

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL



DATE: July 5, 2017

TITLE: Matching Funds for the California Cultural and Historical Endowment's Museum Grant Program to Acquire and Construct a Manufactured Building on the Cabot's Museum Site

Prepared by: Joseph M. Tanner, Administrative Services Director

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) **Adopt a Resolution of the City Council approving the Application for Grant Funds for the California Cultural Historical Endowment's Museum Grant Program; and**
- 2) **Allocate \$100,000 in matching funds plus a 10% contingency to the Capital Improvement Budget to acquire and construct a manufactured building for Cabot's Museum.**

BACKGROUND

The California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) is a state entity tasked with preserving and protecting California's cultural resources. CCHE was established in 2002 by Assembly Bill 716 within the California State Library. In 2013, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 482, which transferred CCHE to the California Natural Resources Agency and authorized creation of a specified competitive grant program to support small capital projects for museums.

The CCHE is offering grants to museums across California. Eligible projects include construction or acquisition of new buildings, renovation of venues to expand space for exhibition, expansion or improvements to facilities for collections storage and exhibition, exterior landscapes and safety retrofits. Applications are due on August 15, 2017 and recommendations will be presented to the CCHE Board in May of 2018.

DISCUSSION

Staff feels that this project meets most of the eligibility requirements for the grant, making the City a solid contender in the application process.

The current office situation for Cabot's Museum Foundation staff is not only dismal but also poses multiple risk management and liability issues for the City. Current staff consists of the Director, two part-time employees, and volunteers, who occupy the part of the museum known as the Cole Eyraud apartment.

By relocating Cabot's staff into a new building onsite, the area vacated will be available for expanded museum operations such as tours for the public and more space for the display of artifacts. In addition, the onsite building would give the Cabot's Foundation increased (temperature controlled) storage space for irreplaceable artifacts. Currently, City Hall offices are used for storage and located several miles from the museum. If the City is awarded funds, these artifacts will be moved to the museum site, improving both security and management logistics.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City would be fronting the full amount of the project, estimated to be \$200,000 and then reimbursed \$100,000. This money would be allocated from the General Fund (001) and transferred to the Capital Fund account.

Preliminary Project Budget

Building acquisition and improvements	\$ 150,000
Landscaping/building facade improvements	\$ 20,000
Relocate utilities	\$ 20,000
Tenant/safety improvements to existing office space in Cabot's	\$ 5,000
Moving artifacts from City Hall to Cabot's (requires special handling)	\$ 3,000
New furniture	\$ 2,000
Building acquisition and improvements	\$ 150,000
Total:	\$ 200,000

EXHIBIT(S)

1) Resolution