

LRB – FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ITEM 6, FILE 001291

JANUARY 31, 2001

ANGELYN WARD

File #001291 is a substitute resolution relative to the application, acceptance and funding of a TEACH Project Implementation Services Grant by the Milwaukee Public Library.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

1. The substitute resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Public Library (MPL) to apply for, accept and fund a TEACH Project Implementation Services Grant from the MPL Foundation and Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). This is a continuation grant.
2. The purpose of the grant is to allow MPL to improve the system-wide use of technology services. This grant supports the City goal of recognizing the importance of lifelong learning and improving the City's quality of life. It also promotes the Library goal to increase access to library technology to the Milwaukee citizens.
3. In 1995, MPL began a major automation initiative which included additional computer equipment and software. Continued software improvements and the complex nature of computer usage requires on-going training. Librarians used valuable time their from regular duties assisting patrons with computers. The need for computer training was identified. The first TEACH grant was in 1999.
4. This grant will provide:
 - Student help recruited from MPS high schools to provide computer troubleshooting assistance in all MPL libraries during peak service times; (*students will be paid to work from 8 to 20 hours per week*).
 - Contracted curriculum development of training materials and class instruction for library patrons in the use of computers, the Internet, and information resources.
 - Training for staff, students and volunteers to provide computer instruction to library users.
5. The grant will improve MPL's partnership with MPS for the recruitment of students for library positions. Also, the grant will free up librarians' time for their regular reference duties, rather than providing troubleshooting for computer problems.

FISCAL IMPACT

1. The total for the TEACH Project Implementation Services Grant is \$209,557, funded by:
 - * Grantor share: \$209,500 (98%)
 - * City in-kind share: \$4,057 (2%)
2. The grant funds 30 Computer Service Aides, SG 906 (17,080 hours), and a portion of the Library Technical Service Manager, SG 012 (80 hours).
3. The grant period is from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2002.

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LRB – Fiscal Review Section
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