

Agenda Report

TO: City Council February 25, 2002
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Authorize application to the State of California Heritage Grants Program for a \$1,000,000 matching grant for historic preservation of the exterior of City Hall

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Adopt the attached resolution approving the filing of an application to the California Heritage Fund Grants Program under the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 in the amount of \$1,000,000 for exterior preservation of City Hall.
- Authorize the City Manager or designee to execute and submit all documents that may be necessary for application to and funding by the California Heritage Fund Grants Program under the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000.

BACKGROUND

The State of California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) administers a grant program from the California Heritage Fund (CHF) to fund historic preservation projects under the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000. The CHF is offering matching grants for projects designed to preserve a historical resource that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The grant will provide up to \$1,000,000, as a 50% match to a project that has preservation urgency and that would benefit the public.

City Hall is 75 years old and has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1980. The exterior of City Hall has had virtually no modifications since

construction and has not undergone any historical preservation. As part of the City Hall Seismic Upgrade and Restoration Project, the Oversight Committee strongly recommended that funds be included for the historic preservation of the exterior of City Hall. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2,300,000.

This is a competitive process. The application is due March 1, 2002 and must include the attached resolution in order to qualify for funding. The resolution guarantees that if the City receives the funds it will enter into a contract stating that the funds will be used only for the specific project (Historical Preservation of Exterior of City Hall), that the City will abide by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic property, and that the applicant will start the CEQA process, if applicable, within 60 days after full execution of the contract. If funded, the city would have until July 2004 to encumber the funds (sign the contract) and until 2009 to complete the project.

FISCAL IMPACT

If the City moves forward with the seismic upgrade of City Hall and the project includes exterior preservation of City Hall this grant will reduce the total cost for the City Hall Seismic Upgrade Project by \$1,000,000. If the City Council decides not to go forward with the seismic upgrade of City Hall, the City may either use the funds for a stand-alone exterior preservation project or decline the funds altogether

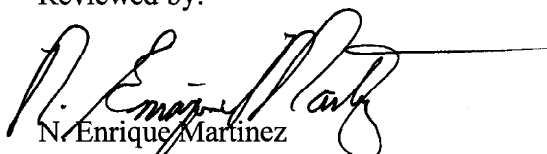
Respectfully submitted,


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