



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of CPED

Date: January 22, 2015

To: Council Member John Quincy, Ways and Means Committee

Subject: Accept federal grant through Minnesota Historical Society to conduct historic designation studies on street-car related properties and appropriate CPED- Development Services Division budget

Recommendation:

Authorize acceptance of the federal Certified Local Government (CLG) grant, administered by the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society and increase the Revenue Budget for the Community Planning and Economic Development Agency federal fund (01300) by \$ 14,978

Department Information

Prepared by: John Smoley
Approved by: Doug Kress
Presenters in Committee: Doug Kress

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval ___ Date _____
- Civil Rights Approval Approval ___ Date _____
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval ___ Date _____

Financial Impact

Amend the 2015 General appropriation resolution by increasing the Community Planning and Economic Development agency Federal fund (01300-8900520) by \$14,978.

Increase the revenue budget for the Community Planning and Economic Development agency Federal fund (01300-8900520-321009) by \$14,978.

Community Impact

The grant funds will provide resources to study and designate historically significant properties significant for their association with streetcar development.

Supporting Information

The Certified Local Government (CLG) grant is a federal grant administered through the Minnesota State Historical Preservation Office on the MN Historical Society. Since 1983, as a Certified Local Government, the City of Minneapolis has been eligible to apply for, and has

received grants for projects such as historic theme studies, landmark designations, and historic resource surveys. The grant funding will support the on-going strategies identified in the capstone survey conducted over the years. The 2014 GLC grant funds will be used to designate the best remaining examples of properties significant for their association with streetcar development.

Of the major local historical contexts identified in the 1990 Minneapolis Preservation Plan, transportation properties were inventoried at the lowest rates in city reconnaissance surveys. Streetcar properties, and the development they spawned, are increasingly threatened by redevelopment. In many cases, properties along former streetcar lines have been upzoned and identified by the city's comprehensive plan as appropriate locations to increase residential and commercial density. The significance of streetcar development in Minneapolis' history is increasingly touted as a reason to delay redevelopment and conduct designation studies, especially of small scale commercial nodes. With over five hundred miles of streetcar rail lines in the Twin Cities, Minneapolis seeks a proactive approach to ensure historic preservation is an aid, not a roadblock, to urban planning efforts. By identifying the best remaining examples of historic resources within this context and designating them, Minneapolis will not only expand its roster of historic properties but also streamline development in other less significant areas.