

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 314664  
DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE MAR 17 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
SAN DIEGO REGARDING CHANGES TO THE CITY  
ATTORNEY'S SEX TRAFFICKING EDUCATION AND  
PREVENTION PROGRAM, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE  
PROSTITUTION IMPACT PANEL.

WHEREAS, the San Diego City Attorney's Office administers a diversion program for criminal defendants who are arrested and charged with soliciting prostitution in violation of the California Penal Code section 647(b)(2); and

WHEREAS, the program was created to provide education to defendants about the far-reaching detrimental effects of prostitution and human trafficking in San Diego's communities; and

WHEREAS, upon its creation in 2002, the program was called the Prostitution Impact Panel (PIP); and

WHEREAS, research shows that those engaged in selling sex are often victims of human trafficking and are not willing participants; and

WHEREAS, to capture this reality, the program will now be called the Sex Trafficking Education and Prevention Program (STEPP). STEPP is intended to gain compliance with applicable law by preventing the commercial sexual exploitation of trafficked individuals through educating and rehabilitating those who buy sex; and

WHEREAS, STEPP is a pre-plea diversion program offered to eligible defendants who are offered a reduced charge if they complete the program; and

WHEREAS, Resolution R-297795 (Apr. 1, 2003) created a fund and authorized the City Attorney's Office to collect a fee, not to exceed the limits imposed by state and local laws, from those eligible to participate in the program; and

WHEREAS, defendants currently pay a \$200 fee to participate in the program, which is well below the national average and other similar programs in California, and likely too low to deter recidivism; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney's Office is working to strengthen STEPP by increasing the program to eight hours from three hours, arranging for more panelists to speak, developing other educational opportunities, and providing assistance to survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, the expansion will require hiring more translators, purchasing equipment such as projectors, microphones, and translation equipment, securing a larger facility to hold the program meetings, and providing services to survivors; and

WHEREAS, to properly effectuate this expansion of the program, and after review of other similar programs across the state and country, the City Attorney's Office wishes to increase the program costs from \$200 to \$600 per participant. Fees may be collected on a sliding scale for participants unable to pay, including indigent slots; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2010, California voters approved Proposition 26, a ballot initiative that limits the ability of local government agencies to impose certain fees and charges; and

WHEREAS, California Proposition 26 does not apply to a penalty fine or fee imposed to gain compliance with State or local laws and therefore does not apply to STEPP fees; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Regulation 95.25 encourages transferring specific fee schedules listed in the San Diego Municipal Code and Council Resolutions to the standardized Ratebook of Fees and Charges (Ratebook) maintained by the San Diego City Clerk; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Attorney shall continue to collect the fees at the time an individual enrolls in STEPP and will continue to deposit the monies into the appropriate fund; and

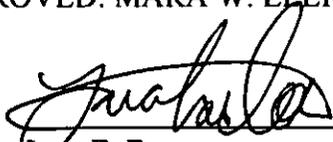
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Attorney may use and expend program fees as needed to administer the program, provide education and training, and offer services and treatment to survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council is approving the penalty fee increase from \$200 to \$600; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to amend the City Ratebook to include the \$600 program fee referenced in this resolution.

APPROVED: MARA W. ELLIOTT, City Attorney

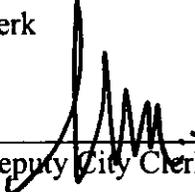
By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lara E. Easton  
Deputy City Attorney

LEE:hm  
January 9, 2023  
Or.Dept: PSE  
Doc. No. 3228071

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of MAR 14 2023.

DIANA J.S. FUENTES  
City Clerk

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 3/17/23  
(date)

 \_\_\_\_\_  
TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Vetoed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Passed by the Council of The City of San Diego on MAR 14 2023, by the following vote:

Councilmembers	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused
Joe LaCava	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Whitburn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monica Montgomery Steppe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marni von Wilpert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kent Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Raul A. Campillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vivian Moreno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sean Elo-Rivera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date of final passage MAR 17 2023.

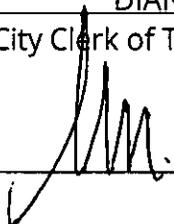
**(Please note: When a resolution is approved by the Mayor, the date of final passage is the date the approved resolution was returned to the Office of the City Clerk.)**

AUTHENTICATED BY:

TODD GLORIA  
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

DIANA J.S. FUENTES  
Interim City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By , Deputy

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

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