



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** October 2, 2012

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administration, Fire Department

**SUBJECT:** 2012 Annual Charitable Giving Campaign

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receive a report from the Chairperson on the City's 2012 Annual Charitable Giving Campaign.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The City of Santa Barbara is beginning its 2012 Annual Charitable Giving Campaign. As part of the campaign, the Santa Barbara United Way Agency sponsored its 21st Annual Day of Caring, which was held this year on Saturday, September 15, 2012. In total, over 1,400 people volunteered for the event. Individuals and groups from both private and public sectors, non-profit and faith based organizations volunteered as to provide service throughout Santa Barbara County. The work that was done in just four hours is equal to more than \$275,000 worth of improvements to the Santa Barbara Community

City employees have historically supported this event in both spirit and with their "helping hands," and continued the tradition this year with 30 employees and members of their families volunteering to work in teams at various volunteer locations. This year's City team work sites included Bohnett Park, the Horticulture Demonstration Gardens at Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) and La Mesa Park on Meigs Road. City employees assisted with painting, weeding, trash pickup, carpentry, cleaning, planting seedlings, and general yard work at these locations.

A great deal of work was done by Day of Caring volunteers in our City Parks. At Bohnett Park, located in the 1200 block of San Pascual Street, 50 Volunteers from the SBCC International Student Society, helped weed and clean the main pathways, paint park fixtures. At La Mesa Park, 25 volunteers including those from Cottage Health Care Systems, cleared weeds, did landscaping, cleaned playground equipment and added mulch to planters. In our economic environment, when financial resources available to non-profit organizations are much scarcer, the efforts of these volunteers are greatly appreciated and more important than ever.

The 2012 Charitable Giving Campaign will be held from Wednesday, October 3 through November 16, and will involve presentations in all City departments. The goal of the City's Charitable Giving campaign will be to ensure that each City employee is afforded the opportunity to contribute to one or more charitable organizations of their choosing.

**PREPARED BY:** Andrew DiMizio, Fire Chief  
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**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office