



Meeting Date: 07 / 24 / 07

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Prepared By: Martin R. Erickson *[Signature]* Agenda Item No. I-4

Reviewed By: City Manager *[Signature]* City Attorney *[Signature]* Finance SW Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** July 12, 2007

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager *[Signature]*  
City Manager's Office

**SUBJECT:** Support of Governor Schwarzenegger's Initiative to Combat Gang Violence in California, the Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP)

**RECOMMENDATION**

That City Council execute a letter of support for Governor Schwarzenegger's anti-gang initiative to fight gang violence in California, the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP).

**DISCUSSION**

The City of Oxnard has been actively engaged in anti-gang efforts, particularly by seeking more resources for prevention and intervention activities and improving the effectiveness of existing state and federal programs.

The CalGRIP initiative will target more than \$48 million in state and federal funding toward local anti-gang efforts, including job training, education and intervention programs, and will give law enforcement the tools they need to closely track gang leaders both inside state prisons and when they are released on parole.

CalGRIP combines funding from different programs and directs them toward intervention, suppression, and prevention. The Governor is also appointing a statewide gang coordinator to coordinate all state programs and funding for anti-gang activities with local and federal agencies.

For the past several months, the Governor has met with mayors, law enforcement, faith-based and community organizations, local officials and legislators to discuss how communities across the state are fighting gangs and what resources they need to strengthen their success. At every meeting the Governor heard the same problems: lack of coordination between state and local agencies and programs, lack of

funding, and lack of a comprehensive approach to anti gang efforts.

Importantly for the City of Oxnard, CalGRIP would make available more than \$48 million in state funds, grants, and federal dollars for suppression, intervention, and prevention programs. In addition, the Governor's budget investment in CTE courses, equipment and teachers (\$227 million), after school programs (\$547 million) and school counselors (\$208 million) will give at-risk kids alternatives to gang life.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no financial impact at this time as this item involves pending State legislation.

Attachment #1 Letter in support of Governor Schwarzenegger's anti-gang initiative CalGRIP.

July 24, 2007

The Honorable John Laird  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0027

**RE: Support of Governor's Anti-Gang Initiative, the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP)**

Dear Assemblyman Laird:

The City Council of the City of Oxnard supports Governor Schwarzenegger's initiative to combat gang violence, the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP). Oxnard's population of nearly 200,000 represents one-quarter of Ventura County's population and the Governor's initiative represents a well balanced approach to deal with the vexing problem of gang violence.

The City Council is concerned that key elements of the CalGRIP initiative have been eliminated by the budget conference committee, and we encourage the members of the committee to reconsider the plan in its entirety. Of particular importance to the City of Oxnard are the programs aimed at prevention and suppression of gang violence, the School Resource Officer (SRO's) program and the summer employment funding program. SRO's serve a critical gang prevention function as these school based officers have the best access to children when they are most vulnerable and likely to be impacted by gang recruitment. Similarly, engaging youth in summer programs keeps them off the streets, decreasing the likelihood they may join a gang.

The City of Oxnard has been actively engaged in the statewide efforts to reduce gang violence, particularly by seeking more resources for prevention and intervention activities and improving the effectiveness of existing programs. CalGRIP combines funding from different programs and directs them toward prevention, intervention, and suppression. The City Council also supports the Governor's appointment of a statewide gang coordinator to coordinate all state programs and funding for anti-gang activities with local and federal agencies. Effectively combating the gang problem requires a holistic approach that utilizes the best available tools in the areas of prevention, intervention, and suppression. A reduction in gang violence will not be achieved without resources aimed at each of the three areas.

**000029**

ATTACHMENT 1  
PAGE 1 OF 2

The City of Oxnard City Corps youth program has been recognized as a model program that provides opportunities for at-risk youths by redirecting their energies into positive channels, such as working on City beautification projects, learning life skills, and becoming productive members of society. The CalGRIP initiative would help advance the efforts the City has made thus far to combat gang activity and we strongly encourage your reconsideration of the entire program.

Please do not hesitate to contact Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager at (805) 385-7870 should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

---

Dr. Thomas E. Holden  
Mayor

---

Dean Maulhardt  
Mayor Pro Tem

---

John C. Zaragoza  
Councilmember

---

Andres Herrera  
Councilmember

---

Timothy B. Flynn  
Councilman

Cc: The Honorable Denise Ducheny  
The Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth  
The Honorable Mike Machado  
The Honorable Roger Niello  
The Honorable Mark Leno  
The Honorable Don Perata  
The Honorable Dick Ackerman  
Ross LaJeunesse, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Governor Schwarzenegger

**000030**