

With that, I'm going to dive in on the agenda and go through these items and ask you that you all stop me at any point in time that you want to get more detail on individual items.

The first one is a summer enrichment initiative with DNA.

This is an outfit that operates out of cold spring harbor where they have the world's first and only sign center devoted entirely to genetics education and it's -- that's why this qualifies as negotiated service.

They're a pretty much unique entity, and they're doing STEM services in partnership with DOE for -- in summer school opportunities for some of our schools.

Next item welcome Coro is [[phonetic]

>> Going to be pulled maybe tomorrow, we need to get through OE willful.

I will tell you that's a good chance they're going to be pulled last minute because they haven't gotten all their paperwork in and I'm not going to put it in front of the panel unless they have OEO approval. I'll discuss it anyway with the hope we'll get things together in time for the panel meeting tomorrow.

It is an initiative that I expect ultimately will move forward with. It's con in concert with the city's city wide administrative services, mayor's office and DOE, they created this mayor's youth leadership council, a pilot program to develop leadership skills of a diverse group of tenth and 11th grade students to enhance their knowledge in public policy.

And this is an initiative we expect that in future years is actually going to be taken over by DYCD in future years.

We've done exceptions for this negotiated services DOE has for the past couple years, this item we expect next year will be a DYCD item. So the next few items are going to be pre K items.

And as I alluded to at the last meeting, this is a process.

We initially did this RFP back in late 2013, running into 2014, evaluating proposals that rave process resulted in a number of awards. We also created a second opportunity through negotiated service process where we evaluated vendors in a manner similar to the rave but using committees of two instead of three.

But still similar scoring rubrics to bring as many additional vendors as we could that qualified, committee word, that still qualify, under the umbrella of DOE full day pre kindergarten to provide as many opportunities for the kids as possible.

Lastly, we are also processing applications for some charter schools. Each one of these RA's is for a different group.

The first one is the negotiated service.

Those are sort of the most recent solicitations, you will be seeing many more of these, I expect, in front of the July panel.

These are just ones that are ready right now through negotiated service process.

And actually I -- step back, my mistake. I'm reading too quickly.

These particular negotiated services you'll recall we did some conversions to full day program back in January this year, we invited applications and they were retroactively approved by the panel at the last meeting.

These are an additional four vendors that came in through the same group.

They just weren't ready to be brought in front of the panel yet at the last meeting.

That's why these are coming in front of you now.

That's why it's just these four shootits.
sites.

-DELETE- The second one is through the request for proposal.

Again, you received a whole slew of vendors that came in through the request for proposal process at last month's meeting of the.

Niece are additional.

-DELETE- There are many of them.

For a whole variety of reasons, either we had -- didn't have certain paperwork together, waiting on committees to evaluate in the field for a whole variety of reasons they weren't ready at the last month.

But they're ready this month.

These came in all through the rave process.

Those are the vendors you see in item four.

>> I have a question --

>> I'm fast pitching these because these are the same -- we talked at the last meeting.

In fact the program office did this whole presentation on how the evaluated proposal and the rest all applied to those that were in the rave.

So I'm sorry, somebody was asking a question.

>> Sorry.

-DELETE- Excuse me.

How come there's certain vendors like listed a few times in different amounts?

Obviously it means different contracts?

>> Yeah, that's a very good question.

-DELETE- What happens is we -- regardless of the number of classrooms at a site the vendor can give us a single proposal because the site visit is sort of common to the site.

But if they're offering it at a different location we require a separate proposal for the different locations.

So each one of those that you see, for example, just reading off the top, all my children has four.

You'll see they're all different locations.

And if it you look even, you'll see the site districts are different.

The first one is site district 28, the other one is district 29, district 27.

And even the two that are in district 29 are in different locations in

that site.

>> Okay.
Thank you.

>> They are treated separately and they will get separate -- they're treated separately because they're different locations.
And then the last one is a charter school.
There was an application process for charter schools as well, and this is just the first I expect there will be additional charter schools that will be able to get full day pre kindergarten as well

>> How many do we expect?

As this starts -- as the UPK starts how many are we expecting --

>> Of the charters?

We got 11 applications from charter schools.

And I don't want to say right now how many we would ultimately expect to get.

I think it would be premature.

So we just have the one to put forward right now.

The full-day pre Ks, I know we have 54 vendors, 74 sites on this RA.

I don't have the full numbers.

And I did want to have them for tomorrow's meeting.

The city-wide.

But I know we were getting over 400 vendors through the rave negotiated service because I know we're looking at numbers in the four to 500 range for background checks.

So it's pretty big numbers.

Yeah.

-DELETE- Be a lot of seats.

>> For the religious CBOs, how much review and clearance over the policies of when how much they can, you know, touch on, I guess, sort of quasi religious subject?

Was that vetted by legal and -- because I know there's already rumbling and the New York City civil liberties union is gathering together a -- collecting signatures and stuff.

How much of the policy regarding the religious CBOs was vetted --

>> So they're all fully vetted and we have always had various religious organizations that have and run pre kindergarten programs in our stable.

That's something we've always had.

And we'll continue to have.

They're not allowed to provide any form of religious education during the -- while they're running pre-kindergarten programs.

So six hours and 20 minutes of pre K are instructional and that's not instructional in religion or anything related to religion other than -- well, I don't know -- I don't think they can even teach in the abstract at that grade.

But it needs to be by DOE standards.

They're not allowed to be teaching religious education in the pre-

kindergarten classroom.

I'm not a pedagogue so I can't speak to the way the boundaries are drawn but we've the boundaries for a long time and they continue to be.

So --

>> So these just represent an increase in number of contracts for religious CVOs.

-DELETE-

>> Absolutely

>> Under the same guidelines?

>> Absolutely.

-DELETE- Yes.

-DELETE- I know there was some discussion around certain accommodations and discussions, I know, that have taken place around, for example, the hours and the structures and days that they can operate as accommodations to some religious groups.

I know, for example, some of the Jewish day schools looking at the full -- with a half day program it was never an issue but with a full day model requires six hours and 20 minutes of instruction and I know there was some questions around having a six-hour and 20-minute day in the middle of winter in December and January when they need to get home and prepare for their shabat earlier on a Friday.

So Thanksgiving discussions around I know allowing them to operate with a slightly shorter day on a Friday and slightly longer day on the other days of the week so that they would still fulfill the deal for operating a certain number of hours in a week.

So I know there was some discussions on matters like that, and -- but in broad concept, I'll say that it is simply not new to the Department to have religious organization that is have pre kindergarten programs and those programs are not allowed to be engaging in any form of religious instruction during the pre-kindergarten program.

>> Thank you.

>> Sure.

>> I'm just curious.

So for these religious organizations, let's say if you have -- first of all, if the institutions having the pre K and are religious if they're predominantly of religious student or of a diverse array of any kind of students?

>> Some are diverse.

Some are not diverse at all.

It's just a fact.

So some in orthodox communities in community, they would be pretty uniform in terms of the kids -- which would be a reflection of parent choice as much as just what -- how that school is composed.

But from our vantage point we look at it as a school, we look at it as

our children of New York City who are attending a publicly funded school and we look at the pedagogy of what they're teaching. In some cases they meet our requirements and they're getting approved for contracts and in some cases they don't.

I know they don't because I see their protests.

And it's all around our standards

>> Even though you have say a 99 percent of the Jewish organizations orthodox you're -- to abide by the non-denominal --

>> Non-denominational studies, absolutely.

That's correct.

-DELETE-

>> Question --

>> And some organizations struggle with that more than others

>> I understand that.

Makes sense

>> Those are our rules.

>> Right.

>> Question around that.

Related to that.

I think you touched on it before.

So with regards to the hours, is there a mandate they have to be operated five days a week

>> They do.

>> They do.

And it's generally six hours and twenty minutes.

The only thing I know is of the discussion is whether we were going to allow a modification so that instead of maybe six hours and 20 minutes every day there would be whatever six hours and 20 minutes times 5 days.

five days.

But with a provision that they could have maybe six hours, a minimum of six hours or five hours each day for a total of that same total.

So that, again, using the example that we had, the school that can't squeeze six hours and 20 minutes into a Friday still had the ability to manage things.

And, looks, we don't want too long a day.

I think the department's interest is in accommodating reasonable modifications where necessary.

But at the same time, assuring that nobody would agree to have kids go to pre kindergarten for 17 hours two days a week.

That's not happening.

So, you know, kids can only absorb so much in so much time and that's an important driver of those discussions

>> Also for clarification, for information purposes, the pre K model also follows the regular public school calendar?

So whatever schools the -- whatever days the public schools have off they have off as well?

>> So I don't want to get too much into the numbers.
I don't have in my head.
It's 180-day school year.
I'm pretty sure that's the number for these programs..
and there are black-out days where they're not allowed to Republic.
So we tell them days they can't run on the calendar and that's
uniform.
And if you look in the rave it gives certain ground rules.
So many hours day, a week, you have to have a lunch period.
, you can't operate on certain black-out days.
But there are different calendars for these different schools.
So we don't force them to operate on a public school calendar, but we
do require that certain days are holidays.
So they're not having school -- for example, I don't think they're
allowed to have school on Thanksgiving.
There are certain things that are sort of sacred to us that -- when --
>> When you're saying is they're also accommodating some of the
religious institution's who holidays, for example, in --
>> They might run a longer calendar
>> Right.
-DELETE- -- -DELETE-
>> May be starting in late August and running into late June or later
--
>> If they do take up those days as long as they put them back
somewhere
>> So the Jewish school might be operate on Good Friday and --
>> Right.
They can change the schedule based on certain criteria
>> Right.
I don't want to get into the specifics.
If you want we can bring back Sophia Pappas.
I know conceptually that's the way it works.
I don't want to say any specific day is the black-out days or not
because I don't know what they are.

>> Thank you.

>> We all good on pre K?
Laura, just utter a word so I know I can still hear you.

>> Yes.

>> Cool.
-DELETE- Okay.
-DELETE- We're moving right along.
So I never want to -- the next several items are all requests for
authorization for additional vendors for these multiple task award
contract solicitations.
They're not new multiple task award krtsd that we're just awarding to

vendors for the first time, it's adding vendors to the mix.

First on item six is RA No.

11, 11th time we're adding vendors for arts education services, naming the two vendors.

With that I'm going to say conceptually the same place but with different award tasks contracts for RA for item No.

Seven, No.

-DELETE- Eight, item No.

-DELETE- Nine, item No.

10,.

-DELETE- -DELETE- Ten.

-DELETE- -DELETE- Item 11 is withdrawn.

And that brings me down to 12.

Anybody want to stop me before I keep moving?

Okay.

-DELETE- So the tenth item.

MSC industrial is a ride of a New York City department of city-wide administrative services contract.

You'll recall that even though it's a right of a city procurement done by a city agency we require panel approval for these.

It's industrial supplies and equipment.

We use them for vocational schools and administrative offices throughout the DOE and that's it.

It's a right of the city contract.

The next contract is also a right of a government contract.

It's a little different.

In this case we're actually -- the city's department of finance writing a general services contract and we're running off of that city department of finance contract.

These are for taking credit cards, and actually I think I discussed it at a mini meeting once before and we pulled it for the panel meeting.

I'm not sure I remember why.

Anyway, this is finally getting to the panel this month.

This is just -- we can take credit cards.

And in this particular case it's taking visa, master card and discover cam branded cards.

There was another one we did for American Express.

That's that.

The next few items are city council funded items.

Again, as we've discussed before, city council names these vendors in their allocation and they're providing funding for them as well.

That accounts for, again, I'm going to go quickly, 14, item 15, with mouse, there's a great program.

Very familiar with mouse.

All this computer tech stuff.

16 is withdrawn.

17 is also a city council allocation with screen corner resources.

And 18 is also a city council allocation with turn around for children.

Item No.

19 is withdrawn.

The next several items which are items 20 through 24 are all vendors named in grants.

So, again, like the city council items where the council names a vendor, these are vendors named in grants.

And so again, we don't do competitive procurements when the vendors are already effectively pre determined by their having been named in the grants.

So that's items 19 through 24.

I'll give you all a minute to catch up.

I don't want to feel like I'm railroading anybody but at the same time I don't have a lot to say about any of them.

Okay.

-DELETE- So I'll have more to say about 28 and 29.

26 is a listing application with neigh strom.

For their educational software product line.

Again, this is one of those listing applications where the vendor is the only one that will sell this product.

Can't buy it from anybody else so we get a most favored nation clause which requires they sell us at prices as good or better than they offer to anybody else.

The next item, 26, has been withdrawn.

The next item is another listing application.

This one with sun burst.

Digital.

-DELETE- And having bored you to death I'll have more to say about the last two items.

First one is Borax Paper.

And this is one that I'm asking to be introduced by motion at the next panel meeting.

Which we have the sponsor already.

This is a great story.

So I'll about back.

The department has been working in concert with five other cities, including with the DOE, the four largest school school districts in America, namely LA, New York City, LA, Chicago, my Miami Dade and additionally Dallas and Orlando, who together form this urban school food alliance.

We've had several meetings and discussions and various groups around coordinating our activity to drive positive change in school food programs nation-wide.

For ourselves, four our own districts, and also nation-wide.

Among the other things we're doing, without going into a lot of detail, is joining forces together in pressing the food manufacturers to make healthier lower fat foods that we would want to have available in our cafeterias.

And that's one of those things that when you work as a group, you can drive change in a marketplace that maybe individually we would be unable to do.

And I'll share with you an anecdote.

We were out in Denver about a year and a half ago at a food convention where we had one of our first sets of meetings in person as a group, and we very intentionally walked as a group into the Denver convention center where there was all the big food companies were there, everybody was there.

And we walked in as a group right down through the center aisle, very knowledgeable that we were making a statement that pay attention, the largest cities in the country are banding together because we're going to make changes in the school food lunch program.

So anyway, I'm very pleased and proud to put in front of the panel this month or ask the panel to introduce this first major procurement initiative that we will have done as a group.

My offices in concert with the office of school food conduct background the procurement but it is the intention of our colleagues and the other school districts to ride this contract that we are doing for composable plates.

Plaitisd that we'll be buying through this contract we wanted round plates because that's what people tend to eat off.

More importantly, these plates are composable.

When the kids finish lunch they won't have to scrape the food scraps into the compost bin and put the plate into a different bin which will go into a landfill and decompose and whatever problems they are with the landfill waste.

Rather, they will take their plate and the food on the plate and drop all of into the compost bin and they will compostable.

We did this as a bid.

I would always prefer to have items with the ten-day advertisement period in advance but we had a lot of problems in qualifying vendors for the bid and they're articulated in the RA.

Some of the products didn't meet standards and because we're very rigorous in making sure that the plates that we introduced were going to be good plates and we're going to hold up and at the same time were going to meet all our standards.

So we are art claded in the RA and I actually had a protest from one of the vendors that most recent one the essence was that -- well, the essence of why they were disqualified was because they had a conditioned bid.

They anticipated getting grant money for this and their bid was effectively conditioned on their getting grant money and later on saying it wasn't going to be conditioned on the grant money that they would hold their bid.

We asked to look at the price asking what they were paying for the plates and the numbers showed they weren't making any money on this so it was a highly questionable that they would ever perform and we didn't want this whole program to not happen because a vendor just had grand plans for getting a grant that they weren't guaranteed to get from this.

The long and the short, this has been a protracted process and we don't want to wait nor three weeks for the next panel meeting and delay it by another three weeks or ability to start this I think

really great initiative on our schools.
So you'll forgive me for being a little longer wind on the that one.
winded on that one.

>> Really great.

The question is how many schools is this applying to

>> All.

We going to roll this program out city wide.

That's our intention.

We will replace the poly styrene plates we use in public schools with
command and control command and control able plates.

It will be months before they will start showing up.

The plates will be manufactured actually in Maine.

But they have to ramp up.

We got 1.2 million school kids, 1200 locations.

This is a very big project.

They're going to be rolling this out for the the other school
districts also.

This is a big project.

A big undertaking for the manufacturer, a big undertaking for us.

And that's one of the reasons why we're in a hurry because we had
hoped to start this in September.

That's not going to happen.

But we want it to happen as soon as possible after that.

>> Sorry.

>> Go ahead.

>> So the department -- this is great.

Is the department considering doing anything such as compost --

>> Sporks?

I don't think so.

I have my doubts about whether a compostable Sporks would hold up.

I think suffice to say this is a biggy and we want to create a win and
then we'll move on from there

>> I would recommend looking into that because I have seen utensils
that work really well.

I think it's great.

>> Thank you.

>> I have a question.

I know that it says here -- is there data showing approximately how
much the city will be saving since the products that are being used
now are not being sent to the landfills?

>> You know, I wanted the answer to that question for this meeting.

It's been very difficult to get at a decent answer.

Part of the problem is of course because sanitation is falling.

We don't pay to pick that up.
There's a cost still for the pick up of the compost and the rest.
We don't have numbers for that.
We just don't.
And I think the general consensus this is one of those wins we know is a win because we know it's a win.
We know we're paying somewhat more for these plates and that the city sanitation department will save on landfill.
It's going to cost us somewhat more for these compostable plates than the polily styrene plates and it's one of those things that I think ultimately we're doing because it's good policy.
And I would love to have numbers.
The problem we have is the more we started sort of pressing to get good numbers, the more we realized that it was a very complex, very involved analysis and rather than --
>> Okay.

>> -- put a lost garbage in front of everybody we think is stands for itself on its own
>> Even as a percentage, could you tell us about how much more expensive these plates are?

>> Sure.
That's -- yeah.
And they are more expensive.
There's no question about it.
So I thought it was in the RA.
If not, it's in my briefing materials, I know.

>> The plate one is not in it the RA.

>> So where -- we're paying 27.99, sglshgs are you looking at something that we have?

>> No.
I'm looking at my briefing materials.
I thought it was in the RA
>> It's not.

>> I'm very surprised.
I thought we had it in the RA.
But I looked very quickly and it's not.
And I had it in my briefing materials.
Ordered asked for it for my briefing materials and --
>> Will this be printed out before the --
>> Yeah.
So all one source is 31.cents a plate.
\$15.53 a case.
So we're looking at \$3.2 million a year.
Oh, I'm sorry, I'm look at poly styrene.

I have it in front of me.

My apologies.

I'm trying to read a table while looking at everybody.

I have this right in front of me.

So some get delivered directly to our warehouse which is the largest numbers, and some get delivered to high schools.

Just for the warehouse delivery items we're currently paying basically 3.1 cents per plate.

We will instead be paying 5.6 cents per plate.

So paying two and a half cents more per plate.

under the new program.

And the annual spending for the plates delivered to our warehouse has historically been about 3.2 million dollars.

\$3.2 million.

So it will actually be about \$2.6 million more DOE.

And then there's much, much smaller usage in the high schools where instead of paying 3.5 cents per Styrofoam tray we'll be paying 5.9 cents per tray.

Again, 2.4 cents more per plate.

And we spend annually about \$450,000 a year for those that get delivered directly to high schools.

Now we'll be paying about 750,000 a year.

So estimated spend overall will be about 6.6 million dollars.

\$6.6 million.

And in total.

And which is an increase of a little under \$3 million a year.

Those are the numbers.

I'm sorry.

Took me a second to decode the information that was in front of me.

Again, that doesn't count what the obvious offsetting savings of not having to deal with that large Styrofoam waste stream and landfilling that waste stream.

It will save money for sanitation, same city budget and even ourselves, it increases the compost waste stream significantly and obviously much less solid waste to dispose

>> Is there a way for us to see that in writing sometime between today and tomorrow since it wasn't included in our RA draft?

>> Sure.

I'll send you that table

>> Okay.

-DELETE- Great.

-DELETE-

>> Not a problem.

>> You'll circulate it to all the panel members?

>> Sure.

>> Okay.

-DELETE- Thank you.

>> We'll give you that.

>> Cool.

-DELETE-

>> Great.

>> The next item, nowhere near as complex.

You'll recall at the last panel meeting I had one item that was a negotiated service with that Thatcher and associates.

We brought them in because with the massive number of of pre kindergarten accurate that we were doing in an a very short period of time my office needed help gegtd getting background checks done on the vendors.

We're still doing them and some of them are pending but some of the contracts on this month's agenda for the -- and we'll have to complete them even after -- we'll be finishing those after the panel approvals. We make ultimate decisions but we have Thatcher and associates checking various websites and bringing to us the information that they come across, all of the -- if they come across adverse information, whether it's tax liens or problems with vendors in various areas, they're reporting that back to us so we can make responsibility determinations.

So again, reminding you of what was on last month's agenda, we reached out to five vendors that we had on our bid list that we were aware of that we knew could do background checks that are basically investigatory type firms to do background checks for us.

We got bids from those companies.

Thatcher offered the best pricing of them and was -- is a very highly qualified firm that's doing great work for us right now.

And they're on the ground, they're doing work, and we still have a crushing workload to deal with.

Quite coincidentally, like within like a day or two after the panel meeting, very coincidentally this firm, mier, came to our attention as having an interest in doing business with the department, doing exactly the kind of -- or doing among other things, the kind of work that we have that Thatcher and associates doing for us already.

And rather than just push them aside, we entertained it.

It so happens there are ar minority women-owned business so -- and they've done other work for the city.

So we took a look at them and they're price and is they're actually slightly more aggressive.

A smaller outfit but the prices were even more aggressive than the Thatcher prices that we brought to you last month.

So I'm proposing to just add them as a vendor that we have doing our background checks.

Frankly, ifr got plenty of work to go around.

Not worrying about giving Thatcher any less.

I'm happy to have an additional vendor in our stable doing this very

critical work in a short period of time and I'm delighted that it also is a minority woman-owned business.

God bless.

So to me this is a win-win.

And again, I don't want to wait until the July panel with them when the work needs to get done right now.

So that's it.

>> I don't think we have anything on that either.

>> Okay.

>> You mentioned that they did -- they've done business with other agencies.

Do you know which other agencies they've done business with?

>> Or the city?

>> I would have to get you a list.

But I know that they cited other city references when we looked at them as having done work for other city agency, but I can certainly get you a list, sure.

I have of the pricing from if the other companies.

Okay.

~~DELETE~~ So that's it, folks.

I don't know how you want to the structure these.

Maybe as a thought, you want to put the -- I mean, I certainly would imagine you would want to do the add-on items as separate motions, right?

>> Yeah.

>> And I would imagine you want do the pre K as separate motions.

>> Yeah.

>> And my instinct is always that the grants and the city council items and listing apps even, you just lump them all together because they're about as non-controversial as things can get.

>> Okay.

>> And then the all other.

Right?

~~DELETE~~ ~~DELETE~~ Does that make sense?

>> Did you say you wanted the Borax paper --

>> Those are the add-ones.

~~DELETE~~

>> Then I'll send it just so you all review it before it is confirmed

for the ditch items.
he different items on categories.
Does that work?

>> That works.

>> Laura, do you have any problem with that?

>> No.

~~DELETE~~ That's fine.

>> Recusals from any of the items?

>> Any recusals that you know of already?

>> I don't think I have any recusals for this one.
I didn't see any.

>> All right.

I'm just send them over.

>> Great.

~~DELETE~~ That's it.

~~DELETE~~

>> Okay.

~~DELETE~~

>> Thank you all.

~~DELETE~~

>> See you tomorrow.