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October 16, 2024

The Honorable Karen Bass
Mayor of Los Angeles
City Hall, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention: Heleen Ramirez

The Honorable Los Angeles City Council
City Hall, Room 395
c/o City Clerk's Office
Los Angeles, CA 90012

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 3 TRANSMITTAL: FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GETTY CONSERVATION INSTITUTE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC PLACES, LOS ANGELES GRANT AGREEMENT

SUMMARY

In accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, the Department of City Planning (City Planning) requests approval to amend a grant agreement with the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI) agreement number 100000000006452 for activities related to the Los Angeles African American Historic Places framework project within City Planning's Office of Historic Resources (OHR). The requested modifications to the grant agreement are:

- 1) Extend the initial three-year agreement to a six-year agreement ending June 14, 2027; and
- 2) Amend the original funding amount from \$180,000 to \$67,500.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Council File No. 16-1001-S1 approved on June 28, 2021, City Planning's OHR entered into an agreement in 2021 with GCI to further the work of SurveyLA, the Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey that serves as the primary planning tool for identifying, recording, and evaluating historic properties and districts in the city. In particular, this agreement included grant funds that support work for the African American Historic Places, Los Angeles (AAHPLA) initiative, a partnership between the OHR and GCI. The AAHPLA aims to:

- Advance outcomes of SurveyLA;
- Advance the recognition, understanding, protection, designation, conservation, and celebration of the African American heritage of Los Angeles;
- Understand how historic preservation processes and associated policies can be rethought to support racial equity and social justice policies and practices within the planning and preservation work of the City of Los Angeles;
- Contribute to broader reform of the historic preservation planning framework at local government and city level and provide a potential model for future initiatives related to

African American heritage and other historic context work related to specific communities in Los Angeles; and

- Provide new models for future work for the recognition, protection, and conservation of marginalized heritages for the City and that can be shared with other organizations.

The project will include citywide outreach and refinements to the African American Historic Context Statement, the preparation of up to 10 Historic-Cultural Monument nominations, and the development of up to three cultural heritage strategies/plans that help manage, preserve, interpret, and celebrate the tangible and intangible heritage of historically African American neighborhoods.

The initial launch of the project was delayed as the GCI and OHR worked during 2021 and part of 2022 to create the structure for the project and retain a new staff member who joined the GCI's team in 2022 to serve as the AAHPLA project leader. The project team has convened a 15-member Advisory Committee of prominent African American leaders citywide to provide strategic guidance for the project. The project was launched publicly in June 2023 with a large public kickoff event which included Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as a featured speaker. During the first phase of the project, the team has initiated five Historic-Cultural Monument nominations for sites of African American heritage. Two of these have already been approved by the City Council: the Tom and Ethel Bradley Residence in Leimert Park and the California Eagle Newspaper on Central Avenue. Two others have been approved by the Cultural Heritage Commission: StylesVille Beauty and Barber Shop in Pacoima and Jewel's Catch One on Pico Boulevard in the Wilshire Community Plan Area. A fifth nomination, for St. Elmo Village in Mid-City, will be heard by the Cultural Heritage Commission in October 2024.

In the coming months, the GCI will be releasing two Requests for Proposals (RFP) to retain consultant teams that will oversee the preparation of the expanded African American Historic Context Statement and the development of three neighborhood cultural preservation strategies. This next phase of work will also involve an expanded phase of community engagement, including listening sessions and neighborhood-focused advisory groups that will guide the preparation of local cultural preservation strategies. Two RFPs will now be released by the GCI, and the project components will be funded directly by GCI, for the amended grant amount of \$67,500. The new total of \$67,500 in grant funds from the GCI to the City will be used solely to support the project tasks related to the preparation of Historic-Cultural Monument nominations, of which the City has received \$50,000 in 2023.

The proposed project meets the goals of the Cultural and Historical section of the Conservation Element of the City's General Plan whose objective is to "protect important cultural and historical sites and resources for historical, cultural, research, and community educational purposes." Securing this supplemental funding and specialized professional expertise is critical to advancing the AAHPLA project and the work of SurveyLA, by providing additional resources, tools, and research to recognize the city's cultural heritage.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no additional General Fund impact. Grant funds are solely for contractual services and will be paid to City Planning by the Getty Conservation Institute on an advance funding basis for payment to the selected consultant(s). These funds will not supplant existing OHR work, but rather accelerate OHR's efforts on the AAHPLA project by providing funding for City Planning to utilize

its on-call bench lists. Neither additional staff nor salaries funding are being requested as this work is part of City Planning's existing budgeted work programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council authorize the Director of Planning, or his designee, subject to the approval of the Mayor, to take the following actions:

1. Execute the first amendment to Grant Project Agreement No. 100000000006452 with the Getty Conservation Institute that establishes a framework of cooperation for the African American Historic Places, Los Angeles project, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality. The modifications are as follows:
 - a. Extend the initial three-year agreement to a six-year agreement ending June 14, 2027; and
 - b. Amend the original funding amount from \$180,000 to \$67,500.
2. Adjust the grant receivable appropriation account within the City Planning Grant Trust Fund No. 46Y, Department No. 68, Appropriation Unit No. 68T222 and disbursement amounts from \$180,000 to \$67,500.
3. Submit updated grant payment requests to the Getty Conservation Institute and deposit grant receipts in the City Planning Grants Trust Fund No. 46Y, Department No. 68.

For more information, please contact Livea Yeh at (213) 978-1268 or at livea.yeh@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
Director of Planning



ANA LYNN ROCIO
Chief Management Analyst

cc: Kelly O'Malley, Office of the City Administrative Officer

Attachments: A) Amendment No. 1
B) Original Grant Agreement No. 100000000006452