

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date	August 24, 2009
	Agenda Item No. 45 Roll Call No. <u>09-</u> Communication No. <u>09-605</u> Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community Development Director	

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorizing submittal of Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 State of Iowa Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant Application for reconnaissance level historical and architectural survey of the Drake Neighborhood.

SYNOPSIS:

The State Historical Society of Iowa is soliciting applications for CLG grants for FY 2010. The applications are due August 31st, 2009. The City of Des Moines Community Development Department, the Des Moines Historic Preservation Commission and Drake Neighborhood Association (DNA) propose to conduct an architectural and historical reconnaissance survey of the Drake Neighborhood. The proposed “Reconnaissance-Level Historical and Architectural Survey of the Drake Neighborhood in Des Moines, Iowa” would provide a starting point for assessing the history and formatting a long-range plan of action for historic preservation in the Drake neighborhood.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: The proposed project will combine funding from the CLG grant, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and a cash contribution from the DNA. The project is contingent on receiving both the CLG and CDBG funding requests. The project budget is \$32,000 and the breakdown includes:

- \$15,000 CLG Grant (*Requested*)
- \$15,000 CDBG (*Requested*)
- \$2,000 cash contribution from the DNA (*Committed*)

Funding Source: No city funds are impacted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Funding is requested to hire a professional historical consultant to conduct a Historic Resource Reconnaissance Survey in the Drake Neighborhood. A “reconnaissance survey” is a preliminary assessment of historical development patterns, historic contexts, key historical structures and a representative sample of typical homes throughout the neighborhood. This survey springs from and will directly support activities associated with the current comprehensive neighborhood planning effort currently underway in the Drake Neighborhood.

In addition to the professional survey, neighborhood volunteers will be organized and trained to conduct some of the background information gathering for this survey. It will build neighborhood capacity, organize residents and leverage the City's Community Development Block Grant allocation. The ultimate goal of the survey is to plan for the nomination of areas in the Drake Neighborhood to the National

Register of Historic Places, the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture.

The DNA and City of Des Moines Community Development Department will be responsible for soliciting proposals for a qualified consultant and selection of the most appropriate candidate. Volunteers will be recruited by the DNA and may include other interested residents and former residents. Volunteers will be carefully selected and trained by the project consultant. They will assist with conducting property research, photography and on-site documentation. Their work will be under the oversight of the consultant.

The following schedule has been established for the project.

- Consultant RFP issued – April 2010
- Select and sign consultant contract – May/June 2010
- Research/fieldwork – June – October 2010
- Draft report – October 2010 – March 2011
- Final report completed – June 2011

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): Historic Preservation Commission

Date: August 19, 2009

Roll Call: N/A

Action: Approval of the proposed study and grant application with the request that owners of property identified by the study as being in a district eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, be encouraged to explore the local historic district designation, as well.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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