



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

*Planning Division*

### **m e m o r a n d u m**

**TO:** Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor

**FROM:** Elizabeth H. Tyler, FAICP, Community Development Services Director

**DATE:** April 9, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Budget Amendment for Grant Awarded for Historic Preservation Web Mapping

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### **Introduction**

On March 20, 2015, the City of Urbana was awarded a \$2,450 Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The grant is for the City of Urbana to showcase and expand upon previous CLG grant-funded work by creating an interactive web map highlighting Urbana's historic resources – including Urbana's 100 Most Significant Buildings and three historic districts – and to give users access to self-guided tours and podcasts. The grant also includes funding to develop and publish promotional materials for the historic resources map.

### **Background**

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) administers the Certified Local Government (CLG) grant program on behalf of the Federal government. Communities that have achieved CLG status under the National Historic Preservation Act are encouraged to apply for Federal grant funds made available through IHPA that are specifically earmarked for local grants in the areas of public preservation and development. The grants are awarded on a matching basis with Federal funds paying for up to 70 percent of the project cost and local funds making up the remainder. In-kind contribution of staff resources are an acceptable match for the local share. The projects must relate to historic preservation and can include planning, public education workshops and heritage publications, National Register of Historic Places property listings, and developments. Only Certified Local Governments may apply for the grants.

The City of Urbana has applied for CLG grants on a regular basis since 2001. The following is a history of Urbana's grant applications and awards:

**2001 \$900 Historic Preservation Brochure**

To fund the development and printing of a brochure featuring the historic preservation program in Urbana by offering a description of the five local landmarks and the 20 additional

sites listed on the National Register. The brochure also offers a description of the Urbana Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance.

**2006 \$1,470 Stucco Workshop**

To fund a workshop on historic stucco houses, using Buena Vista Historic District as a model. The workshop included a session on historic stucco repair techniques.

**2007 \$3,150 Historic Wood Window Repair Workshop**

To fund a day-long workshop with a lecture and demonstration by Robert Yapp, a nationally-recognized preservation trades expert. His hands-on, multi-media presentation addressed the proper care and repair of windows in historic structures, as well as working with lead paint in historic properties.

**2008 \$1,198 Royer Arts & Architecture District Brochure**

To defray the cost of creating and printing brochures for the then newly-created Joseph W Royer Arts and Architecture District. The district is dedicated to the arts and the celebration of the city's historic and architectural heritage.

**2009 \$4,256 Historic House "Unveiling" Workshop**

To fund a day-long historic house "unveiling" workshop, where volunteers removed the aluminum siding from a circa 1902 Queen Anne house. The event included a session teaching the volunteers how to remove non-original siding as well as a house painting workshop conducted by Robert Yapp.

**2010 (Not Funded) Urbana's 100 Most Significant Buildings Illustrated Guide**

The City of Urbana applied for but did not receive a grant to create an illustrated guide of the 100 most architecturally significant structures in Urbana.

**2011 \$5,908 Urbana's 100 Most Significant Buildings Illustrated Guide**

To create an illustrated guide of Urbana's 100 most architecturally significant buildings.

**2012 \$10,500 Urbana's 100 Most Significant Buildings Podcast Tours**

To create self-guided, themed podcast tours to highlight many of Urbana's 100 most architecturally significant buildings. Three tours were created with this grant and are available at <http://urbanaininois.us/podcast>.

**2012 \$1,354 Database Redesign, GIS Integration, Demolition Delay Update**

To redesign and update the existing historic preservation resources database, including integration with GIS, and to update the Demolition Delay List.

## **Discussion**

The 2015 grant award project will expand upon and enhance the existing historic preservation resources that have previously been developed by the City of Urbana, such as Urbana's 100 Most

Important Buildings and the *Leaf Out of History* podcast tours (both of which were developed using CLG grant funds). While these are excellent resources for the public, accessing them is not as easy as it could be. The current home for Urbana’s historic resources on the web lacks interactive, user-friendly, and aesthetic qualities that people increasingly expect out of websites – especially when the information on a website relates to places that can be mapped. Developing an interactive web map will bring new life to existing information.

Interactive features of the map may include user-guided walking and driving tours, pop-up information for each historic site, and the ability to listen to the *Leaf Out of History* podcasts from any computer or mobile device. In addition to better publicizing information on existing historic resources that have already been developed by the City, the web map will provide a platform for the publication of future historic preservation projects (e.g. adding new landmark properties and districts, new tours, additional podcasts/multimedia projects). The platform may even allow users to create their own themed tours based on the content of the web map and share their created tours with City staff and other users.

Creating an interactive map of Urbana’s historic buildings and districts would further enhance the positive image of preservation in Urbana and may help to encourage additional landmark designations in Urbana. Other benefits may include furthering public education and awareness about our historic buildings, strengthening the sense of community in Urbana, and enhancing community marketing and promotion efforts.

## **Fiscal Impact**

The City’s matching share of this grant is \$1,050. This will be paid in-kind through Planning Division staff hours. The grant funds will largely be spent on planning/graphic design intern hours to design and publish interactive web maps and promotional materials. CLG grants are *reimbursement* grants. The City of Urbana and the IHPA have a signed Grant Agreement stating that the grant funds will be dispersed upon satisfactory completion of the project. Since the project will not be completed until after July 1, 2015, no grant revenues are expected until next fiscal year, and as such are not included as revenues in the attached budget amendment.

## **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that Council adopt the attached Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance to allow the City to accept a Certified Local Government grant to create interactive web maps of Urbana’s historic resources.

Prepared by:

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Kevin Garcia, Planner II

Attachments:           Draft Ordinance  
cc:                       HPC

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015-04-031**

**AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE  
ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FY2014/15  
(Historic Preservation Grant)**

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget Ordinance of and for the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, (the “Annual Budget Ordinance”) has been duly adopted according to Sections 8-2-9.1 et seq. of the Illinois Municipal Code (the “Municipal Code”) and Division 2, entitled “Budget”, of Article VI, entitled “Finances and Purchases”, of Chapter 2, entitled “Administration”, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Urbana, Illinois (the “City Code”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the said City of Urbana finds it necessary to revise said Annual Budget Ordinance by deleting, adding to, changing or creating sub-classes within object classes and object classes themselves; and

WHEREAS, funds are available to effectuate the purpose of such revision; and

WHEREAS, such revision is not one that may be made by the Budget Director under the authority so delegated to the Budget Director pursuant to section 8-2-9.6 of the Municipal Code and section 2-133 of the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. That the Annual Budget for FY2014/15, as revised, is hereby revised to provide as outlined in the attached Exhibit A.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval and shall not be published.

Section 3. This Ordinance is hereby passed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the corporate authorities then holding office, the "ayes" and "nays" being called at a regular meeting of said Council.

PASSED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAINED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor

Budget Amendment 2014/15 - Exhibit A						
			<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Reason</u>
<b>Economic Development Fund</b>						
<u>Expenditures</u>						
J18-1-0055-0034	Historic Preservation Grant		-	2,450	2,450	grant expenditures
<u>Total Expenditures</u>			<u>210,713</u>	<u>213,163</u>	<u>2,450</u>	
<u>Ending Fund Balance</u>			<u>(224,525)</u>	<u>(226,975)</u>	<u>(2,450)</u>	

*(Note: We will not receive any grant reimbursement funds until the project is completed, which will be after July 1, 2015. Grant revenues will therefore appear on next year’s budget, and only expenditures for this project are indicated in this proposed budget amendment.)*