

**CITY OF BURLINGTON
Board of Finance
Request Summary**

Department: Planning & Zoning
Request Date: February 29, 2012
Action Required By: April 15, 2012

Authorized By: _____

<u>Type of Request:</u> (check all that apply)	Budget Revision	Contract/Lease Purchase	Position Action	Other (Define Below)
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X

NOTE: Attach required form(s) and associated backup for each block checked.

Summary Explanation: *(Explain what you want first, then tell us why)*

The Dept. of Planning & Zoning is seeking authorization for Mayor Kiss to execute a contract with the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation for the use of a Certified Local Government (CLG) Program grant to support two public education endeavors: The creation of a **Burlington Coloring Book**, and funding to support a **public lecture** / television appearance / walking tour by a noted professional within the architectural, conservation, restoration, cultural heritage, preservation, or other similar discipline. We have had early favorable conversations with Historic New England, and believe Sally Zimmerman (responsible for HNE's Historic Homeowner Program) a likely candidate. Verbal notification of the grant award, in the amount of \$4,634.40, was received by the Planning and Zoning Department February 24, 2012.

Burlington again seeks to further cultural and heritage education with a proposed two-prong public initiative, aimed at two very different groups.

Project A.: The City of Burlington will partner with Preservation Burlington in creating a "**Burlington Coloring Book**", to be aligned with the elementary public school curriculum relative to local history. Preliminary plans intend to involve the broadest number of participants:

1. Preservation Burlington members will collect known examples of similar projects to evaluate context, intended audience, appropriate grade level, and construction materials (paper weight, binding methods.)
2. Local educator(s) will be identified to understand the age level, and timing of curriculum to best integrate the project with existing study of local history. The number of students involved in course work will be assessed to accurately identify the number of coloring books that should be produced as the product of this project.
3. Local architectural firms will be solicited to provide a line drawing of a favorite Burlington building to be included in the coloring book. Artistic contributions will be acknowledged in the product.
4. Local graphics professional or group will be solicited to provide a color illustration for the front cover. Submitted work, if used, will be acknowledged in the publication.
5. Preservation Burlington will solicit a historic preservation graduate student to prepare concise yet informative text and context for each image.
6. CLG staff will provide research, editorial, and management for the project.
7. Completed project will be distributed to local elementary school(s) to be included in the curriculum.
8. CLG staff will offer to conduct a walking tour for schoolchildren as part of the coursework, if feasible and appropriate.
9. Preservation Burlington will feature the completed project as a segment on their public access television show, "Live at 5:25."
10. Additional coloring books will be distributed to contributing architects, graphic artists, local history groups, UVM Historic Preservation program, Preservation Burlington members, other educators, Fletcher Free Library, local media, and to those who may express interest.

Project B: The City of Burlington would like to **host a public speaker** recognized for achievement and excellence within a discipline associated with cultural heritage, preservation, architecture, landscape, rehabilitation, and/or conservation. Preliminary inquiries have been favorable, with interest from Historic New England's Manager of Historic Preservation Services, Sally Zimmerman. A recognized preservation professional (and responsible for HNE's Historic Homeowner Program), Ms. Zimmerman has offered us the benefit of her 25 years' experience and research to address one of two topics. The first choice is **balancing preservation and energy conservation** in old houses (a timely theme in current practice.) Another issue she proposes is a practical exercise in **the use of historic paint colors**. The latter would include a neighborhood architectural / paint colors / curb appeal walking tour of a Burlington neighborhood or historic district.

We would propose the Ms. Zimmerman's presentation be scheduled during National Preservation Month (May), and be paired with a knowledgeable Burlington architectural/social historian who could speak to the historical and architectural development of the selected neighborhood. Ms. Zimmerman will include comments relative to the practical benefit of choosing paint colors and how they can create not just curb appeal but real appreciation for historic neighborhoods. The proposed project would span three days: A spot on Preservation Burlington's Thursday live access television show, a Friday evening lecture introducing the history of an area (by a local historian or walking-tour guide from Preservation Burlington) and a capstone walking tour the next morning which could be a design clinic for paint color. Ms. Zimmerman has proposed a similar project for Providence this summer, and she welcomes the initial opportunity here in Burlington.

The two proposed educational programs/projects are aimed at entirely different groups (children, adults). Both, however, hope to raise awareness of Burlington's existing cultural and historic resources and foster an appreciation of the heritage of the City.

Status of City-Wide Survey

Of the city's approximately 10,600 buildings, about 4,023 have been surveyed or resources identified as having national, state, or local significance. (Burlington's CLG 2009 project, the Pine Street Historic District nomination added 36 contributing resources; CLG 2010 grant 10-01 *Modern Architecture in Burlington Vermont* another 141.) It should be noted that 923 individual resources or almost 23 % have been added since 2005.

Much of the original survey work was completed in the 1970s with the assistance of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation as part of a statewide initiative. Subsequent surveying has been completed by the City's Department of Planning and Zoning using Certified Local Government Grant funding. For the City of Burlington to complete a comprehensive historic sites and structures survey, a targeted, multi-year effort has been underway. CLG grant activities of FY 2007 was the fifth of such an effort (The Five Sisters Neighborhood), with previous urban format Historic Sites and Structures Survey completed under CLG 00-2a, CLG 01-2, CLG 04-02, and CLG 05-02. Other CLG grant funds have targeted specific National Register projects (A Multiple Property Documentation Form for Multi-Unit Worker Housing; Church Street Historic District) and preservation education initiatives (the Design Review Guides, as example.) The City had been following a 2000 Priority Plan for survey (completed by Daly and Associates, another CLG grant project) until 2009, when attention was directed toward confirmation of eligibility and completion of the Pine Street Historic District nomination (associated with Section 106 review of the Champlain Parkway / Southern Connector project.) Associated to that review was a draft boundary line adjustment for the Lakeside Historic District, to correct the egregious exclusion of the Queen City Cotton Mill buildings from the original nomination. Both of those draft nominations await public hearings and forward to the Vermont Advisory Council for Historic Preservation for consideration of listing on the National Register.

CLG grant years 2011 and 2012 have been intentionally directed toward public outreach, education, advocacy, and celebration of Burlington's cultural, historic, and architectural resources.

Councilors Keogh, Wright, Paul,
Mulvaney-Stanak

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A VERMONT DIVISION FOR
A CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT HISTORIC PRESERVATION
GRANT; AND AMENDING THE FY 2012 BUDGET

In the year Two Thousand Twelve

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

that

WHEREAS, the City of Burlington Planning and Zoning Department has received notification of an award from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation of a federal Certified Local Government program grant in the amount of \$4,634.40 to support the creation of a Burlington Coloring Book and Public Lecture; and

WHEREAS, a budget amendment in necessary to recognize these funds and program expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Finance has approved the acceptance of these funds and has recommended acceptance of the grant by the City Council as well as support for the Mayor’s budget modification to recognize these funds and project expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council authorizes the acceptance of the Vermont Division of Historical Preservation Certified Local Government Grant to support the creation of a Burlington Coloring Book and Public Lecture; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby approves the amendment of the FY 2012 Budget as follows:

Increase:

Revenue:

106015.48009 - Planning and Zoning Federal Award \$ 4,634

Expense:

106015.61100 - Salaries \$ 1,634

106015.64990 - Other Professional Services \$ 1,500

106105.67200 - Printing \$ 1,500

\$ 4,634