

**RESOLUTION NO. 20240118-007**

**WHEREAS**, City Council Resolution No. 20170831-060 directed the City Manager to allocate 15 percent 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 No. 20181004-033 directed the City Manager to allocate the Historic Preservation Fund Fiscal Year 2019 budget in the following manner:

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

The resolution also directed the City Manager to:

- expand the eligible applicants for heritage grants per the recommendations of the Visitor Impact Task Force and the Heritage Grant Working Group;
- expand eligible projects for Heritage Grants to include capital projects and planning, educational, and marketing projects; and

- 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; and

**WHEREAS**, City staff use City Council Resolution No. 20181004-033 as a guide for how to apportion funds in future fiscal years; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas Tax Code Section 351.101(a)(5) authorizes HOT revenue 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:

- at or in the immediate vicinity of the convention center facilities or visitor information centers; or
- located elsewhere in the municipality or its vicinity that would be frequented by tourists and convention delegates; and

**WHEREAS**, through Council's approval of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 City of Austin Budget (Ordinance No. 20230816-008), and the ordinance related to this resolution approved in the same Council meeting as this resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 36 City of Austin Budget to increase appropriations to the Economic Development Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Historic Preservation Fund, funding in the amount of \$31,723,887 is available in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to

the Economic Development Department for eligible historic restoration and preservation projects and activities;

**WHEREAS**, for nearly two decades, a portion of the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau (now Visit Austin) budget has been allocated to fund and administer the Heritage Grant Program, and Visit Austin ceased administration of the program at the end of 2018; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is authorized to award, negotiate, and execute historic preservation fund grant agreements and allocations for Fiscal Year 2023-24 in an amount not to exceed \$31,723,887 for historic preservation and restoration projects and activities, as recommended by staff.

**ADOPTED:** January 18, 2024

**ATTEST:**

  
Myrna Rios  
City Clerk