Library

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting $50,000 in grant funds from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Library Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate the funds to add one full-time equivalent (FTE) position.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of $50,000 is available from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The grant period is September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Dana McBee, Financial Manager / 974-7433
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Prior Council Action: September 8, 2008 - Council approved the grant as part of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget for $300,000 and 2.00 FTEs, April 2, 2009 - Council amended the grant to add a one full time equivalent (FTE) position, resulting in a total of 3.00 full time equivalent positions.

The Loan Star Libraries program currently provides funding for a Library Department web master, a Public Information Specialist, and a Virtual Library Administrator to develop and maintain an interactive youth web page, to advertise our youth web pages and our programs, to provide additional literary programs and to support the Summer Reading Program. The goals of the program are to increase programming capabilities for youth services and to make library resources more accessible to library customers.

This action will authorize the acceptance of $50,000 in additional grant funds from the Lone Star Libraries Program. The grant funds will allow the library to add 1.00 full-time equivalent position, a Library Support Services Specialist. This employee will provide support for library customers via telephone, online queries, and in face to face training situations. This assistance could vary from helping a customer learn computer skills to helping a customer obtain a computer ID, enabling remote access to Library services. Emergency passage is necessary to appropriate the funds this fiscal year.

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.