



Council Meeting: October 28, 2008

SUBJECT: Authorization to Accept and Appropriate \$10,000 Grant Funds, along with Equipment and Training in FY 2008/09 and Accept \$5,000 Project Continuation Grant Funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station Grant Program, and Approval of Budget Modification No. 9

REPORT IN BRIEF

The Sunnyvale Public Library is requesting authorization to accept and appropriate \$10,000, along with equipment and training from the California State Library's LSTA Digital Storytelling grant program to provide for the recording, editing and distributing of 18 digital stories from long-time as well as recent residents of Sunnyvale. The Library is partnering with the Sunnyvale Historical Society to identify storytellers, promote the project and showcase the stories. Staff recommends that Council accept and appropriate \$10,000 grant funds, along with equipment and training in FY 2008/09 and accept \$5,000 project continuation grant funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station grant program, and approve Budget Modification No. 9. The \$5,000 project continuation grant funds will be appropriated as part of the FY 2009/10 Budget.

BACKGROUND

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) is the successor to the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) and its predecessors, in effect since 1956. Enacted on October 1, 1996 and reauthorized in 2003, the LSTA is administered in California by the California State Library. Each year since inception of the Act, the California State Library has awarded local assistance grants on a competitive basis for locally initiated proposals that meet the purposes of the Act. The LSTA provides support for projects in the areas of technology innovation, networking and resource-sharing, and targeted services to people who are underserved, disadvantaged, geographically isolated, illiterate, etc.

The California State Library announced the opportunity to apply for *California of the Past* digital storytelling station grants in April 2008. Libraries selected to participate in the program will produce digital stories from resident memories of, for example, main street years ago, raising children in Sunnyvale in a bygone era, or experiences of moving to Sunnyvale. The grant provides a digital storytelling station, training in the use of the digital station and in promotion of the project, and funds to support the promotion and operation of the digital storytelling station. The grant program objectives include promoting intergenerational sharing of stories in California; engaging aging baby boomers in sharing their memories of California; encouraging immigrants to California to share their memories of the State or their local community when they first arrived; equipping library staff with digital storytelling program skills; creating a statewide history resource of life in California and encouraging library-community partnerships. All public libraries in California were eligible to apply for this competitive grant. Libraries were required to partner with a community organization such as a local historical society to implement and operate the

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project. Staff did not seek authorization to apply in advance due to the short turnaround time required by the application process.

EXISTING POLICY

Library Collection

Goal 6.2A Provide a broad and diverse collection of books and other Library materials to meet the varied interests and needs of the community

Policy 6.2A.3 Promote the appreciation of local history through a Sunnyvale Collection

Technology

Policy 6.2E.1 Serve as an access point in the distribution of information in digital formats and other formats that evolve in the future

Action Statement Integrate new technologies that meet customer needs in order to be more effective and efficient in delivering services

6.2E.2a

Collaboration and Customer Focus

Policy 6.2F.1 Establish cooperative relationships to maximize the effectiveness of Library services

DISCUSSION

The Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association and Sunnyvale Public Library partnered almost ten years ago to capture digital stories (*SunnyvaleVoices.inSunnyvale.com*) and are currently partnering to create a historical photograph database (*Images.inSunnyvale.com*). Although twenty-two digital stories were successfully captured nearly a decade ago, the state of technology at the time prevented easy continuation of the project. Since then, the *Sunnyvale Voices* stories have become an integral part of the Sunnyvale history collection at the Library.

On June 6, 2007, the City of Sunnyvale held a special celebration in honor of more than 100 individuals who lived in Sunnyvale in 1947 or earlier. In the planning stages for the event, Council suggested recording the oral histories of those being honored at the celebration. A subcommittee of Council and community members invited a dozen residents to tell their stories. The recordings were completed; however, volunteer editors from Fremont High School's journalism class have not completed editing the final product yet. Fremont High expects to complete the story editing in the 2008/09 academic year. The *California of the Past* grant provides an opportunity to capture additional stories from long-time residents as well as more recent residents of Sunnyvale.

The *California of the Past* grant provides a digital storytelling station, one day of training in planning and implementing a digital storytelling program, onsite training in the use of the digital storytelling station, technical support, digital storytelling materials, and funds for project expenses such as substitute reference desk staff hours, project promotion and contract media artists, if needed, to assist staff.

The Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association will partner with the Sunnyvale Public Library to identify potential storytellers, promote the project and record at least 18 stories over a period of 18 months. Since 2002, the Association has been working on creating a near replica of the original "Murphy Family Home" to serve as a museum space

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which would provide educational programs for children and permanent, rotating exhibits about Sunnyvale and Santa Clara Valley history and heritage. The culmination of that effort, the Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum, was dedicated on September 27, 2008. As a new focal point in the community, the museum will serve as both a place to promote the project as well as a place to showcase the stories from recent and long-time residents. The museum has the space to accommodate as many as 3,000 students per year.

Completed stories will be accessible online through the grant project's Web site at www.digitalstorystation.com as well as through the Library's Web site.

FISCAL IMPACT

The California State Library awarded grant funds in the amount of \$10,000 in FY 2008/09 to capture digital stories from residents. If accepted, the grant award will be established as a special project for FY 2008/09. An additional award of \$5,000 is anticipated for FY 2009/10, and these funds will be budgeted in the FY 2009/10 projects budget.

Budget Modification No. 9 has been prepared to accept \$10,000 in grant funding and appropriate it to a new project.

**Budget Modification No. 9
Fiscal Year 2008/09**

General Fund

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Revised</u>
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Library Services and Technology Act	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
(New Project) Digital Storytelling Project	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, in the Council Chambers lobby, in the Office of the City Clerk, at the Library, Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; posting the agenda and report on the City's Web site; and making the report available at the Library and the Office of the City Clerk. The Board of Library Trustees reviewed the report at their meeting on October 6, 2008.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Council accept and appropriate \$10,000 grant funds, along with equipment and training in FY 2008/09 and accept \$5,000 project continuation grant funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station grant program, and approve Budget Modification No. 9.
2. Council reject \$10,000 grant funds, equipment and training in FY 2008/09 and \$5,000 project continuation grant funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station grant program, and deny Budget Modification No. 9.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorization to Accept \$10,000 Grant Funds, Equipment and Training from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station Grant Program, and Budget Modification No. 9

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At the October 6, 2008 Board of Library Trustees meeting, the Board voted unanimously to recommend to Council Alternative 1 which accepts and appropriates \$10,000 grant funds, along with equipment and training in FY 2008/09 and accepts \$5,000 project continuation grant funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Digital Storytelling Station grant program, and approves Budget Modification No. 9.

Staff also recommends Alternative #1. The grant will provide an opportunity to capture additional stories from residents, thereby helping to preserve Sunnyvale history as seen through the eyes of those who lived it.

Reviewed by:

Susan W. Denniston, Interim Director, Library
Prepared by: Steve Sloan, Administrative Librarian

Mary Bradley, Director, Finance

Approved by:

Amy Chan
City Manager

Attachments

- A. Award Letter, California State Library
- B. Draft Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes of 10/6/08

Attachment A



August 21, 2008

CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY
FOUNDED 1850

Susan Denniston, Interim Director
Sunnyvale Public Library
665 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7622

Dear Ms. Denniston:

I am pleased to approve the grant application for the California of the Past Digital Storytelling for a total of \$10,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds.

The implementation of a digital storytelling program at your library will enable you to capture community stories of what life was like in both California, and in your local community in the past. You will be creating historical information through your digital storytelling station, which will be accessible to the public through the Web. Because we are concerned about the security of your digital story station and its components, we are requiring that you purchase a security computer cabinet for the station, if one is not already available at your library for this purpose. Grant funds may be used to purchase the cabinet.

Please note that the first mandatory group training has been scheduled for September 24, 2008 from 10:00 – 5:00 in Sacramento. Per the conditions of the award outlined at the application phase, your library is required to send a team, consisting of the project person, a library administrator, and a representative from your partnering organization, to that training. More details will be sent to you regarding the training session in the near future.

The Library Development Services Staff is ready to assist you in making your project a success. Please understand that no grant payments can be processed until the governor signs the State budget. State processing of grant payments can require 6-8 weeks before you receive your check.

Best wishes for a successful project year.

Yours truly,

Susan Hildreth
State Librarian of California

Enclosures

cc: Colette Moody
Kathy Low
Steve Sloan

Attachment B

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS:

2. Draft RTC: Authorization to Accept \$11,263 Grant Funds from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program and Appropriate \$5,506 from Existing Library Foundation Program Grant Project Funds to Provide a Third Year of Access to Out-of-School-Time Online Homework Help, an Online Homework Assistance Program, and Approval of Budget Modification No. 8:

Interim Director Denniston provided the Board with an overview of the RTC. This is the third year of the grant program. Services have been contracted with Brainfuse. Discussion ensued regarding grant funds, vendor selection criteria and language assistance offered.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

Vice Chair Lilly moved, and Boardmember Pathak seconded, to recommend to Council alternative no. 1 which accepts and appropriates \$11,263 grant funds from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act grant program and appropriates \$5,506 from existing Library Foundation Program Grant project funds to provide a third year of access to Out-of-School-Time Online Homework Help, an online homework assistance program, and approves Budget Modification No. 8. Motion carried unanimously.

Boardmember Su stated that this is a great program to support.

3. Draft RTC: Authorization to Accept \$10,000 Grant Funds, Equipment and Training in FY 2008/09 and \$5,000 Project Continuation Grant Funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and technology Act Digital Storytelling Station Grant Program, and Approval of Budget Modification No. 9:

Interim Director Denniston provided the Board with an overview of the RTC. The Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association and the Sunnyvale Public Library partnered for this grant. Discussion ensued promotion of grant program identifying storytellers. Suggestions for storytellers included Onizuka Airforce Base/Moffett and Martin Family.

Chair Griffith opened the public hearing and there being no public testimonies, closed the public hearing.

Boardmember Su moved, and Vice Chair Lilly seconded, to recommend to Council alternative no. 1 which accepts and appropriates \$10,000 grant funds, along with equipment and training in FY 2008/09 and accepts \$5,000 project continuation grant funds in FY 2009/10 from the California State Library for the Library Services and Technology Act Digital Storytelling Station grant program, and approves Budget Modification No. 9. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Library Branch Study:

Interim Director Denniston provided an overview of Council and Board of Library Trustees Joint Study Session which was held on Tuesday, September 30. A project status update was provided. Discussion ensued regarding potential sites being investigated. It is anticipated that the Draft RTC: Exploration of a Branch Library in Sunnyvale (Study Issue) will not be available for the Monday, November 3 Board of Library Trustees meeting. Therefore, the meeting has been canceled. A Special Board of Library Trustees meeting will be held on Monday, November 10 at 7 p.m. in the Library Program Room.