Thursday, November 6, 2008

Library RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 22

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of \$7,500 in grant funds from the Summerlee Foundation for a total grant amount of \$7,500 to assist in the acquisition of the Governor Elisha Marshall Pease Collection, 1834-1890's archival papers; and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Library Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$7,500.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Summerlee Foundation. The grant period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Sue Soy, Grants & Records Manager / 974-7388; Dana McBee, Financial Manager / 974-7433

The Summerlee Foundation grant of \$7,500 would allow the Austin Public Library to purchase a large collection of over 1,000 documents, letters, broadsides, and imprints relating to the legal career and governorship of Governor Elisha Marshall Pease, as well as personal letters between Pease family members. The Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, now holds 209 boxes of letters and printed material relating to the Pease and Graham families donated by other generous donors.

The addition of this new collection of documents and letters would add substantial research value to the City Archives. This collection represents the entire breadth and depth of Pease's career and family life and includes much information on his professional life and relationships that cannot be found in existing Pease-related collections.

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.