



STAFF REPORT

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FIRST RESTATED JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES AND THE RELATED STAFF AND SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SAN MATEO COUNTY

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution approving the First Restated Joint Powers Agreement for Library Services and the related Staff and Services Agreement with San Mateo County, and authorize the Mayor to execute the Joint Powers Agreement on behalf of the City. Execution of the First Restated Agreement by May 30, 2004, will continue Belmont as a member of the County Library Joint Powers Authority (“JPA”); the Agreement replaces the JPA agreement approved in 1999.

Discussion

Attached is a report from Management Partners, Inc., a consultant hired by the JPA to assist in reformulating the JPA agreement between the County and eleven cities. The JPA allows operation of the libraries in those cities as a single system; other cities in the County have independent libraries. The Management Partners report provides extensive background and discussion of this issue, and will not be repeated here. Suffice it to say that a new JPA agreement (copy attached) has been crafted, and is recommended to you by the JPA Board (and by the City’s representatives to that Board). Following adoption of the JPA agreement, the JPA and the County will be executing an agreement relating to staff and services (copy attached).

Under the JPA agreement, each City is responsible for the construction and maintenance of branch library buildings. The JPA then is responsible for operations, including furnishing, collections, and staffing and other operations costs. Thus, the impending construction of the new Belmont Library building is essentially independent of this agreement, although the JPA is contributing \$400,000 to the project for furnishings and equipment, pursuant to their policy.

Fiscal Impact

Execution of the agreement will not affect the City’s finances. Under the current financial arrangement, the portion of the property tax collected in the City for library services is turned over to the JPA as our contribution; the new agreement does not change that relationship.

Should the City not execute the agreement, thereby pulling out of the JPA, we would be forced to operate the Belmont Library using only the City's property tax share. Under the calculation included in the Management Partners report, Belmont contributes \$663,473 annually in property tax, but receives \$1,058,719 in services at the Belmont branch. If we tried to become independent, we would have to cut services (e.g., hours of operation) by approximately one-third, or make up the difference from other revenues.

Alternatives

Failure to approve and execute the new agreement would be tantamount to pulling out of the Library JPA. Because of the fiscal impact, and the resulting reduction of services, staff does not recommend this option.

Attachments

1. Management Partners report: "Recommendations for Approval of First Restated Joint Powers Authority for the San Mateo County Library System" (**Council only*)
2. Resolution authorizing Execution of First Restated Joint Powers Agreement; full Agreement is attached as Exhibit A (**Exhibit A, Council only*)
3. Staff and Services Agreement between San Mateo County and the San Mateo County Library Joint Powers Authority (**Council only*)

Respectfully submitted,

Jere A. Kersnar
City Manager

** These attachments are available for review in City Clerk's office*

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE FIRST RESTATED JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, THE CITY OF BELMONT, AND OTHERS, RELATING TO LIBRARY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Belmont has joined with the County of San Mateo and the Cities of Atherton, Brisbane, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Half Moon Bay, Millbrae, Pacifica, Portola Valley, San Carlos, and Woodside, to form the San Mateo County Library Joint Powers Authority (“JPA”); and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to make certain changes to the original Joint Powers Agreement between them, and have developed a First Restated Joint Powers Agreement (“New Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, it is in the interests of the City of Belmont to approve and execute the New Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Belmont that:

- Section 1. The First Restated Joint Powers Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby approved.
- Section 2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the City of Belmont, said First Restated Joint Powers Agreement.
- Section 3. The City of Belmont representative to the JPA Board is hereby directed to vote in favor of the proposed Staff and Services Agreement between the JPA and the County of San Mateo.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on April 27, 2004 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont