



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645  
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645  
(734) 222-6850  
FAX (734) 222-6715

TO: Conan Smith, Chair  
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel  
County Administrator

FROM: Anthony VanDerworp, Director  
Office of Strategic Planning

DATE: February 18, 2009

SUBJECT: Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant Funds Application  
Chelsea Center for the Arts

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the County Administrator to sign the application to the State of Michigan Historic Preservation Grant Program for a Rehabilitation Master Plan and National Register Nomination for the Chelsea Center for the Arts in the amount of \$22,000.00 for a total project amount of \$36,994.35. This granting source requires a match of 40% of the total project value, which will be met with in-kind and volunteer services from the Chelsea Center for the Arts and the Office of Strategic Planning.

**BACKGROUND:**

On April 16, 1986, the Board of Commissioners approved (86-0215) an application for Certification of Local Government under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Amendments of 1980, and the Michigan Bureau of History Guidelines of April 5, 1985. As a Certified Local Government, Washtenaw County is eligible to apply to the Michigan Historic Preservation Fund Certified Local Government Grant Program for grant dollars that may be used to strengthen and augment the County's historic preservation program.. The Washtenaw County Historic District Commission (WCHDC) approved the Chelsea Center for the Arts grant application at its regular meeting on February 11, 2009.

**DISCUSSION:**

The proposed CLG grant project would fund the creation of a Rehabilitation Master Plan and National Register Nomination for the Chelsea Center for the Arts, located in the former St. Mary's Parish School in Chelsea, Michigan. If the proposed grant funding is awarded, the Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning historic preservation staff will work with the Chelsea Center for the Arts Staff to select a qualified consultant for creation of the Rehabilitation Master Plan. Washtenaw County staff will also use their

expertise in the field of historic preservation to write the National Register Nomination for the St. Mary's Parish School. Chelsea Center for the Arts staff will provide an on-site project liaison and research assistance.

The proposed Rehabilitation Master Plan would provide a guiding document for historic preservation maintenance to the Chelsea Center for the Arts, assist the organization in appreciating its built assets, and aide in implementing a plan for its long-term care and use. The National Register Nomination for the St. Mary's Parish School would validate the school's historic and architectural significance according to National Register criteria, provide historic resource protection at the Federal level, and honor its importance in the community of Chelsea, Michigan. Finally, the two products of this proposed project would put into place the historic resource documentation, evaluation, and implementation plan necessary to assist the Chelsea Center for the Arts in seeking additional funding for future rehabilitation projects.

This proposed project also meets goals set forth by the **Washtenaw County Comprehensive Plan** (Plan). This Plan's overarching goal for historic preservation seeks *"to protect, preserve, and restore the historic resources of Washtenaw County, including . . . schoolhouses."* Objective 1 makes it a County priority to *"support local units of government in seeking protection and preservation of historic resources through local, state, and national programs,"* and makes recommendations for historic district collaboration to *"develop a strategy for protecting resources listed under the National Register of Historic Places."* Furthermore, Objective 3 seeks to *"promote the benefits of historic resource protection to Washtenaw County residents, land and business owners and decision makers."*

Additionally, this proposed project would further the objectives of two plans recently released in Washtenaw County, the Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning's **Ann Arbor Region Community Success Strategy** (2008) and the Arts Alliance's **Washtenaw County Cultural Master Plan** (2008). As reflected in these plans, the Arts Alliance, a community non-profit serving all of Washtenaw County, and the Office of Strategic Planning worked in concert together to issue mutually affirming goals for arts and culture in the Washtenaw region.

Both local plans place an emphasis on making cross-sectoral collaborations, such as between historic preservation and the arts, and call for support of cultural facilities, among other actions. Specifically, the County's Community Success Strategy underscores the need for cultural facilities with a focus on *"Third Places"* which offer places of community interaction located within traditional downtowns, accessible by foot, bike, bus, or other forms of alternative transit. The Chelsea Center for the Arts acts as a true *Third Place*, located in a neighborhood immediately southwest of Chelsea's core downtown. It is ideally located and offers a variety of publicly accessible programs, setting the stage for cultural learning and social interaction in a historic school setting. Additionally, this proposed project would implement the Arts Alliance Cultural Plan's Cultural Facilities Action #2, which encourages the *"use of existing buildings for arts and*

*cultural purposes through collaborative partnerships, incentives, and redevelopment projects.”*

**IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:**

None.

**IMPACT ON THE BUDGET:**

This granting source provides 60% of the total project value, and requires a match of 40% of the total project value, which will be met with in-kind services from the Chelsea Center for the Arts and the Office of Strategic Planning. The State of Michigan, through the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), will provide \$22,000.00 toward this project. In-kind and volunteer services and travel and photography expenses (\$232.50) with a value of \$10,860.35 will be provided by the Office of Strategic Planning, and in-kind services with a value of \$4,134.00 will be provided by the Chelsea Center for the Arts for a total match of \$14,994.35. The total value of this proposed project is \$36,994.35.

**IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:**

None.

**IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:**

This grant represents collaboration between the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission; the Washtenaw County Office of Strategic Planning; the Chelsea Center for the Arts, a local non-profit; and the State Historic Preservation Office. It has also been endorsed by the Arts Alliance, a community non-profit serving all of Washtenaw County.

**CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:**

This request conforms to County policies.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Grant application to the State of Michigan Historic Preservation Certified Local Government Grant Program.

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE WASHTENAW COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON THE APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR FUNDING THE CHELSEA CENTER FOR THE ARTS REHABILITATION MASTER PLAN AND NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,000 FOR A TOTAL PROGRAM AMOUNT OF \$36,994.35; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE DELEGATE CONTRACTS.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 18, 2009

WHEREAS, the Office of Strategic Planning submitted a grant application to the State of Michigan Historic Preservation Grant Program for funding the Chelsea Center for the Arts Rehabilitation Master Plan and National Register Nomination in the amount of \$22,000; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Historic Preservation Grant Program requires a \$14,994.35 match, \$14,761.85 of which will be provided in-kind by the Office of Strategic Planning and the Chelsea Center for the Arts; and

WHEREAS, the remaining cash match of \$232.50 will be absorbed within the Office of Strategic Planning's 2009 General Fund budget; and

WHEREAS, in February 1986 Washtenaw County received a Certified Local Government Agreement from the Michigan Bureau of History; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 1986, the Board of Commissioners approved by Resolution 86-0215 an application for Certification of Local Government under the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and the Michigan Bureau of History Guidelines of April 5, 1985; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is a Certified Local Government eligible to apply for Michigan Historic Preservation Fund for grant dollars to strengthen and augment the County's Historic Preservation Program; and

WHEREAS, the County Historic District Commission endorses the application for this grant as presented to them; and

WHEREAS, the funding of this grant will be used to create a Rehabilitation Master Plan and National Register Nomination for the Chelsea Center for the Arts, located in the former St. Mary's Parish School in Chelsea, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the County Historic District Commission will receive reports on the progress of the workshop series on a periodic basis; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the County Administrator on the application to the State of Michigan Historic Preservation Certified Local Government Grant Program for the Chelsea Center of the Arts Rehabilitation Master Plan and National Register Nomination in the amount of \$22,000.00 for a total program amount of \$36,994.35, as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the application:

- 1) Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award/Contract
- 2) Amending the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof
- 3) Authorizing the Administrator to sign delegate contracts upon review of Corporation Counsel to be filed with the County Clerk.

Office of Strategic Planning  
 Chelsea Center for the Arts Historic Preservation Grant  
 Fund: 1211

		Original	Revised	Variance
<b>Revenues</b>				
54100	State Revenue	\$ -	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
69100	In Kind	\$ -	\$ 14,761.85	\$14,761.85
69500	Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 232.50	\$232.50
		\$ -	\$ 36,994.35	\$ 36,994.35
 <b>Expenditures</b>				
72600	Supplies	\$ -	\$ 232.50	\$ 232.50
80000	Other Services and Charges	\$ -	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
93500	In-Kind Charges	\$ -	\$ 14,761.85	\$ 14,761.85
		\$ -	\$ 36,994.35	\$ 36,994.35