

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 03/10/26

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 26-0156

LOG NAME: 06TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT - PHASE VIII - APPLICATION

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Grant and Authorize Execution of a Grant Agreement, if Awarded, in an Amount Up to \$80,000.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a Grant Amount Up to \$40,000.00 and a Local Match in an Amount Up to \$40,000.00, to Support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resources Survey and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify the application for and authorize acceptance of a grant and authorize execution of a grant agreement, if awarded, in an amount up to \$80,000.00 with the Texas Historical Commission, with a grant amount up to \$40,000.00 and a local match in an amount up to \$40,000.00, to support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resource Survey; and
2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, subject to receipt of grant, (1) in an amount up to \$40,000.00 in grant funds, and (2) in an amount up to \$40,000.00, as a transfer from the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund, as the City's match requirement, for a total amount up to \$80,000.00, for the purpose of funding Phase VIII 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. In 2023, the City completed Phases V-VI of the update, which surveyed the Terrell Heights local historic district and resurveyed the near Southeast National Register District, and encoded previously identified historic resources across Fort Worth into the online ArcGIS mapping system that was created in Phase IV. The City applied and received funding for Phase VII in 2024 to survey 10 of the 14 local historic districts. This project is on track to be completed in 2026.

The City now intends to apply to the THC for the next phase of the update which identifies Historic Carver Heights as the next district for resurvey. Staff is requesting \$40,000 in grant funding for the next phase for a project. This grant is a 1:1 matching grant; therefore, the City is also committing an amount up to \$40,000.00 for a project total amount of \$80,000.00 for Phase VIII. 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, if awarded, is already appropriated in the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation project within the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund (City Project No. 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. Survey the Historic Carver Heights Historic District which has not had updated survey data since 2005;
- b. 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;
- c. To work towards the establishment of an accurate survey that is used regularly in virtually all land-use decisions involving historic resources; and

d. To utilize the products from each phase as part of an ongoing education and awareness initiative.

Indirect costs are not allowable. The Grant Application Repository number is GRNT-APPL-0000000169.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, 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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