

YOUTH TOWN HALL: TALKING POINTS FOR PRE-EVENT PREPARATION

BASIC FACTS

- » Sacramento is home to approximately 120,000 children and youth.
- » The City does its best to meet the needs of youth with limited resources.
- » The City is starting a huge effort to change the way it works with and for young people.
- » The voice of youth in this process is critical to ensuring that the City gets it right.
- » The Youth Town Hall on Saturday, May 13th is one of these opportunities.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY?

- » The Mayor and City Council members have asked the City Manager, with a Planning Team of community organizations and City employees, to redesign the Department of Parks and Recreation and turn it into the Department of Youth Development and Human Services.
- » That new department is being planned right now, and in a few months the City Manager will give recommendations to the Mayor and City Council about what the Department should look like.
- » The voices of youth need to be part of that conversation.

#sacyouthvoicematters #sacyouthtownhall

WHAT'S HAPPENED IN THE CITY?

- » In June 2016, Sacramento voters were asked to vote on Measure Y that would have created the Sacramento Children's Fund (a protected source of money for youth programs and services) and a Sacramento Department of Youth Services.
- » Measure Y lost by less than 1%, and although it wasn't passed, the voters of Sacramento sent a strong message to the City about what they want.
- » In Fall 2016, Council member Schenirer introduced an ordinance to do the same thing Measure Y would have done: create the Sacramento Children's Fund and the Department of Youth Services. That ordinance never made it to the City Council for a full vote.
- » Mayor Steinberg, who took office in January 2017, has stated that one of his top three priorities is youth.

WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THE TOWN HALL?

- » We want to start talking about real, authentic youth-driven solutions for the Mayor and Council members.
- » During the town hall youth will be able to share some of their suggestions and ideas directly with the Mayor and some City Council members.
- » The ideas collected from small and large group discussions at the Town Hall will be shared with the City Manager and the Planning Team which is making recommendations to the Mayor and City Council members. The ideas will also be shared with all City Council members and their staff and used to help make decisions based on the real needs of young people.

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QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE THE TOWN HALL

- » What are your dreams for your future?
- » What in your school and community will help you to achieve your dreams and succeed?
- » What in your school or community gets in the way of you achieving your dreams and succeeding?
- » What in your school or community is needed to help you and more young people succeed and achieve their dreams?
- » What do you think the Mayor and City Council members can do to help you achieve your dreams?