

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/16/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0833

LOG NAME: 06TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT - PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify the Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Grant and Execution of a Grant Agreement in an Amount Up to \$37,500.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a Local Match in an Amount Up to \$37,500.00, to Support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Preservation Plan Update; Authorize Transfers in an Amount Up to \$9,035.89 from the Special Purpose Fund and an Amount Up to \$8,464.11 from the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund for the City's Required Match; and Adopt Appropriation Ordinances

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify the application for and authorize acceptance of a grant and execution of a grant agreement in an amount up to \$37,500.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a local match in an amount up to \$37,500.00, to support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Preservation Plan Update;
 2. Authorize transfer in an amount up to \$8,464.11 from the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund currently appropriated in grant project (City Project No. 102742) Fort Worth Historic Resources Survey for the purpose of transferring to the Grants Operating Federal Fund for a portion of the City's required match for the Texas Historical Commission Fort Worth Historic Preservation Plan Update grant;
 3. Authorize transfer in an amount up to \$9,035.89 from the Special Purpose Fund currently appropriated in special operating project (City Project No. S00084) Preservation Plan for the purpose of transferring to the Grants Operating Federal Fund for a portion of the City's required match for the Texas Historical Commission Fort Worth Historic Preservation Plan Update grant; and
 4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, (1) in an amount up to \$37,500.00, subject to receipt of grant, (2) in an amount up to \$8,464.11, as a transfer from the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund grant project 102742 Fort Worth Historic Resources Survey as a portion of the City's match requirement, (3) in an amount up to \$9,035.89, as a transfer from the Special Purpose Fund grant project S00084 Preservation Plan as a portion of the City's match requirement, and (4) in an amount up to \$20,000.00 from available funds in grant project (City Project No.102742) Fort Worth Historic Resources Survey as a portion of the City's match requirement, for a total of an amount up to \$75,000.00 for the purpose of funding the City of Fort Worth's Historic Preservation Plan Update grant.
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DISCUSSION:

As a participating community in the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) Certified Local Government (CLG) program, the City of Fort Worth is eligible for grant funding for preservation-related projects tied to the THC's Statewide Preservation Plan. Fort Worth's first and only Preservation Plan was adopted in 2003, along with a historic context and list of goals. Since the adoption of the original plan, the City and community have achieved over 95% of the original goals set out for its Preservation Program. The City is now at a crucial point, as it must chart a course for preservation over the next 10-15 years in response to massive population growth and development pressure within the inner core of Fort Worth.

The City has documented the need for this update in annual CLG reports as a goal for the past two years. In the 2022 CLG four-year review, the THC recommended that the City continue applying for CLG grants for preservation planning projects and "develop a plan outlining short and long term goals for how it will actively pursue designations; how it will ensure, to the maximum extent possible, public education and awareness in the Preservation Program; a rough timeline of when these improvements will be implemented; and who will be implementing these improvements (i.e. staff, volunteers, or a consultant). This plan may be a component of a citywide Preservation Plan or Comprehensive Plan." The City is dedicated to adhering to this recommendation and has made a concerted effort to apply for CLG grants to produce a City-wide historic context, survey plan, and several phases of the historic resources survey update. The new data from the survey updates and contexts have already shown that a more thorough Preservation Plan with new goals is crucial to managing growth and development pressures within historic and culturally significant areas of Fort Worth, focusing on protecting a diverse array of neighborhoods.

The City applied to the Texas Historical Commission in the fall of 2024 for the City of Fort Worth's Historic Preservation Plan Update grant. Staff was notified via email on February 03, 2025, that the City's grant application was successful and the full amount requested (\$37,500.00) was being awarded. This grant is a 1:1 matching grant; the City is also committing \$37,500.00 to the grant project. The CLG Grant funds, in conjunction with the City's matching share, will be used to pay for a consultant to perform the next phases of the preservation plan update. The Texas Historical Commission administers the Texas CLG grant program utilizing federal funding it receives from the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS) Historic Preservation Fund Program.

The City's matching funding will be provided from three sources. The first \$20,000.00 is available in grant project (City Project No. 102742) Fort Worth Historic Resources Survey within the Grants Operating Federal Fund. These funds were transferred to the grant project from the Development Services Department General Fund budget per Mayor & Council Communication (M&C) 24-0835 in Fiscal Year 2024 for future phases of the Fort Worth Historic Resources Survey grant. The Development Services Department has determined these funds would be better utilized as a match on the City of Fort Worth's Historic Preservation Plan Update grant. The second \$9,035.89 will be transferred from special operating project (City Project No.S00084) Preservation Plan within the Special Projects Fund. These funds were donated prior to and for the

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