

MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: STEVEN ADAMS, CITY MANAGER *SA*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF PARTICIPATION AS A SPECIAL OLYMPICS
WORLD GAMES HOST TOWN

DATE: OCTOBER 28, 2014

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the City Council approve participating as a Special Olympics World Game Host Town and direct staff to proceed with plans to organize the necessary activities.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

There may be some minor costs for transportation and food. However, it is staff's intent to solicit as much of the items necessary as possible through contributions by service clubs, churches and sponsorships. It will require some dedication of staff time, but can be accomplished without additional personnel costs.

BACKGROUND:

Los Angeles will be host to the Special Olympics World Games in Summer 2015. Over 7,000 athletes will participate from 177 countries.

Special Olympics has developed the Host Town Program to help athletes acclimate to the area and climate before the games begin. They are trying to recruit approximately 100 host towns to provide housing, meals, activities, transportation and practice facilities the three days prior to the games, which will take place July 21st – July 24th.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

Staff believes many in the community will want to be involved in this special program. However, since Arroyo Grande is a small jurisdiction, accommodating their needs for the full three days would require a significant demand of staff time and resources. As a result, staff has reached out to other cities in San Luis Obispo County. In

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response, there is interest in jointly serving as countywide Host Towns. This will result in a much more feasible level of responsibility for each jurisdiction.

San Luis Obispo County cities would be responsible for hosting approximately 100 athletes. Cal Poly University has agreed to provide dorm rooms, breakfasts and practice facilities. This will leave the participating Host Towns to provide lunch and evening activities, as well as transportation to and from Cal Poly.

It is tentatively proposed that North County host the athletes for an afternoon and evening event on July 21st, Morro Bay be responsible for a luncheon event on July 22nd, San Luis Obispo organize a dinner and Farmers' Market evening event on July 22nd, and South County be responsible for the activities of July 23rd. After preliminary discussions with Pismo Beach and Grover Beach, it is tentatively proposed that Arroyo Grande coordinate a lunch event at Heritage Square Park. It would include a barbeque provided by the Lions' and/or Kiwanis' Club, entertainment at the Rotary Bandstand, and an opportunity to view the museums and experience the historic swinging bridge. Pismo Beach and Grover Beach would then partner on providing an evening bonfire event at the beach.

It is proposed that a countywide committee be established to include a city, chamber of commerce, and community representative from each jurisdiction, along with Special Olympics and Cal Poly representatives, in order to agree on the overall schedule and to make arrangements for transportation. Each jurisdiction would then form its own committee to plan each individual event. It is recommended Arroyo Grande involve service clubs, the Chamber of Commerce, the Village Improvement Association and the South County Historical Society.

The first step is to schedule an official announcement. A representative from the World Games would be here to organize it. It is tentatively recommended the official announcement be held in San Luis Obispo with all the Mayors in mid-November.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for the Council's consideration:

- Approve staff's recommendations;
- Direct staff to participate independently as a Host Town rather than jointly with other cities on a countywide basis;
- Do not participate in the Host Town program;
- Provide direction to staff.

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ADVANTAGES:

The Host Town program offers an opportunity to support an excellent organization that provides significant benefits to thousands of people with disabilities throughout the world, will provide an opportunity for members of the community to get involved in this worthwhile event, will provide a meaningful experience for both the community members and athletes to be able to enjoy the activities and interact with each other, and will provide the City with recognition as a participating Host Town.

DISADVANTAGES:

The only disadvantage is that participation may require some limited expenses and staff time.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

No environmental review is required for this item.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The agenda was posted in front of City Hall on Thursday, October 23, 2014 and on the City's website on Friday, October 24, 2014.

Attachments:

1. Special Olympics World Games Host Town Program Information

WHAT IS THE HOST TOWN PROGRAM?

The Host Town Program is a very special 3-day program that takes place prior to the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics World Games 2015. At their Host Towns, athletic delegations from around the world will be welcomed and celebrated. Their Host Town's schedule of events will include getting to know community members, taking part in cultural activities unique to your area, and--of course--practicing and resting for the games. The Special Olympics athletes will feel truly celebrated and Host Town members will make friends for life.

WHEN ARE THE HOST TOWNS?

Delegations arrive on July 21 and delegations depart on July 24, 2015.

WHAT COMMUNITIES CAN BE HOST TOWNS?

Host Towns can be the largest cities or the smallest towns in Southern California—and, in some cases, they can also be civic groups and clubs. Communities located from San Luis Obispo to San Diego are eligible. Altogether, there will be approximately 100 Host Towns.



HOW MANY ATHLETES WOULD SPEND TIME AT A HOST TOWN?

Host Towns will have the opportunity to roll out the red carpet for approximately 100 athletes--typically one or two delegations.

WHAT DOES A HOST TOWN HAVE TO DO?

The Host Town will be responsible for 100% of the costs of hosting their delegations, which includes expenses such as lodging and food. The World Games 2015 has experience advising Host Towns and can provide suggestions for securing in-kind donations and holding fundraisers.

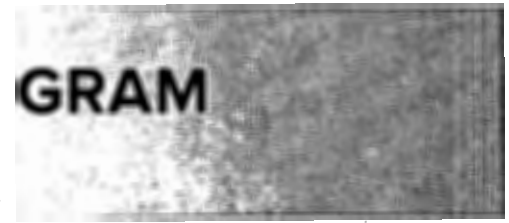
WHY SHOULD MY COMMUNITY BECOME A HOST TOWN?

You and your neighbors will be taking part in the largest humanitarian and athletic event Los Angeles has seen since the 1984 Olympics. Over 7,000 athletes will show courage, determination and joy as they spend four days in your community and then go on to compete in 25 different events during the World Games. Your community will serve a very special role, welcoming Special Olympic athletes to SoCal and getting to know them. After these three never-to-be-forgotten days, the athletes will be changed for the better...and so will you.

For more information contact:

Joann Klonowski, Vice President, Host Town Program

Joann.Klonowski@LA2015.org | Office: (213) 892-6038 | Mobile: (213) 369-1510



IT'S EASY TO GET STARTED!

USE THE RESOURCES OF YOUR COMMUNITY TO SET UP YOUR HOST TOWN



ACCOMMODATIONS – You will need to identify approximately 50 double-occupancy rooms for the athletes in or near your community.

Talk to local colleges and universities about a donation of dormitory space. Or, speak to hotel chains in your area—many will want to be part of the Special Olympics experience either by donating space or providing rooms at a discount. Make sure you have plenty of volunteers on hand to welcome the athletes, show them to their rooms and assist with baggage.



TRAINING FACILITIES – You should make sure that the athletes have a way to practice their skills prior to the Games or just have an opportunity to work out.

Check with local schools to find out what facilities might be available, including a gym with training facilities, a soccer-style field and a track.



FOOD – You will want to supply nutritious food and plenty of water. As with any athlete, it is important that they be given healthy breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

Make arrangements with local restaurants, civic clubs, and colleges to provide meals for athletes. Involve community members in a giant Pot Luck. Ask local markets for food donations.



TRANSPORTATION – You should determine your transportation needs. The World Games 2015 will be responsible for bringing the Special Olympics athletes to and from your community. You will need to arrange transportation to bring them to local events during their visit.

Speak to local bus companies, car dealers or car rental agencies to see whether they can contribute their services or provide a discounted rate.



ACTIVITIES – You should plan some great activities to introduce the athletes to your community and spread the word about the World Games. Arrange for 2 two-hour events to be held on July 22 and July 23, and a possible activity on July 21 if the delegation arrives earlier in the day.

Be sure to highlight what is unique about your community, such as a historic site. Bring in local artists, writers, and performers to create special events. Look for interesting places to hold cultural events.



SECURITY – You will need to supply basic oversight of your events to make sure your three days go smoothly.

Recruit local volunteers to be on site.

Los Angeles is a city full of movie stars and all-stars. But in 2015, thousands of Special Olympics athletes will be the true stars.

Arriving from all corners of the world, 7,000 athletes will take the global stage in Los Angeles and show the world incredible courage, unwavering determination, and sheer joy. By living out their dreams in front of the world, they will open hearts and minds, and expand our collective sense of acceptance and inclusion.



FACTS AND FIGURES

Athletes: 7,000

Coaches: 3,000

Countries Represented: 177

Duration: 9 Days

Number of Events: 25

Number of Volunteers: 30,000

Honored Guests: 5,000

Spectators: 500,000

Media Representatives: 2,000

Number of Venues: 27

The 2015 World Games will be the largest event hosted by Los Angeles since the 1984 Olympic Games. The venues will be world-class, including Special Olympics Athlete Villages at USC and UCLA, and a star-studded Opening Ceremony on July 25, 2015 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, site of the 1932 and 1984 Olympic Games.

25 SPORTING EVENTS

Aquatics, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Beach Volleyball, Bocce, Bowling, Cycling, Equestrian, Football (Soccer), Golf, Gymnastics, Judo, Kayaking, Half Marathon, Open Water Swim, Power Lifting, Roller Skating, Sailing, Softball, Table Tennis, Team Handball, Tennis, Triathlon and Volleyball.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

HOST TOWN: For the three days preceding the Opening Ceremony, 100 towns and cities across Southern California will host delegations from around the world. Athletes will get the welcome of a lifetime and, along with members of their Host Town, will take part in a fun schedule of cultural and sports activities.

HEALTHY ATHLETES: Volunteer healthcare professionals will provide athletes with free screenings and services in seven clinical areas. Athletes will receive referrals for follow-up care, prescription eyewear, hearing aids and other life-changing care. Medical volunteers return to their schools and medical practices with the experience and desire to better treat people with intellectual disabilities.



Special Olympics
WORLD GAMES
LOS ANGELES 2015

GET INVOLVED

JULY 25 - AUGUST 2, 2015 | 7,000 ATHLETES | 177 COUNTRIES | 25 SPORTS



Make the Special Olympics World Games truly memorable. Get involved today!

The ultimate goal of the Special Olympics World Games is to create a world that fully accepts and includes all people with intellectual disabilities -- and ultimately *all* people with differences. Special Olympics Founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver recognized this movement would transform the world, one community at a time.

BE A VOLUNTEER

It will take 30,000 caring and committed volunteers to make sure that the Special Olympic athletes get the experience of a lifetime. Whether you can speak a foreign language, assist a team, or just want to cheer on the athletes, visit LA2015.org/volunteer to sign up. If you'd like to get even more involved by hosting international athletes prior to the games by organizing a Host Town, visit www.LA2015.org/host-town.

SUPPORT AN ATHLETE

It takes \$2,500 to fund one athlete's participation in the World Games 2015. Join the Support An Athlete campaign and raise \$2,500 with your family and friends. You'll be paired with an athlete competing at the World Games and can follow your athlete's progress during the competition. Visit support.LA2015.org to see how much has been raised and get started with your page.

MAKE A DONATION

Every contribution helps. Give a gift at LA2015.com/donate and know that you're helping to expand the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in communities around the world.

BECOME A SPONSOR

Join some of the most respected companies in the world and become an official sponsor of Special Olympics World Games. To find out how, please contact Brian Erickson, Senior Vice President of Sales, at sponsor@LA2015.org.

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Special Olympics
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GAMES**
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Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles 2015 truly is an international event. Without the participation of the many local programs around the world, the Special Olympics movement wouldn't continue let alone the World Games. The most recent count of participating delegations registered 177 countries – all are listed below.

Algeria	Croatia	Kazakhstan
Andorra	Cuba	Kenya
Afghanistan	Curacao	Korea
Albania	Cyprus	Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99)
Argentina	Czech Republic	Kyrgyz Republic
Armenia	Democratic Republic	Kuwait
American Samoa	Congo	Laos
Aruba	Denmark	Latvia
Australia	Djibouti	Lebanon
Austria	Dominica	Libya
Azerbaijan	Dominican Republic	Lithuania
Bahamas	Ecuador	Luxembourg
Baharain	Egypt	Macau
Barbados	El Salvador	FYR Macedonia
Bangladesh	Estonia	Malawi
Belarus	Faroe Island	Mali
Belgium	Fiji	Malaysia
Belize	Finland	Malta
Bermuda	France	Maldives
Bharat / India	Georgia Republic	Mauritania
Benin	Germany	Mauritus
Bhutan	Ghana	Mexico
Bolivia	Gibraltar	Moldova
Bonaire	Great Britain	Monaco
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Greece	Mongolia
Botswana	Guadeloupe	Montenegro
Brazil	Guatemala	Morocco
Brunei	Guyana	Montserrat
Bulgaria	Haiti	Myanmar
Burkina Faso	Honduras	Namibia
Cayman Islands	Hong Kong	Netherlands
Cambodia	Hungary	New Zealand
Camerun	Iceland	Nepal
Canada	Indonesia	Nicaragua
Chad	Iran	Niger
Chile	Iraq	Nigeria
China	Ireland	Norway
Chinese Taipei	Isle of Man	Oman
Colombia	Israel	Pakistan
Congo	Italy	Palestine
Comoros	Jamaica	Paraguay
Costa Rica	Japan / Nippon	Panama
Cote d'Ivoire	Jordan	

Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Qatar
Romania
Russia
Rwanda
San Marino
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