

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 03/02/21

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0137

LOG NAME: 06TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION GRANT

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify the Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Grant from the Texas Historical Commission in the Total Amount of \$48,875.00 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 from the Texas Historical Commission in the total amount of \$48,875.00 to support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resource Survey;
 2. Adopt the attached ordinance reallocating appropriations in the Development Services Department General Fund, by decreasing General Operating and Maintenance category, in the amount of \$20,000.00, and increasing Transfers and Other category by the same amount for the purpose of transferring to the Grants Operating Federal Fund, for the City's grant match; and
 3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund, for the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation project (City Project 102742) in the amount of \$91,375.00 to support the City of Fort Worth's Historic Resource Survey.
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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. Upon adoption of the Fort Worth Citywide Historic Preservation Plan in July 2003, recommendations were made that all previously conducted historic resource surveys needed to 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 was deemed acceptable by the THC.

In 2019, the City completed Phase I of the update, completing a historic context statement for the City of Fort Worth during the period between 1900-1945. The City then applied to the THC in the fall of 2019 for the next funded portion of the update. Staff was notified on February 10, 2020 that the City's grant application was successful and the full amount requested (\$48,875.00) was being awarded for Phase II of the update to the Historic Resource Survey in FY2020. A portion of this grant (\$42,500.00) is a 1:1 matching grant; the City is also committing \$42,500.00 to Phase II. The remaining grant portion (\$6,375.00) is unmatched. The CLG Grant funds, in conjunction with the City's matching share, will be used to purchase professional services for the next stages of the historic resources survey update.

The City's matching funding will be provided from two sources. The first \$20,000.00 will be transferred from the FY2021 Development Services operating budget within the General Fund. The remaining \$22,500.00 is already appropriated in the Central Arlington Heights Historic Preservation project within the Stormwater Capital Projects Fund. (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, the purchase of professional services to advance the appropriate next phase 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 develop a City of Fort Worth historic context that informs the multi-year survey update and future thematic nominations;
- 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.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas Historical Commission

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations 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 an advance grant.

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