**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO: Council President Brosche and Honorable Councilmembers**

**FROM: Allison Korman Shelton**

 **Director of Intergovernmental Affairs**

**SUBJECT: Response to questions from Councilmembers on 2017-563**

**Kids’ Hope Alliance Legislation**

**DATE: October 4, 2017**

The numbered questions and subsequent answers below represent all of the outstanding inquiries by Councilmembers regarding the Kids’ Hope Alliance legislation. Questions 1-17 represent the questions received from Council President Brosche and questions 18-21 are those from Councilmember Anderson. We have not received any additional questions or requests for information from other Councilmembers. In light of the commitment for the additional public meeting on Monday, we respectfully request any additional questions from Councilmembers be provided to me by Friday, October 6th at 4:00 p.m. to ensure a timely response.

We greatly appreciate the input of the City Council as this legislation moves forward. It is clear this partnership will continue to produce positive results for the residents of Jacksonville.

1. **In reference to the CEO’s qualifications, what does “progressively responsible experience” mean?**

“Progressively responsible experience” refers to professional experience~~s~~ which demonstrate growth and/or advancement in complexity, difficulty or level of responsibility; as in a progression of one’s career.

1. **Can you explain the administration’s prohibition on in-house performance of services?  What services are being performed in-house now and why?**

It is the Administration’s position that the KHA Board should be primarily focused on the development, management and implementation of services for children and youth. As stated in the legislation, KHA will be allowed to perform any services in house that are mandated by granting authorities.

In House Services currently performed:

1. Mayor’s Youth Leadership Council – 1 JCC part-time employee ( “Contract Management” is the other half of this individual’s job)**.** Mayor Brown began the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Council over 3 years ago and this program was located in the Mayor’s office. Under Mayor Curry’s Administration, the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Council was housed within the Jacksonville Children’s Commission.
2. Two afterschool sites – 21st Century Community Learning Center is a Federal program where funding is “block granted” to states. The Florida Department of Education changed their requirements 3 years ago to mandate that JCC could not subcontract more than 25% to providers. According to JCC staff, they applied for this funding in response to a request from the DCPS Superintendent and JCC Board to serve 2 Afterschool programs.
3. Nutrition Program – 6 full time JCC employees, and part-time, seasonal staff.

This was a requirement of the Federal Grant. No city dollars; 100% federal funding.  After School snacks and meals, as well as Summer Food Service Program

1. **After personally experiencing the value of the ex-officio members’ contributions to discussion and policy making during JCC Board meetings, what is the administration’s reasoning for not including the current ex-officio members in the legislation?**

The most current legislation as amended in the Rules Committee includes 4 non-voting members ex officio/liaisons.

1. **Why is there a prohibition of Chapter 118?**

In the proposed legislation, Chapter 118 will not apply to KHA contracts because KHA contracts, except for the intra-agency agreements, will be procured and awarded through Chapter 126 of the City of Jacksonville’s Procurement code.

1. **Does the Mayor know who he would be appointing as interim CEO for the 180 day transition period?**

Not at this time but we anticipate Mayor Curry making the appointment shortly after the enactment of this legislation.

1. **Could you please provide the data behind the third whereas clause (page 2, line 15 of the redline version)?**

While comprehensive data is readily available, troubling evidence can be found in the frequent and disturbing local headlines. Two recent examples are the death of 22month old, Aiden McClendon killed in the gang related drive-by shooting as well as the tragic incident at the Jacksonville Landing which resulted in the death of a 16 year old teenager during daylight hours.

The third whereas clause acknowledged that we all can continue to do better.

1. **Please explain what Section 77.102 paragraph (4) means (continuum of services) and how that relates to what JCC is currently providing.**

“Continuum of Services” refers to the progressive delivery of services and planned programs specifically designed and tailored for the various stages of childhood and adolescence beginning with infancy to late teenage years. This concept is an improvement to current JCC practices.

1. **In Section 77.103, how much money is estimated to be spent on rebranding, marketing, related printing of rebranded materials, and registering of trademarks, copyrights, etc.? What is the funding source for such spending?**

This will be a decision of the KHA Board and subject to annual appropriations but the administration will strongly encourage, on behalf of taxpayers, these expenditures be kept to the absolute minimum.

1. **In Section 77.108 paragraph (a), please provide a listing of “the multidisciplinary experts available in the City.”  Were any such multidisciplinary experts involved or consulted in the development of the original KHA legislation?  Were any such multidisciplinary experts involved or consulted in the development of the substitute KHA legislation?**

Yes. A multitude of stakeholders were consulted including but not limited to providers, philanthropic partners, elected officials, current and former JCC Board Members, community leaders and citizens. The collective experiences, input and recommendations were considered and to the extent appropriate incorporated in the legislation as proposed. As a result of the actions this week, the current legislation is in its fifth version. All of the changes came from the stakeholders listed above.

1. **In Section 77.108 paragraph (c), please explain the reference to “minimum plan elements,” and then why some of the elements seem optional as referenced by “to the extent possible.”**

This paragraph provides the minimum standards to be included in the plan but allows flexibility to the KHA Board to tailor the services, activities and programs to meet the mission and vision of KHA.  Pursuant to Councilmember Brown’s amendment, the phrase “to the extent feasible” has been eliminated on page 13, line 26.

1. **In Section 77.111, paragraph (3)(ii), how are you requiring “no more than quarterly” reporting for “monthly” payments?  Does the City plan to make payments without contract documentation?**

As with all other City contracts, the City will not make payments to providers without proper contract documentation but accountability for these payments will be assured through quarterly reporting.

1. **Mr. Korman commented on the record that the work that JCC and Journey have done was “excellent.”  You commented on the record, “Are we getting the results we need?  We don’t know.”  Based on these comments referencing JCC/Journey, why is repeal/replace legislation being introduced versus changing the “excellent” work about which we are not sure we are or are not getting the results that we need?  [Note:  None of us should ever be “satisfied” with the results we have; there is too much work to do and too many kids not served to be satisfied.]**

Mr. Korman, a former Chairperson of JCC, chose not to disparage the work of the current and former JCC Board Members and staff. In an opinion piece in the today’s “Florida Times Union, four former Jacksonville Children’s Commission Chairs including Mr. Korman wrote “With the adoption of this forward-looking legislation as introduced by you, the City Council is setting an example for the rest of the nation to follow”.

1. **You referenced moving away from a “rubber stamp” and “entitlement” culture.  Please explain further what you mean by these words as it relates to proposing repeal/replace legislation.**

Certain service providers expect these taxpayers dollars regardless of their performance, and this will no longer be the tolerated. These words simply emphasize the Mayor’s expectations of a results-driven board. Under the Kids’ Hope Alliance, performance will be mandated and measured ensuring better for our children and the taxpayers of Jacksonville.

1. **Please provide a timeline of implementation of the proposed KHA legislation:  timing of passage, timing of appointments, timing of interim CEO appointment, timing of essential services plan development, timing of approval by City Council of essential services plan.  Please define these items in relation to the funding approved in the 2017/2018 budget.**

The estimated timeline below is dependent on City Council concluding its’ work on October 10, 2017.

Timing of Passage:

October 10, 2017

Timing of Appointments:

Before end of 2017

Timing of Interim CEO decision:

Shortly after enactment

Timing of Essential Services Plan:

Completed by Board by the end of 6 month transition period

Timing of Approval by City Council:

Completed by Board by the end of 6 month transition period and presented to Mayor and City Council shortly after.

Define items in relation to FY 17-18 funding 2017-2018:

Six months of operational costs and specific contract services for time certain per attached revised exhibit for Schedule M to the 2017-2018 Budget Ordinance

1. **Please provide a timeline of how the providers will be affected:  timing of current contracts and delivery of services, then how the above processes in the implementation timeline will affect the provider organizations.**

As included in FY 17-18 Budget Ordinance, providers are identified and the length of their contracts are included.  The above process will not impact those providers identified in the FY 17-18 budget.

1. **What does the administration believe is the biggest weakness of JCC/Journey and who is responsible?**

Citing specific weaknesses and attempting to assign blame for the past, seems counterproductive.

The Administration, through this legislation, is about expanding the work we do for our community’s children, increasing accountability for the taxpayer, and striving for excellence in everything we do.

1. **How has the administration been involved in JCC since July 2015 in order to reach the conclusion to propose repeal/replace legislation?**

Since the transition as Mayor-elect, Lenny Curry has made children a top priority. Mayor Curry made appointments and reappointments to the JCC and Jacksonville Journey. The Mayor and Administration have regularly met with stakeholders and elected officials about how to best serve all children in our community specifically involving the Jacksonville Children’s Commission. Most importantly through community outreach as neighborhood walks, the Mayor has heard from citizens all across our city about the challenges our children. All of these interactions and experiences, as well as detailed policy analysis, have gone in to the formulation of the reform policies represented in the KHA Legislation.

1. **CM Anderson inquired about providing clarity regarding the two-thirds majority vote by Council.**

In response, the Administration has proposed the following amendment for page 8, line 4-6:

Members may be removed by the Mayor at any time with or without cause with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Council.

1. **On page 16, line 23 of the proposed substitute, there is a section which refers to the advance funds of up to 25% of the contract amount to providers, small providers and agencies subject to applicable KHA Board rules and policies for the purpose of start-up funds. Why did the administration choose 25% as opposed to making 100% only reimbursable?**

This is consistent with current JCC practices and is meant to assist the service providers with cash flow.

1. **On page 17, line 9 contemplates completing expiring and terminating current Jacksonville Journey and JCC contracts, will the KHA Board have the ability to extend contracts?**

Yes, provided the contract terms allow for an extension.

1. **Will current JCC employees be transferable to KHA?**

Yes, at the discretion of the CEO of Kids’ Hope Alliance.

Thank you for the opportunity to answer your questions and to work closely with each of you on this important legislation.