Thursday, July 24, 2008

Library RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 39

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of \$12,889 in grant funds from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for a total grant amount of \$12,889 for the TexTreasures Grant Program; and amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget Library Department Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate \$12,889.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The grant period is September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Dana McBee, Financial Manager / 974-7433

TexTreasures is an annual grant program of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission designed to help libraries make their special collections more accessible for the people of Texas. This grant will be used to hire a temporary Library Assistant or Librarian Intern to digitize and catalog the photographs in the Jones Glass Plate Negatives Collection. This collection contains 470 images, on 5x7 and 8x10 glass plate negatives, of Austin from the 1880's to the 1920's. Because of the fragile nature of glass plates, these images are difficult to access. Staff hired under the grant will digitize each image, research the images for identification and cataloging, and input the images and associated metadata into a database that will be made available from the Austin History Center website.

All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.