes were proposed for the remaining two tiers (Level 1 and Level 2).

As a result of the implementation of the sliding fee scale in FY 2008, the following enhancements had been made to the program:

- Eliminated the waiting list of over 1,200 students
- Lowered the teacher to student ratio
- Invested in additional learning tools to reinforce concepts learned in the classroom
- Implemented financial Affordability Plan for ASCP families

Continued improvements proposed for FY 2009 included:

- Middle School “Club” concept- Providing a “Club” type of environment with a stronger focus on “hands on” activities, weekly electives (Arts, Dance, Robotics, Science, Financial Literacy, etc.) and good attendance as a requirement for elective participation
- Additional space allocations for participants at high-volume schools
- City-wide training for the ASCP providers to ensure a consistent, quality program
- Math and Science focus throughout the program

However, on August 7, 2008, City Council directed staff to confer with community groups on the proposed afterschool and summer fee structure for consideration at the next council meeting.

**ISSUE:**

Concerns from the public have been raised regarding the rates applicable to the families in the lowest income levels. The revised rate structure approved for summer worked to provide assistance to families that utilized the program. Community groups are requesting additional modifications to the rate structure. The new proposal will be shared with City Council this coming week.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The proposed fee structure allowed for eliminating the waiting list and having enhancements to the program. A compromise would need to be reached that does not negatively impact the program and the proposed enhancements.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The decrease in program revenue associated with this action will be offset by a decrease in program expenditures. The projected revenues and expenses for FY 2009 will be adjusted during the FY 2009 budget process.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

After conferring with community groups, staff will make its recommendation at City Council on August 14, 2008, amending the City Code and revising fees for the After School Challenge Program.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

File Description	File Name
<a href="#">Voting Results</a>	
<a href="#">Ordinance/Supplemental Documents</a>	200808140701..pdf

**DEPARTMENT HEAD AUTHORIZATIONS:**

Melody Woosley Assistant Director Community Initiatives  
Dennis J Campa Director Community Initiatives

**APPROVED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**  
Frances A. Gonzalez Assistant City Manager