

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 21, 2014

TO: Historical Resources Board and Interested Parties

FROM: Cathy Winterrowd, Deputy Director, Planning, Neighborhoods and Economic Development

SUBJECT: **ITEM 10 – Historic Preservation Fund Expenditure**

BACKGROUND

In July 2009, the City Council established the historic preservation fund for any and all potential grants, donations, fines, penalties, or other sources of funding for the purpose of historic preservation. The Comptroller was authorized to appropriate funds for local preservation programs and incentives consistent with the General Plan. At the hearing, the City Council further directed these monies shall come to Council through the budget process before any funds are expended. Due to staffing limitations and timing of the budget process, we are bringing this item forward separate from the budget.

The Historic Preservation Element of the City's General Plan includes a number of important incentives for historic property owners and includes a policy to create a historic preservation fund that provides a monetary source for local preservation incentives. Creating incentives for property owners is a critical component of our historic preservation plan and funding for some of these incentives can be achieved through acceptance of grants, donations and other monetary sources. As created by City Council, the historic preservation fund may pay for architectural assistance to help owners design rehabilitation or adaptive reuse plans and projects, or feasibility studies for designated buildings, structures and objects. Similarly, an archaeological site protection plan may be developed through this funding source for important sites left undeveloped but without a management plan or funds may be provided for curation of significant artifacts recovered from past excavations. Funding through this source may provide for other historic preservation incentives consistent with the General Plan.

The historic preservation fund currently has a balance of approximately \$90,000. These funds have been generated through stipulated agreements associated with code enforcement actions and the transfer of approximately \$10,000 from an archaeological resources mitigation fund previously held by the Development Services Department. To date, approximately \$19,000 has been spent on the Presidio Bird Bone Study, Presidio artifact inventory, Boardmember and staff training, and improved technology related to CHRID customizations.

ANALYSIS

Aaron Sasson with the San Diego Natural History Museum has been invited to speak at the International Council of Archaeozoology (ICAZ) in September of this year. The conference, which takes place every 4 years, brings together zooarchaeologists from all around the world. The 2014

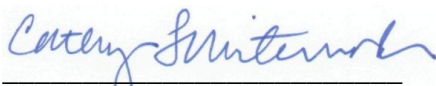
conference in Argentina will have a session titled "Chickens and People: New Perspectives" that will include the best experts that study the zooarchaeology of chicken. Mr. Sasson was invited to present the paper on the first chicken burrito, which was funded in part with monies from the Historic Preservation Fund and presented to the Board during Archaeology Month in October 2012. Mr. Sasson is requesting assistance with travel expenditures, which are estimated to be \$3,200.

The Historic Preservation Fund was established to support historic preservation programs or incentives consistent with the City of San Diego General Plan and Action Plan. Supporting participation in this conference would be consistent with the General Plan goals of encouraging the involvement of educational institutions in preservation programs and activities; and increasing opportunities for cultural heritage tourism by promoting the history of San Diego and the many designated historical buildings, structures, districts, and landscapes to attract cultural heritage travelers.

The Policy Subcommittee discussed this request for historic preservation funds at their meeting held on April 14, 2014. Subcommittee members were supportive of granting \$2,000 to partially fund the conference expenses and asked Mr. Sasson to try and secure funding from the Natural History Museum to augment any funding that would be granted by the City Council. Mr. Sasson spoke to the Museum administration and received a commitment for \$700 to \$1,000 to help fund the costs of the conference.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is recommended that the HRB recommend to the City Council the expenditure of \$2,000 from the Historic Preservation Fund to partially fund the expenses of Mr. Aaron Sasson, of the San Diego Natural History Museum, to speak at the International Council of Archaeozoology (ICAZ) in September 2014.



Cathy Winterrowd
Deputy Director/HRB Liaison

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