

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/28/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0481

LOG NAME: 06TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT - PHASES V-VI

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify the Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Grant and Execution of a Grant Agreement in the Amount of \$47,500.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a Local Match in the Amount of \$47,500.00 in City Funds, to Support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resources Survey, 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 the amount of \$47,500.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a local match in the total amount of \$47,500.00, to support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resource Survey;
2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance reallocating appropriations in the Development Services Department of the General Fund by decreasing the General Operating and Maintenance accounts in the amount of \$20,000.00 and increasing the Transfer Out category by the same amount, for the purpose of funding the required match for the Texas Historical Commission grant; and
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance by increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, subject to receipt of grant, in an amount up to \$95,000.00, for the purpose of funding Phases V & VI of the City-wide Historic Resources Survey in the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation Project.

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. Upon adoption of the Fort Worth Citywide Historic Preservation Plan in July 2003, recommendations were made that all previously conducted historic resource surveys should be updated and expanded.

In August 2017, the Texas Historical Commission undertook its four-year evaluation of the City of Fort Worth's Certified Local Government program under Section 101 (a)(7)(C) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. That evaluation highlighted an item in the Certification Agreement between the City of Fort Worth and the Texas Historical Commission, where it states that the CLG *will maintain a system for the survey and inventory of local historic properties that is coordinated with the statewide cultural resources survey process, with technical assistance provided by the National Register Program office of the Texas Historical Commission's History Programs Division*. In order to resolve this outstanding issue, a proposal was developed that outlined the City's plan to undertake a multi-year survey update in phases, administered by staff and undertaken by a preservation consultant. The proposal was deemed acceptable by the THC.

In 2019, the City completed Phases I and II of the update, completing a historic context statement for the City of Fort Worth during the period between 1900-1945. In 2021, the City completed Phases III and IV of the update, completing a historic context statement for the City of Fort Worth between 1840-1980; developing a comprehensive survey plan for Fort Worth; and developing an ArcGIS online mapping system and digital survey collector tool for future survey efforts. The City then applied to the THC in the fall of 2021 for the next phase of the update. Staff was notified on February 23, 2022 that the City's grant application was successful and the full amount requested (\$47,500.00) was being awarded for Phases V and VI of the update to the Historic Resource Survey in FY2022. This grant is a 1:1 matching grant; the City is also committing \$47,500.00 to Phase V-VI. 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 historic resources survey 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 two sources. The first \$20,000.00 will be transferred from the FY2022 Development Services operating budget within the General Fund. The remaining \$27,500.00 is already appropriated in the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation project within the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund (project 102742). The mitigation funds from the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation project are part of the mitigation of an adverse effect on an eligible National Register Historic District, and will be used for a range of mitigation measures including, but not limited to, paying a consultant to advance the next phases of the historic resources survey update.

The objectives of the current phase of the overall update to the City's historic resource survey update are:

- a. To survey the Terrell Heights local historic district and resurvey the Near Southeast National Register District;
- b. To encode previously identified historic resources across Fort Worth into the online ArcGIS mapping system that was created in Phase IV;
- c. To begin to address a key area (an inaccurate and out-of-date historic resource survey) identified in the 2017 four-year CLG review, which is an essential component of the City's Certification Agreement with the THC;
- d. To work towards the establishment of an accurate survey that is used regularly in virtually all land-use decisions involving historic resources; and
- e. To utilize the products from each phase as part of an ongoing education and awareness initiative.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinances, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Development 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 Development Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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Expedited