

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO MODIFY FY 2017/18 COTA ANNUAL GRANT CONTRACT FOR THE INDIA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

**BACKGROUND:**

The India Cultural Association (ICA) has submitted a request to the City to modify its FY 2017/18 COTA contract. ICA was awarded \$6,542 during COTA's annual grant process to fund a concert by American clarinetist and composer Shankar Tucker and Indian-American vocalist Vidya Vox. The application and contract specifically name these two artists as the individuals who are to perform. On April 9<sup>th</sup>, COTA received an email from ICA indicating the performers named in the contract had cancelled their contract with ICA to perform in Ames and that they were requesting more fees than what was initially agreed upon.

ICA was able to contract with other artists, sitar player Purbayan Chatterjee and his accompanist, Anubrata Chatterjee, a tabla player. The artists performed in Ames on April 29<sup>th</sup>. **ICA has requested permission to allow its annual grant funds be applied to these performers.** ICA made a similar request to use its grant for different artists during the 2015/16 fiscal year.

COTA reviewed this request at its May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, and is in support of the request. Its recommendation is to allow the revised performance to be paid under ICA's COTA annual grant contract. Approval of this request will not modify ICA's total allocation of \$6,542.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the request and direct City staff to accept a reimbursement request from India Cultural Association under its FY 2017/18 COTA Annual Grant for the performance of Sitar player Purbayan Chatterjee and his accompanist Anubrata Chatterjee.
2. Do not approve the request

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The India Cultural Association provides an opportunity for residents of the Ames community to experience a variety of performances that explore Indian culture. The City has contracted with the organization to provide a music performance under the COTA annual grants process. Since ICA could not meet the increased fees the performers were requesting, their contract was canceled. ICA has since secured other artists who were able to perform. Accepting the request does not change the contract amount.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the request and directing City staff to accept a reimbursement request from India Cultural Association under its FY 2017/18 COTA Annual Grant.