

**RESOLUTION NO. 20190919-020**

**WHEREAS**, City Council Resolution 20170831-060 directed the City Manager to allocate 15% of the seven-cent portion of the City's Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) to support operations and maintenance of City of Austin historic facilities and sites in accordance with Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(5); and

**WHEREAS**, City Council Resolution 20181004-033 directed the City Manager to allocate the Historic Preservation Fund Fiscal Year 2019 budget in the following manner:

- 70% for City of Austin historic facilities and sites in accordance with Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(5)
- 15% reserved for potential future historic acquisitions or major preservation projects that would be frequented by tourists and convention delegates
- 15% for the Heritage Grant Program

The Resolution also directed the City Manager to: (1) expand the eligible applicants for heritage grants per the recommendations of the Visitor Impact Task Force and the Heritage Grant Working Group; (2) expand eligible projects for Heritage Grants to include capital projects and planning, educational, and marketing projects; and (3) increase the \$59,000 cap on individual Heritage Grant awards to \$250,000 with staff discretion to recommend to Council grant requests above this threshold.

**WHEREAS**, Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(5) authorizes hotel occupancy tax to be used for historic restoration and preservation projects or activities or advertising

and conducting solicitations and promotional programs to encourage tourists and convention delegates to visit preserved historic sites or museums: (A) at or in the immediate vicinity of the convention center facilities or visitor information centers; or (B) located elsewhere in the municipality or its vicinity that would be frequented by tourists and convention delegates; and

**WHEREAS**, funding in the amount of \$11,880,629 is available in FY 2019 to the Economic Development Department for eligible historic restoration and preservation projects and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly two decades, a portion of the Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau (now Visit Austin) budget has been allocated to fund and administer the Heritage Grant Program, and Visit Austin will cease administration of the program by the end of 2018; and

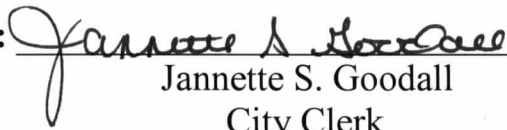
**WHEREAS**, an interdepartmental working group, including representatives from the Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Zoning, Library, Law and Convention Center Departments evaluated proposals for project funding for City of Austin facilities and sites and prioritized investments, using the guidance of City Council Resolution 20181004-033; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

That the City Manager is authorized to award, negotiate, and execute historic preservation fund service contracts for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, in an amount not to exceed \$11,880,629 for historic preservation and restoration projects, as recommended by staff.

**ADOPTED:** September 19, 2019

**ATTEST:**

  
Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk