

OPERATING BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

8/27/26

CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):

Austin Planning

FUND:

Special Revenue Fund

SUBJECT: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Austin Planning Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20250813-005) to accept and appropriate \$35,280 in grant funds from the Texas Historical Commission Certified Local Government Program for the development of a Citywide Archeology Program Framework. Funding: \$35,280 is available from the Texas Historical Commission. A City funding match of \$35,280 is required and will be met by accounting for the base salary and fringe benefits of existing City positions in the Austin Planning Operating Budget.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Special Revenue Fund	2025-26 Approved	This Action	2025-26 Amended
Texas Historical Commission Certified Local Government Program Grant Period: 8/31/2026 - 9/30/2028	0	35,280	35,280
Total	0	35,280	35,280
FTEs	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE-YEAR IMPACT:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
Total Revenue	0	14,112	21,168	0	0
Total Expenditures	0	14,112	21,168	0	0
Net Impact	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This ordinance will amend the current City budget to accept and appropriate \$35,280 in grant funds from the Texas Historical Commission Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant Program for the development of a Citywide Archeology Program Framework for a grant period of August 31, 2026, to September 30, 2028.

Certified Local Government (CLG) grants provide funding to participating city and county governments to develop and sustain effective local preservation programs. The grants provide one-time funding for projects with an allocation period of 26 months. The Texas Historical Commission administers this program in accordance with standards set by the National Park Service.

The City will, subject to any necessary Council approval and contract execution, partner with the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) at UT Austin or contract with a cultural resource management consulting firm to assess compliance with state and federal archeological regulations, evaluate archeology-related needs across City departments, recommend qualifications for a City Archeologist position, propose a program structure, identify funding and partnership opportunities, and outline a community engagement strategy. Concurrently, City staff will, subject to the execution and approval of any necessary agreements, work with TARL student interns to plan and launch a public awareness campaign about archeology for community members and policymakers. Both initiatives align with the Equity-Based Preservation Plan, adopted by Council in November 2024. Anticipated outcomes include greater public awareness of Austin's archaeological resources and a clear