

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 32489 Agenda Number 7.

Meeting Date: 5/15/2014 Department: Economic Development

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a one-year management agreement with the African American Cultural Heritage District to provide educational, heritage preservation and economic development services in the district in an amount not to exceed \$237,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$237,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Operating Budget of the Economic Development Department. (This one-time funding is available from rental relocation funding in the FY14 Economic Development operating budget. The relocation funding has been reduced as part of the FY15 Economic Development financial forecast.)

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

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Boards and Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

Council created the African American Cultural Arts District through the passage of Resolution No. 20071213-058. The name of the District was later changed to the African American Cultural Heritage District (Resolution No. 20080214-056). A 501(c)(3) organization by the same name was established to manage the District. On February 12, 2013, Council approved a budget amendment allocating \$50,000 for the African American Cultural Heritage District. At the time of this action, Council communicated its intent that additional funds be appropriated for the work of the District at a later time.

This proposed action authorizes funding of a management agreement with the African American Cultural Heritage District for educational, heritage preservation and economic development services in the District. The District organization is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for residents of central east Austin by preserving the rich heritage and cultural contributions of Austin's African American community through historical interpretations, promotion of cultural and artistic events and by serving as a catalyst for social and economic development.

Austin's African American Cultural Heritage District was designated as a Heritage District by the State of Texas in September 3, 2009. The district boundaries, set by City of Austin Council in 2007, comprise approximately six square miles of central east Austin. The district is home to numerous sites of national regional and local historic significance and celebrates African American and others who played important roles in creating the vibrancy of Austin.

This one-time funding is available from relocation funding in the FY14 Economic Development operating budget. The relocation funding has been reduced as part of the FY15 Economic Development financial forecast.