

Legislation Text

File #: 21-443, **Version:** 2

PRESENTER:

Caitlin Krobot, City Secretary

SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider the approval of the Heritage Commission recommendations for allocating grant awards from hotel occupancy tax to various heritage organizations of the City and authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts with the aforementioned organizations for the purpose of disbursement and use of funding.

DEPARTMENT: City Secretary

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City-Wide

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City Secretary's Office posted notice of the application process for hotel occupancy tax (HOT) grants via the City's bulletin board, the City website, and in the Herald-Zeitung; and made the application available for interested heritage organizations beginning in March. The Heritage Commission met on April 8, 2021 to review qualified applications and make recommendations to the City Council.

ISSUE:

Allocations require City Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT:

City ordinance requires that 15 percent of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) collections be allocated to the "enhancement of arts and cultural organizations and programs". Customarily these proceeds are divided equally between the Arts and Heritage Commissions, who then make recommendations to City Council on the disbursement of their respective halves of the funding. This year, \$216,716.00 was made available to the Heritage Commission based on 2020 HOT collections.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Heritage Commission voted unanimously for the allocation as listed in this table:

Organization	2020 Award	2021 Request	2021 Commission Recommendation
HeritageSociety of New Braunfels	78,630.22	61,100.00	52,481.51
New Braunfels Conservation Society	76,734.42	64,500.00	55,401.92
New Braunfels Historic Railroad & Model Society, Inc.	58,173.72	64,005.00	54,976.74
SophienburgMemorial Association	86,461.64	62,700.00	53,855.82
TOTAL	300,000.00	252,305.00	216,716.00

Recommendations are made by the Heritage Commission.