

February 21, 2001

**AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL
FOR A PORTION OF THE COST OF A SCHOOL FINANCE STUDY**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Authorize payment to The Metropolitan Planning Council for a portion of the cost of an Illinois School Finance Study, at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. The school finance study is part of the work of the Network 21 Coalition. The Network 21 coalition is a group of organizations that are interested in K-12 school finance reform in Illinois. Its members include retired State Senator Arthur Berman, Metropolitan Planning Council, Chicago United, Chicago Urban League, Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago, Illinois Business Roundtable, Large Unit District Association, League of Women Voters, Illinois Federation of Teachers, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Voices for Illinois Children. The Metropolitan Planning Council is the convener of the coalition.

Specification No: 00-250880

VENDOR: The Metropolitan Planning Council
25 East Washington Street, Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 922-5616
Mary Sue Barrett, President
Vendor # 32467

USER: Office of School Financial Services
125 South Clark St.
14th Floor
Kenneth Gotsch, Chief Fiscal Officer
(773) 553-2700

DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY: The study will be conducted by Augenblick and Meyers – a nationally recognized school finance consulting group. The report will use the “successful school district” approach to determine basic cost levels for Illinois K-12 education based on selected student performance levels and other student and district characteristics. The study will also examine the issue of the appropriate poverty count and poverty-weighting factor to use for the state poverty grant formula.

OUTCOMES: Funding of the School Finance Study will result in a report on the appropriate basic funding level for public K-12 schools in Illinois and recommendations for future basic funding levels and adjustments to the state poverty grant formula and poverty count. This will support future CPS efforts to increase state funding for K-12 education.

COMPENSATION: The Board is paying \$10,000 of the cost of the study. The total cost of the study is \$30,500. The remaining cost of the study is being funded by other organizations that are part of the Network 21 coalition.


AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable

LSC REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL: Charge to Office of Management and Budget: \$10,000
Budget Classification: # 0210-210-000-1106-5410

Fiscal Year: 2001

Approved for Consideration:


Natalye Paquin
Chief Purchasing Officer

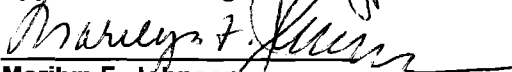
Within Appropriation:


Kenneth C. Gotsch
Chief Fiscal Officer

Approved:


Paul G. Vallas
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form:


Marilyn F. Johnson
General Counsel