



AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 13, 2017

Subject: Resolution No. 2017-21: Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant

Prepared by: Dave Brees, Special Projects Manager

Reviewed by: Susanna Chan, Public Works Director

Approved by: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Attachment:

1. Resolution 2017-21

Initiated by:

Association of the Los Altos History Museum

Previous Council Consideration:

July 28, 2015

Fiscal Impact:

The County of Santa Clara's Historical Heritage Grant Program (HHGP) funds will allow for restoration work at the Los Altos History Museum tank house utilizing an external funding source. The preliminary cost estimate for the restoration is \$105,000. Actual project costs will not be determined until the tank is removed from the structure and the actual damage determined. The Association of the Los Altos History Museum (Association) has raised approximately \$10,600 towards the restoration project.

Environmental Review:

Categorically Exempt Sections 15301 Existing Facilities

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

- Does Council desire to utilize the opportunity to apply for \$95,000 of HHGP funds for the required restoration of the tank house located at the Los Altos History Museum?

Summary:

- Allows for the Association to apply for a Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant in the amount of \$95,000
- The grant requires the City to restrict the use of the museum land to be used for park purposes for a minimum of 20 years
- Use of HHGP funds allows Council to consider use of \$95,000 CIP funds to be utilized for other identified City CIP projects

Staff Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution 2017-21 supporting the Association of the Los Altos History Museum to apply for a Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant in the amount of \$95,000



Subject: Resolution No. 2017-21: Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant

Purpose

To complete repairs on the tank house located at the Los Altos History Museum utilizing an external funding source.

Background

In 1990, the County of Santa Clara established the Historical Heritage Grant Program (HHGP) to promote preservation of historic resources and raise awareness of significant cultural, historical and archaeological resources in Santa Clara County

Local public agencies and non-profit corporations located within Santa Clara County are eligible to apply for HHGP funds through a competitive grant process. The Association of the Los Altos History Museum (Association) successfully applied for and received HHGP funds in 2008 for repairs to the History House, also known as the Smith House.

Council approved a similar HHGP resolution request at its July 28, 2015 Regular Meeting for a project up to \$35,000 of restoration work. Upon further investigation, the Association discovered the estimated cost of restoration was closer to \$105,000 and withdrew its grant application from the HHGP process. The Association is now ready to proceed with the project and has modified its request to the County.

Discussion/Analysis

The tank house is located adjacent to the Los Altos History Museum and is approximately 100 years old. It originally supplied water for the Spagnoli family home and orchard on Pine Lane. The tank house was slated for demolition when the property was sold to create senior housing (Pilgrim Haven, now the Terraces). Through fund raising efforts by Marion and Bob Grimm, the tank house was relocated to the current site in 1993.

While structurally sound, the tank house roof has developed several leaks which threaten the integrity of the building and the historic collections housed in it. Repairs to the building will require the removal of the water storage tank located on top of the structure. The tank will be reinstalled once the restoration work is complete.

The Association is currently pursuing HHGP funds to repair the tank house. The County requires a resolution of support from the property owner as part of the application process (Attachment 1). Successful grantees are expected to be notified by early 2018. The restoration work would be scheduled for summer 2018 so as not to conflict with the popular spring school class tours at the museum.



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Options

- 1) Adopt Resolution 2017-21 supporting the Association of the Los Altos History Museum to apply for a Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant in the amount of \$95,000

Advantages: Allows for the restoration of the tank house utilizing grant funds

Disadvantages: The grant requires the City to restrict the use of the museum land to be used for park purposes for a minimum of 20 years.

- 2) Not apply for the HHGP grant funds and utilize City CIP funds for the repairs.

Advantages: Does not restrict the use of the museum land to be used for park purposes for a minimum of 20 years.

Disadvantages: Requires the repair work to be completed with the use of City CIP funds or an alternative funding source.

Recommendation

The staff recommends Option 1.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-21

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS
APPROVING THE ASSOCIATION OF THE LOS ALTOS HISTORY
MUSEUM'S APPLICATION FOR A COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA HISTORICAL
HERITAGE GRANT FOR THE 1915 TANK HOUSE PROJECT IN HILLVIEW
PARK**

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Clara (“County”) has established the Historical Heritage Grant program to promote historic preservation and the awareness of significant cultural, historical, and archaeological resources within Santa Clara County (“Grant Program”); and

WHEREAS, the County funds the Grant Program with County Park Charter Development Funds, which must be used for the development of real property for county park purposes; and

WHEREAS, the County requires that the property on which the grant-funded project is located be continually used for park purposes for a minimum of 20 years and be open to all Santa Clara County residents on a non-discriminatory basis; and

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes that the County award Grant Program funds for the 1915 Tank House Project (“Project”) in Hillview Park (“Park”); and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Altos (“Owner”) has reviewed the proposed Project and hereby provides all required approvals for the Project in the Park, including but not limited to, any licenses, permits, environmental review or operational agreements required prior to authorizing construction; and

WHEREAS, to provide additional assurance as to compliance with the Grant Program requirements, the County requires that the Owner execute the grant agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby makes the following determinations:

1. The Project is located on land that will be continually used for park purposes for a minimum of 20 years and, subject to Constitutional or Charter limits on appropriations for future years, will be open to all Santa Clara County residents on a non-discriminatory basis; and
2. The City of Los Altos has reviewed the proposed Project and hereby provides all required approvals for the Project in the Park, including but not limited to, any licenses, permits, environmental review or operational agreements required prior to authorizing construction; and
3. The City Manager, or designee, is hereby delegated authority to execute the grant agreement on the Owner’s behalf.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby approves of the Association of the Los Altos History Museum's application for County's Grant Program funds for the 1915 Tank House Project in Hillview Park.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the ____ day of ____, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Mary Prochnow, MAYOR

Attest:

Jon Maginot, CMC, CITY CLERK