

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
FEBRUARY 7, 2017 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>A resolution for a subaward to the Little Rock School District for a grant to preserve exterior portions of Little Rock Central High School.</p> <p>Submitted By:</p> <p>Finance Department</p>	<p>Ordinance √ Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p>Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
SYNOPSIS	<p>A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a subaward with the Little Rock School District as owners of Little Rock Central High School to make certain repairs to the school as provided in a Federal Grant award.</p>	
FISCAL IMPACT	<p>Federal funds in the amount of \$499,372.56 were awarded to the City and will be subawarded to the Little Rock School District. Any cost not borne by the grant will be the responsibility of the District. The City will provide grant management.</p>	
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Approval of the resolution.</p>	
BACKGROUND	<p>A grant totaling nearly \$499,372.56 will help restore the historic exterior of Little Rock Central High School through Federal funding from the African American Civil Rights Grant Program, a new grant from the National Park Service. The program is designed to preserve resources and highlight the sites and stories associated with the Civil Rights Movement. The Little Rock School District (LRSD) asked the City to apply on its behalf due to the fact that LRSD was not eligible to apply directly to the Parks Service.</p>	

**BACKGROUND
CONTINUED**

A historic structures report conducted by restoration architect John Greer of Witsell, Evans, Rasco found that repairs were needed to prevent water damage to the exterior to the structure, which was built in 1927. The front steps, terrace and parapets on the north and south wings will be restored, repaired and reinforced. Work will include the installation of a waterproof membrane, the protection of the building envelope and the resealing of parapet caps. All work will be done in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties as required by the grant.

LRSD's budget for the project will be as follow: architect/engineering fees - \$39,121; demolition cost - \$79,150; site work - \$1,116; and construction - \$379,985.56.

Little Rock Central High School played an important role in the desegregation of our nation's public schools. In September 1957, nine (9) African-American students changed the course of history as they ascended the steps of Central High with the 101st Airborne Division as their escort. The Little Rock Nine, as the group was known, came to symbolize the ideals of justice and equality.

Named as a National Historic Site in 1998, Central High is the only operating high school in the nation to receive such a designation.

The grant application for this project was sent to the Arkansas State (grant) Clearinghouse as per Arkansas State Law. Information regarding the grant was made available on the State's website for public comment, and did not receive any unfavorable comments.