



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 8, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Re-Appointment Of Youth Intern Applicant To Park And Recreation Commission

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council request that Mayor Blum re-appoint Diego Torres-Santos to the position of Youth Intern on the Park and Recreation Commission.

DISCUSSION:

On February 7, 1995, the City Council established a Youth Intern Program for Charter Boards and Commissions. The Program was established to expand the opportunities for City youth residents to participate in the City's governmental and advisory role process.

On June 6, 2000, Council extended the Youth Intern Program to high school student volunteers who reside within the Santa Barbara High School District or attend other high schools within the City limits to learn first hand how public decisions are made, and how City departments function in providing public services while at the same time providing community service that may qualify for academic credit.

The Park and Recreation Commission has had a youth appointed to serve as Youth Intern since the program was adopted in 1995. Diego Torres-Santos, who has served as the Council-appointed Youth Intern to the Commission since October 14, 2008, has applied for re-appointment. The intern policy allows for youth to serve up to two years.

Diego Torres-Santos

Diego Torres-Santos is a senior at San Marcos High School with strong leadership ability and a strong academic standing. Enthusiastically recommended by his Guidance Counselor as well as one of his mentors and former Spanish teachers, Diego is described as being "honorable, genuine and very kind." Diego has served for one year as the Youth Intern for the Park and Recreation Commission and has received high regards from the Commission as a whole. Diego has accepted his responsibilities in

that position, regularly attending and participating in the Commission meetings as well as reporting back on those meetings to the Santa Barbara Youth Council, where he serves as 2nd Vice Chair. As one of his extracurricular activities, Diego lists being a volunteer at the Twelve35 Teen Center, where almost daily he can be found working with the other teens and assisting staff with desk duties. Currently maintaining a 3.25 academic G.P.A., Diego continues to balance school assignments with an active Youth Council schedule, music and choir practice as well as other community services activities, such as working with the League of Women Voters and AHA.

The Park and Recreation Commission has expressed its appreciation for the youth internship program and staff is confident that Diego Torres-Santos will fulfill his obligations as the Youth Intern on the Commission.

ATTACHMENT(S): 1. Intern Application
2. Letter of Recommendation

PREPARED BY: Susan C. Young, Neighborhood and Outreach Services Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

YOUTH INTERN APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO CITY ADVISORY GROUP

Parks & Recreation Department
 TEEN PROGRAMS DIVISION
 P. O. Box 1990
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101
 (805) 897-2650

Name: <u>Diego Torres-Santos</u>	Grade: <u>12</u>	Age: <u>17</u>
Residence: <u>1207 Castillo St #A</u>	City: <u>Santa Barbara</u>	Zip: <u>93101</u>
Email Address: <u>dball93101@yahoo.com</u>	High School: <u>San Marcos High School</u>	
Parent/Guardian: <u>Josephine Torres</u>	Phone Number: <u>698-1871</u>	
Emergency Contact: <u>Josephine Torres</u>	Phone Number: <u>450-4696</u>	
Recommender: <u>Daniel Archuleta</u>		

I. Advisory Body/Commission Applied for (list them in order of preference)

1. Santa Barbara Parks & Rec Commission 2. _____ 3. _____

Are you able to provide the two-hour commitment per month? Yes No

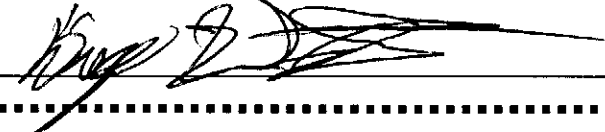
II. Are you active in any clubs on campus? Yes No If yes, please list: I'm part of a men's choir called Royal Knights.

III. Extracurricular activities (On & Off Campus) Im part of the Santa Barbara Youth Council, Im in the choir at San Marcos High, Im the current youth intern on the Parks and Rec Comisson, im a volunteer at the 1235 Teen Center, im singer/dancer and have performed for events in Santa Barbara.

IV. Reasons you believe you should be appointed to this group (Please use separate page.)

Recommender's Signature _____ Date: _____

I have read Resolution No. 06-044 of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara and if appointed, will follow it in the conduct of my duties.

Applicant's Signature  Date: 11/8/09

Date Received: _____ Date distributed to Mayor /Council offices: _____
 Dates Interviewed: _____
 If appointed: Date: _____ Term Expires: _____

IV. I believe that I should be re-appointed to the Parks & Rec Commission as the youth intern because I am currently the youth intern and I have learned a lot about local government and local politics while being aboard. I'm also apart of the Santa Barbara Youth which is a group of youth teens that show leadership abilities and make there voice heard. I truly have enjoyed it and would like to be re-appointed. I've been able to get really close to my community and have been able to develop my public speaking. I'm a youth leader that enjoys learning about things in my community and show true dedication, commitment and responsible. I hope to be able to serve as the youth intern on the Parks&Rec Commission for another year. I am sure my experience will help other students in our community.

P.O. Box 12
Los Olivos, California 93441
November 9, 2009

1235 Chapala Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Susan Young:

This Letter of Recommendation is written on behalf of Diego Santos in support of his application for a youth intern position within the Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Program.

I recently retired from the Santa Barbara Public Schools District after more than 37 years in teaching and administration in Spain, in the Bay Area and here in Santa Barbara. I am currently employed in a part-time position teaching Spanish at Santa Barbara High School.

I have known Diego Santos for some three years. I was his Spanish 3-4 teacher at San Marcos High School in his sophomore year. Since then we have kept in close contact even though I had transferred to teach at Santa Barbara High School year before last.

First and foremost, I consider Diego to be honorable, genuine and very kind. He has always demonstrated a deep respect for his fellow students and for me, his teacher. He is sincere and mature beyond his years. As a student of Spanish, he was hardworking, responsible and very dutiful. He went over and above what was required. In fact, he was one of a very few that memorized and performed a cappella a Mexican *corrido*, "Juan Charrasqueado" consisting of eight stanzas, some 32 verses. He did this for extra credit even though he had already secured an "A" in the class. I am still impressed with this minor endeavor that speaks so well of his personal drive and ambition. Since then, I witnessed another performance of his singing at a talent show in front of fellow students, parents and guests at San Marcos High School. Again, I heartily applauded his efforts to excel.

I cannot speak highly enough of Diego and my personal admiration for his achievements in and out of the classroom. I offer him my highest regard and recommendation for the position of youth intern in your program.

Should you have further questions, please contact me either by phone, 805-403-2652 or by e-mail, danielarch49@comcast.net.

Sincerely,



Daniel Archuleta

Spanish Teacher, SBHS