

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 04/12/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0271

LOG NAME: 19NORTH TEXAS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FARE GRANT APPLICATION

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Application for, and Authorize Acceptance of, if Awarded, the North Texas Community Foundation's Fund to Advance Racial Equity Grant in an Amount Up to \$30,000.00 for African American Museum Feasibility Study, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreement, and Adopt Attached Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize application for, and authorize acceptance of, if awarded, the North Texas Community Foundation Fund to Advance Racial Equity grant, in an amount up to \$30,000.00;
2. Authorize the execution of a grant agreement with North Texas Community Foundation; and
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund subject to the receipt of the grant in an amount up to \$30,000.00 for the purpose of conducting a study on the economic and financial feasibility of a Fort Worth African American museum and cultural center.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the North Texas Community Foundation Fund to Advance Racial Equality (FARE) grant is to provide grant funding for municipal entities and nonprofit organizations that are on the front lines addressing the issues of racism and inequity in our community. By tackling the existing gaps in racial equity, our community can become a place where all our residents can learn, work, and further contribute to a healthy, thriving and prosperous place to call home.

Priority areas include the following:

- Building understanding between racially diverse groups to raise awareness of challenges and solutions
- Supporting community leadership that advances diverse perspectives
- Improving Neighborhood-Police trust between residents and law enforcement to heal historic divides, bridge gaps, and develop new relationships

While the City's cultural district contains an impressive blend of museums, art galleries, and other entertainment venues focused on American and European history and culture, the lack of any significant historical, cultural, and artistic amenity addressing the African American culture in Fort Worth is felt deeply by African American leaders and residents. Since early 2020, the City of Fort Worth, The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Worth, known as Fort Worth Housing Solutions, and a subcommittee of the African American Steering Committee have been working to establish the criteria for an institution to preserve the history and culture of African Americans with an emphasis on the stories of African Americans in Fort Worth. The City of Fort Worth's Neighborhood Services Department serves as the lead entity with support from Fort Worth Housing Solutions and the African American Museum Steering Committee (a subcommittee of the Butler Advisory Committee) in the planning and development of an African American museum and cultural center.

Funding in an amount up to \$30,000.00 will be used to fund a portion of a study on the economic and financial feasibility of a Fort Worth African American museum and cultural center. The City is not required to provide matching funds. Indirect cost is not applicable as a budget category under this grant.

The Neighborhood Services Department shall be responsible for identifying funding sources to cover expenses incurred in the event the grant funds are not received.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract legally does not require City Council approval.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, receipt of the grant and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Other Fund. The Neighborhood Services Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is an advance grant.

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Expedited