

RESOLUTION No: 36733

Adopt the Youth Engagement Manual and PDXyouth as primary tools to engage and support the role of children and youth in the decision making processes of the City – a key strategy of implementing Our Bill of Rights: Children + Youth. (Resolution)

WHEREAS, the City of Portland recognizes that the well-being of children and youth is an important indicator of the health of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland recognizes that children and youth under age 18, who number 121,000 in our City and account for 21% of our population, do not have voting powers and thus are often denied the opportunity to influence decisions that affect their lives; and

WHEREAS, 90% of students believe the interaction of public officials with young people encourages civic engagement (US Mayor's Conference website); and

WHEREAS, only 37% of American adults believe today's children, once grown, will make the world a better place (Youth Service America); and

WHEREAS, children and youth are our future leaders and should be given adequate support to develop the to prepare them for such a responsibility; and

WHEREAS, as a Connected by 25 partner, the City of Portland recognizes young people thrive when they are connected to work, school, and their community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland takes pride in a strong tradition of implementing inclusive policies and reaching out to people of all ages and backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the Report to Council, *Fostering Empowerment of Youth for Tomorrow, Filling in the Gaps of Services Today!* was adopted by Council on September, 26, 2007 and committed the City to identifying specific recommendations City bureaus can take action on to improve youth involvement and engagement; and

WHEREAS, during the adoption of *Our Bill of Rights: Children + Youth*, the City of Portland pledged to seek new and innovative ways to continually engage children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Planning Program in the Bureau of Planning & Sustainability (BPS) has created a *Youth Engagement Manual* to tangibly assist bureaus in engaging youth at various levels of involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Management & Finance (OMF) has created a youth web portal on PortlandOnline called *PDXyouth* to facilitate the relationship and dialogue between youth and local government; and

WHEREAS, the Multnomah Youth Commission, the official youth policy advisory body to the City of Portland and Multnomah County, recommends joint usage of both the *Youth Engagement Manual* and *PDXyouth*; and

WHEREAS, the *Youth Engagement Manual* and *PDXyouth* will provide opportunities to engage and empower children and youth and promote their involvement throughout City bureaus and agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Portland adopts the *Youth Engagement Manual*, substantially similar to Exhibit A, and *PDXyouth*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City staff should utilize these tools to ensure that youth voice is heard at all levels of City government, especially when making decisions that directly affect youth's lives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BPS Youth Program Coordinator for the *Youth Engagement Manual* and OMF staff for *PDXyouth* will initiate and coordinate technical assistance and training on these tools for City bureaus seeking to advance the articles of the Youth Bill of Rights and report back to City Council within one year on progress and suggestions for improvement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that other bureaus and agencies at the City of Portland will look for opportunities to involve children and youth, that internships and volunteer opportunities within the City will be made available to children and youth, and that children and youth will be informed of those opportunities.

Adopted by the Council: SEP 21 2009

Office of Mayor Sam Adams
Prepared by: Abby Coppock and Pam Phan
Date Prepared: 09/03/09

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland
By

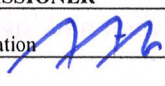
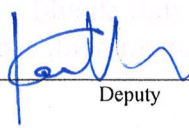
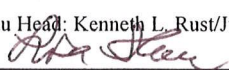

Susan Parsons
Deputy

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Agenda No.
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INTRODUCED BY	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>SEP 11 2009</u>
Mayor Sam Adams	LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland
NOTED BY COMMISSIONER	
Mayor—Finance and Administration 	By:  Deputy
Position 1—Utilities	
Position 2—Works	
Position 3—Affairs	
Position 4—Safety	
BUREAU APPROVAL	ACTION TAKEN:
Bureau: Office of Management & Finance and the Bureau of Planning & Sustainability	
Prepared by: Judith Tuttle: AC Date Prepared: 9-2-09	
Financial Impact Statement ___ Completed ___ Amends Budget ___X___ Not Required	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes," requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. ___ Yes ___X___ No	
Council Meeting Date 9-21-09	
Bureau Head: Kenneth L. Rust/Judith Tuttle  	

2074 AGENDA Special Session of City/County		FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
Consent	Regular			YEAS	NAYS
		1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
		2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
		3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
		4. Leonard	4. Leonard	✓	
		Adams	Adams	✓	
NOTED BY					
City Attorney					