



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 14

Agenda Date: May 18, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Office of Historic Preservation

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Shanon Shea Miller

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

The Conservation Society of San Antonio Grant Acceptance

SUMMARY:

This ordinance ratifies the submission of a grant application and authorizes acceptance of funds upon award, not to exceed \$7,500, from the Conservation Society of San Antonio to develop an educational exhibit on San Antonio's African American Heritage.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) is working with the community to develop an African American Cultural Context statement to identify and inventory historic resources significant to African American Heritage. This proactive effort responds to the community need to preserve African American places and history and prevent further loss of the cultural fabric of African American neighborhoods.

Staff has identified multiple properties, neighborhoods, events, and people to be included in the context statement. Much of the research has produced information not widely known or documented. While the context statement will capture the information, it is a technical document. Producing an exhibit for display at the Carver Library and a second copy for mobile exhibits will allow for the story to be told more broadly.

The City has preliminarily been awarded a cost reimbursement grant of \$7,500. The estimated completion date for the project is September 2023.

ISSUE:

The production of an African American heritage exhibit will make historic research accessible to the public. The stories documented in the research will assist in preservation efforts while engaging the community. This form of interpretation at the community level will promote African American heritage and raise awareness of the contributions of African Americans to San Antonio. The availability of the grant for this effort produces goodwill and reduces the fiscal impact to the City.

ALTERNATIVES:

Non-acceptance of the grant would prevent the development and production of the exhibit.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the submission of a grant application and authorizes acceptance of funds upon award, not to exceed \$7,500, from the Conservation Society of San Antonio. Grant funds are to be deposited in the Historic Preservation Donations fund as reimbursement for the creation of an educational exhibit on San Antonio's African American Heritage. There is no city match requirement or impact to the General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council ratify the submission of the grant proposal and authorize the acceptance of the cost reimbursement grant.