

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Emil R. Moncivais, AICP, AIA, Director, Planning Department

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPY:** Jelynn LeBlanc Burley, Assistant City Manager, File

**SUBJECT:** ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,800 FROM THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION FOR A BEST PRACTICES BROCHURE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION HOMEOWNERS AND TRAVEL TO THE NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

**DATE:** May 29, 2003

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes acceptance of funds in the amount of \$1,800 from the Texas Historical Commission (THC) for two division activities: 1) creation of a user-friendly brochure for owners of historic properties that describe best practices for restoration and rehabilitation; and 2) attendance by staff at the annual National Preservation Conference. The grant will be matched by a \$1,800 match from the City's Finck Building Fund.

Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

San Antonio has twenty-one historic districts and over 1300 individual landmarks. A recent study conducted by Rutgers University showed that historic designation of San Antonio properties protects the value and investment of the property owner compared to similar undesignated properties. Owners of these historic properties face the unique challenge of maintaining their property in such a way that the historic character and integrity of their property is not compromised. A brochure of best practices on roof repair, siding replacement, window repair, fence designs, etc. would be an asset to home owners maintaining and repairing their homes.

**POLICY ANALYSIS**

The Historic Preservation Office of the Planning Department provides design assistance to owners in making good preservation decisions regarding the maintenance and improvements to their property. The brochure of best practices will be a useful guide to homeowners in deciding the best and most appropriate course of action when making changes to their homes. The

brochure will be user-friendly, with illustrations and examples that deal with commonly asked questions, problem areas and advice on maintenance of various options.

Additionally, the Historic Preservation Office staff was invited to attend the National Preservation Conference in Denver, Colorado to manage and present an educational session. The grant funds awarded by the Texas Historical Commission will also assist in travel expenses.

The Historic Preservation Office match of \$1,800 for the grant is an appropriate use of the Finck Building Funds. Ordinance No. 73520 was passed by the City Council on April 18, 1991, which allowed the funds received as legal remedies for the demolition of the building known as the Finck Building "...such preservation purposes as may be determined to be in the best interest of the City of San Antonio to promote the goals of its aforementioned Historic Preservation Office." The Finck Building Funds have traditionally been used as matching funds for grants awarded by other organizations to the Historic Preservation Office.

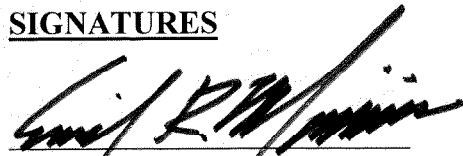
### **FISCAL IMPACT**

This action will not require expenditure from the General Fund. The matching funds in the amount of \$1,800 will be taken from the Finck Building Fund.

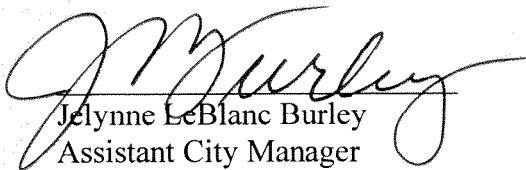
### **COORDINATION**

This item has been coordinated with the Finance Department for the appropriations of funds.

### **SIGNATURES**

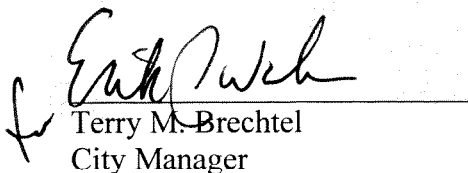


Emil R. Moncivais, AICP, AIA  
Director, Planning Department



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Assistant City Manager

Approved:



Terry M. Brechtel  
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