

2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development

REQUEST NO.: 160

REQUESTED BY: Tovo

DATE REQUESTED: 9/4/18

DATE POSTED: 9/7/18

REQUEST: Please provide greater detail surrounding the \$1.4 million allocated for building renovations and rehabilitation of Austin Studios' space. What is the nature of the renovations? When was Austin Studios last renovated?

RESPONSE:

The voters approved, in the 2012 General Obligation Bond election under Proposition 18, \$5.4 million to accomplish the following Bond Ballot language:

“Provide funding to expand City-owned buildings that are leased and operated by the Austin Film Society (AFS) to increase the amount of square footage available for film and television production and add office space for creative small businesses.”

The Austin Studios Expansion will renovate the former National Guard Armory and Hangar into a creative media hub and seventh sound stage on the campus. A total of \$2.7 million planned capital spending in FY 2018-19 will be used to renovate and rehabilitate the City-owned building by increasing the amount of square footage, replacing the roof, upgrading infrastructure on the site to adhere to city code, and enhancing accessibility and connectivity.

Austin Studios previously received \$5 million from the 2006 General Obligation Bonds to renovate the existing hangars between FY 2007-08 and FY 2012-13 prior to incorporating the National Guard property into the campus.

