

Memo

City Manager's Office

TO: Mayor and City Council *SL*
FROM: Steven L. Schainker, City Manager
DATE: February 7, 2008
SUBJECT: Requests for Funding

As promised, we have attempted to summarize in the attached material the requests for funding that the City Council or City staff have received during the past five months. You will note some of the requests reflect a specific amount, some did not suggest a specific amount, and others never followed up by submitting a request.

FY 08/09 FUNDING REQUESTS FROM OUTSIDE GROUPS

Ref. #	Group/Individual	Purpose	Request	Funding Source
1	Bob Bourne	Study to lower railroad tracks	\$1,000	
2	Erv Klaas	Various water testing at urban streams and Ada Hayden	Ada Hayden - \$45,000; urban streams - not specified	
3	Reiman Gardens	Operating assistance	Not specified	
4	HYSC	Operating assistance	\$25,000	
5	Catherine Scott	Several service requests	Not specified	
6	Arts Council	City Auditorium marquee and signage	Not specified	
7	Historic Oldtown Neighborhood Association	Paving of alleys	Not specified	
8	Ames Historical Society	Rent and utilities	\$15,000	
9	Ames Smart Growth Alliance	Sustainability study	\$17,000	
10	AMOS	Global warming indoctrination education	\$5,000	
11	Ames International Partner City	Sister city exchange program	\$3,000 In recommended budget	Local Option Sales Tax
12	Ames Public Art Commission	Various art	\$18,000	
13	Ames Town & Gown	Request reduction in Story Theater Company allocation from COTA		
14	Maggie Luttrell	Year-end student celebration	\$2,000	
15	Human Relations Commission	FACES	\$5,000 (\$1,500 already in budget)	
16	Downtown Cultural District	Flowers for Downtown	\$4,000 ?	
17	Wheatsfield Grocery	Help with expansion in Downtown – no formal request received		

TOWN BUDGET MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2007
7:00 PM

Public Present:

Teresa McLaughlin, 1104 Arizona Avenue
Richard Carlson, 307 Jewel Drive
Peggy Earnshaw, 424 Paulson Drive
Charlie Ricketts, 2531 Pierce Avenue
Erv Klaas, 1405 Grand Avenue
Carole Bunde, 4115 Stone Brooke Road
Brian Agnitsch, 611 Ridgewood Avenue
Catherine Scott, 1510 Roosevelt Avenue
Tim Coble, 309 Main Street
Kathy Svec, 603 Grand Avenue
Jami Larson, 3321 Ridgetop Road
Jim Gunning, 119 Hickory Drive
Bob Bourne, 724 Brookridge Avenue
William Jenks, 3101 Greenwood Road
Megan Backman, 3709 Tripp Street

Public Input:

- # 1
1. Bob Bourne, 724 Brookridge, Ames, requested that the City come up with a design on how to lower the Duff Avenue railroad tracks. He suggested that ISU design engineering classes be asked to get involved and perhaps an allocation of \$1,000 be made to them for their efforts. Mr. Bourne advised that a new Transportation Bill is forthcoming that will provide funds for demonstration-type projects such as the one he proposed.

Mr. Bourne also said that he was concerned about emissions from City vehicles. He believes that the goal in the long term should be a neutral City where the negative equals the positive regarding carbon emissions.

- # 2
2. Erv Klaas, 1405 Grand, Ames, cited concerns about storm water management. He pointed out that the utility rate increase pertaining to that was very minimal. Mr. Klaas said he had been to many workshops and suggested that the City base the fee paid for storm water subsidy on the amount of impervious surfaces (roof, driveway). He noted that in Portland, OR, developers have been required to put in rain gardens and impervious surfaces.

Mr. Klaas also cited his concerns about the lack of monitoring the water quality at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. He was much dismayed that the monitoring contract was canceled; it should be reinstated. Mr. Klaas said that there are phosphates coming into the lake. There is an average of 100 parts/billion in the ground water. It has

accumulated over many years, but nevertheless, it's there. That amount can be reduced if people stop putting phosphates (fertilizer) on their lawns. Groundwater is also another source. It comes from septic systems. Mr. Klaas asked the City to reestablish the water quality monitoring contract. He suggested that there be someone on City staff to oversee and manage natural areas. Mr. Klaas stated that he was an Iowa Water Volunteer for the Squaw Creek River Association. He wanted the City to know that the bacteria levels in Squaw Creek are very high. Mr. Klaas does not understand why the City does not monitor E-coli. He has been told that the City lab does not have the correct equipment. At the very least, he hopes that signs would be posted at Squaw Creek about the high levels of E-coli as people do swim in the creek.

3. Peggy Earnshaw, 424 Paulson Drive, Ames, said that she was representing the Arts Council. She said that they very much appreciate the use of the City Auditorium; she feels it is the centerpiece of the Downtown. On behalf of that organization, Ms. Earnshaw requested better signage for the facility (a marquee and street signs). She also asked that the interior of the Auditorium be beautified with art work.
4. Teresa McLaughlin, 1104 Arizona, Ames, spoke as a representative of Reiman Gardens. She stated that there are over 125,000 visitors per year to the gardens. Ms. McLaughlin asked for the City's financial assistance with their operating budget. She also asked that a capital improvement be made at the gardens, i.e., putting the utilities underground.
5. Richard Carlson, 307 Jewel Drive, Ames, voiced his support for Reiman Gardens and any assistance that the City could provide to them.
6. Charlie Ricketts, 2531 Pierce Avenue, Ames, also spoke in support of Reiman Gardens. He said that one way to assist the gardens financially would be for people to volunteer there. Mr. Ricketts noted that technical staff members are needed for some things, but volunteers can do many of the other jobs that are needed to be done.
7. Carole Bundy, 4115 Stone Brooke Road, Ames, spoke in favor of Reiman Gardens. She encouraged support of the gardens by the City under the category of community enrichment.
8. Brian Agnitsch, 611 Ridgewood, Ames, representing the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex (HYSC) requested \$25,000 for operating expenses. The funds would be used to lower fees allowing for more participation.
9. William Jenks, 3101 Greenwood Road, Ames, President of the Ames Soccer Club, expressed thanks for the City's past support for the HYSC. He explained how the operating subsidy had been distributed to the sports clubs based on participation. He said soccer had received approximately \$9,000, which allowed for lower fees for young children. It also allowed for \$3,000 in scholarships (financial assistance) to children who could not afford the participation fees.

- # 5
10. Pat Thiel, representing the Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association, Ames, offered two ideas: (1) that the City consider paving alleyways in the Old Town Neighborhood or at least pave the alleyways at the request of the residents. She pointed out that alleyways are used heavily by pedestrians and cyclists. (2) that the City clear residential streets faster after storms. If it takes the City too long, the snow becomes compacted and turns into ice.
 11. Catherine Scott, 1510 Roosevelt, Ames, made the following requests: (1) the City set up a program where residents may bring used computers and other electronic wastes for disposal; (2) funds be allocated to allow City staff members to attend the Smart Growth Conference; (3) the City make the streets more bicycle-friendly (education/maintenance); (4) the City make more use of ISU students; (5) make sure that the City has adequate staff (it doesn't save money to leave positions open); (6) the City use Context-Sensitive Solutions on the extension of Grand Avenue project and that all implications of the project be explored and the public educated; (7) shade and at least one bench be located at the former Munn Lumber site; (8) the City do everything possible to encourage everyone to conserve energy; (9) make public transportation more visible; (10) a study of snow plow speeds be done (snow plows cause people to have to shovel driveways again).
 12. Tim Coble, representing the Main Street Cultural District (MSCD), stated that there are no significant changes to its budget. He advised that the MSCD has a new Director, but they will be following the same plan.
 13. Kathy Svec, 603 Grand Avenue, Ames, spoke in favor of a marquee and better signage for the City Auditorium. She pointed out that the Auditorium is addressed as 515 Clark, but it is accessed from Sixth Street. The marquee would be valuable in advertising events. The City should also consider directional signage to Downtown. Ms. Svec advised that the Ames Historical Society will be making its request for funds to the City Council in the near future.
 14. City Manager Steve Schainker advised that he had a written request from the Environmental Research Team of AMOS, which is A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy that addresses concerns of the community. AMOS representatives asked that the City provide educational opportunities to the public about reducing global warming and pollution. The letter indicated that more details would be submitted in the future.
 15. Jim Gunning, 119 Hickory Drive, Ames, talked about the decrease in property values in Ames, and in particular, rental properties. He felt these resulted when the City allowed for major growth in the southwest section of Ames. According to Mr. Gunning, landlords have experienced a 15-25% decrease in rental income. He also pointed out that there are more houses on the market than ever before. Mr. Gunning believes that property values will begin plunging. City spending has increased by approximately 14%; it is increasing staff and subsidies. Realistically, rental and property markets do not always go up. "A decrease is coming." City Council needs to take a look at what's happening in the property market (foreclosures/auctions are

increasing). Property taxes are the largest source of income for the City. If property tax starts to decline, the millage rate will increase. On another issue, i.e., water conservation, Mr. Gunning suggested the City look at the possibility of removing the sewage rate and increasing the rate on second meters. He prefers that people be required to stop irrigating because 30 – 40% of that water goes down the sewer drains.

6
November 5, 2007

First of all, this is my first town budget meeting. And I appreciate having been alerted to the event by the ACAC office. I am here most of to thank the city for its generous support of the arts. When I arrived in Ames 15 years ago most of the support structure was in place. We had a Commission On the Arts, an Ames Community Arts Council and a good City Auditorium. Soon after my arrival we added a fine grand piano to the auditorium.

Currently I serve as Vice President and Publicist of Ames Town & Gown Chamber Music Association, an organization that uses the Ames City Auditorium for two or more of its concerts per season. The parking is great, the staff is helpful and the space is intimate enough to bring the audience into dialog with the performance from the stage.

The Ames City Auditorium has been the centerpiece of my arts experience in Ames and to me, the centerpiece of the Cultural District.

But if I could have two wishes come true for this gathering place, one would be better signage for the facility via street signs leading to the space and a marquee for announcing up-coming events. The other would be to beautify the interior with art work perhaps decided upon by the Ames Public Art Commission.

Both of my wishes cost money and thus my presence at this budget meeting.

Thank you for your time and for supporting the arts.

Peggy Earnshaw
424 Paulson Drive
Ames, IA 50010
plearns@mchsi.com

7



Pat Thiel
<pthiel@iastate.edu>
11/06/2007 01:27 PM

To sschainker@city.ames.ia.us
cc
bcc

Subject Follow-up to Town Budget Meeting inputs

Mr. Schainker,

Thank you for arranging the Town Budget Meeting last night, and for being present to discuss the issues with the community.

As you suggested, I am reiterating my verbal statements with this written message.

I am the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Historic Old Town Neighborhood Association. There are several topics that we request the City to consider.

1) Paving alleyways, at the request of residents on a given block. The City currently seems willing to do this on a cost-sharing basis, with certain complications involved. We request that the City undertake alleyway-paving as a major neighborhood improvement program at the City's expense. This request is based upon the fact that the alleyways are used heavily for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. They are pedestrian/bicycle corridors between our neighborhood and all the facilities located downtown. A few are already paved. Of those that are not paved, many become muddy and essentially impassable for long times after rainfall or during snowmelt, due to poor drainage.

2) Plowing residential streets more quickly after snowfall, partly for the sake of convenience but partly also for the sake of safety. If snow is not plowed it can become compacted by vehicle traffic and transform into ice. The ice can remain as a hazard on the streets for a long time.

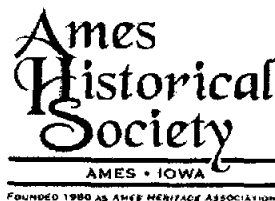
There is a third topic that I did not bring up last night, because I thought it was not quite the appropriate forum. The Neighborhood Association asks the City to consider issuing parking stickers to neighborhood residents, so that we can park our vehicles on the streets for extended periods. Currently, vehicles are ticketed if they are left parked for a rather short period of time. Please make no mistake: we do not request an exemption from the staggered-parking-day rules that exist on some streets such as Clark Avenue. But many streets do not have a staggered-parking-day system, and we would like to park on those streets for extended periods without penalty. We note that the loss of ticket revenue to the City would be miniscule, as would the cost of the stickers. Some of us come from other cities in which this is common practice.

Thank you very much for reading to the end!

Sincerely,
Pat Thiel

PKTS. 2-01-07
Copy Carol Collings

8



January 20, 2008

City of Ames, Mayor and City Council
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010

To the Mayor and Members of City Council:

The Ames Historical Society sends its sincere thanks for your support of local history with the \$10,000 grant allocated in 2007-08, funded by the Local Option Sales Tax. This amount substantially supports what we are spending to rent our facilities at 416 Douglas and 108 Fifth Street.

We are asking for continued grant support in 2008-09 and are requesting \$15,000. The grant would support rent and utilities at the facilities that are essential to providing service and access to local residents and safe-guarding our historic treasures.

In March 2007, our headquarters moved to 416 Douglas, #101, though we have continued to use our old site at 108 5th for a storage and work area. Our move to Douglas Avenue has resulted in a substantial increase in the numbers of visitors and those seeking help with research. We are open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 1-5pm and some days the staff feels slightly overwhelmed by all those who wish to use our services. In addition to walk-in visitors asking for information, we field many phone calls and e-mails. We assist students with projects and have worked with several publishers to supply photographs. We presented 35 programs to groups large and small in 2007; audiences totaled 1200 people.

In 2007, several City of Ames departments transferred significant numbers of important records and files to our care. A complete list is attached. These items are organized and available for use by patrons.

Our website, www.AmesHistoricalSociety.org now has over 850 pages of content. It hosted 111,285 unique visitors from January 1 to December 31, 2007. A new monthly record of 16,071 visitors was set in November! The site grows each week with new images and stories, and we receive messages regularly from users across the country who are pleased to find information or simply enjoy browsing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Svec, President, headquarters - 515-232-2148

P.O. Box 821
AMES, IOWA 50010
515-232-2148 AMESHISTORICAL@QWEST.NET
WWW.AMESHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG

Ames Historical Society: 1997 - 2007 Comparison

	1997	2007
Membership income and # of members	\$3,132 160 members	\$14,723 membership income 285 members
Other income	\$7,380 (includes 3 grants)	\$27,272 (includes grants, donations, shop & book sales, sale of services)
Total income	\$10,512 total, all sources Building Fund \$0 Operations Endow. \$0	\$41,395 Building Fund \$78,009 Operations Endow. \$16,764
Expenses	\$9,651 included gen. administration, newsletter, postage, printing, special programs, repair costs for two historic sites, museum feasibility study	\$40,688 included gen. admin., rent, utilities, communications, insurance, historic site repairs, advertising, postage, printing, programs, exhibits, artifact collection expenses, part-time staff

Observations – ten years later:

- Increased number of memberships with over half contributing above the minimum level
- Increase in other types of income including fundraisers, museum sales, grants, sale of services
- Establishment and growth of Building Fund and Operations Endowment
- Part time professional staff: administrator, curator, curator's assistants; dedicated volunteers who put in regular hours
- Headquarters facility operating and open regular hours – high number of daily patrons
- Focus on historic collection and activities associated with archiving.
- Extensive program of lectures, exhibits, historic site open hours
- 8-page newsletter and ever-expanding website offering community resources
- Higher profile in community.

Ames Historical Society

INVENTORY OF AMES CITY GOVERNMENT COLLECTIONS

City Cable TV

3,000 video tapes of programming (1988-2001); .5 linear ft. of records; JVC video camera; S-VHS equipment

City Clerk

129 volumes of scrapbooks of city government-related clippings assembled by A.B. Maxwell, Gladys Hultz Meads and Ellen Landon (1930s-1991)

Inspections

3,000+ building plans for new construction and remodeling (1960s to date)

Library

Ames Library Association accession records (1897); Ames Public Library accession records (Sept. 19, 1904 – July 26, 1979); register of borrowers (1904-1908); guest book for new addition and remodeling open house (March 31, 1940); guest book for 50 year jubilee celebration open house (1954); video tour (1985); early accessioned books; Letha M. Davidson personal book collection; 200+ color slides of Little Theater displays (1966-1982) created by display artist, Adele Figura, and examples of her original artwork

Mayors

Photos; papers of Lee Fellingner (1976-1979); papers of Paul Goodland (1980-1989); gold-handled walking cane of Thomas Thompson (1918)

Misc.

City flag (first design); mounted deposit box for paying city bills

Municipal Band

93 boxes of music (1930s-1960s); 1941 poster; 2- wooden music stands

Municipal Building (1915)

Contents of time capsule

Municipal Court

75 ledgers of Civil and Criminal Dockets (1928-1969)

Parks and Recreation

2 wooden signs: "Carr Outdoor Pool 3 blocks," "Municipal Indoor Pool 8 blocks"

Partner Cities

Loja, Ecuador – official documents, correspondence, photos and color slides, scrapbooks and artifacts from delegation to Ames' first sister city from delegation members, Bob Pasley and Don Newbrough (1966); Enzan City, Japan – box of gifts given to delegation member, Dorothy Schumer (1993)

In addition to all of Farwell Brown's research files, transfers from the Library included 129 scrapbooks of clippings about city government assembled by City Clerks, and a lot of old City newsletters.

Inspections Department notified us that they no longer had on-site storage space for current building plans. We agreed to accept these since the City is required to retain a 5-year file. Estimate over 3,000 sets.

On the horizon is a possible transfer from the City Assessor's Office of some 51,000 real estate property cards after they are scanned. Having these cards with detailed information and original photos will be a nice addition to the housing information we already have.

2008 Ames Historical Society Overview

Brief History: Founded in 1980-81 by Ames Historian Farwell Brown to share his interest in Ames history and to gain the assistance he needed to complete the moving and restoration of Ames' first schoolhouse, Hoggatt School. A permanent museum has always been a goal.

Vital Facts:

- Is an incorporated, non-profit, tax exempt 501C3 organization
- Lead by of Board of 12 to 15
- Individual memberships currently ~300 annually
- Income is generated by memberships, donations, gifts, grants, sales of services and historic publications and gift items

Current Status of Association Activities:

Hoggatt School located on grounds of Meeker School

- building owned by Ames School District; historically accurate furnishings owned by AHS
- routine maintenance provided by AHS
- open for tours April 1 – November 1; regular public open hours maintained June – August; numbers of visitors more than doubled over last year!
- special uses by elementary school classes, scout groups and community groups are accommodated
- substantive interpretive program developed by curator, Carol Alexander Phillips

Headquarters Facility

- rent half of ground floor at 416 Douglas for primary headquarters; continue to use old space at 108 5th for storage and work area
- open regular hours (Wed-Fri, 1-5pm); services provided by three part-time staff and key volunteers
- added substantially to our website www.AmesHistoricalSociety.org

Key Current Projects

- established a committee to pursue purchase of 416 Douglas for a permanent facility
- Building Fund grew from \$25, 000 in Dec. 2006 to \$88,000 in Dec. 2007; operations endowment at ~\$17,000 in Dec. 2007
- provided weekly images to Tribune for "From the Archives" feature
- presented 35 programs on local history topics to a variety of groups
- presented two major exhibits at 416 Douglas – Pioneer Homestead and WWII
- added new information to website on a weekly basis
- acquired key Ames artifacts through donation; actively processing artifacts
- active in Main Street Cultural District as a member

Newsletter

- Publish 8-page newsletter to members 4x year that always features local history stories

#9

Ames Smart Growth Alliance

February 3, 2008

Mayor Ann Campbell
Ames City Council
City of Ames
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Mayor Campbell and City Council:

The broad concept of sustainability has caught the attention of policymakers and citizens the world over. It has evolved over time, and much of what the term conveys today is considerably different from what it conveyed a decade ago. Without offering a fully developed definition of a sustainable city at this point, suffice it to say here that a sustainable city is a city that is working hard to promote some operational version of sustainability. Ames has taken positive strides in the last few years on the complex and difficult journey toward sustainability. And, Iowa State University President Geoffrey recently appointed a special committee to advise him on sustainability. We believe that the time is right for the city to continue to become serious about this journey and develop a set of indicators that can be used to monitor our progress. Is the city prepared to overcome barriers that are likely to arise? How can the city convince the public at large that becoming sustainable is important? We believe we can help answer these questions.

On behalf of the Ames Smart Growth Alliance, we are offering our assistance in helping to assess whether the city is moving toward greater sustainability and whether it is doing so efficiently. We have learned that many cities around the country *are* taking sustainability seriously and we believe that there is much information already generated that will assist Ames in developing a comprehensive plan for sustainability. We have also learned that many cities rely on local non-profit organizations to help with planning, implementation and monitoring. We believe that Ames Smart Growth Alliance can be effective in this role. Therefore we are submitting a request for funding in the 2008-09 budget to conduct a study of policies and planning that has occurred in U.S. cities of comparable size that have implemented sustainability plans within the last 5-10 years. We are requesting \$17,000 to cover a stipend for an intern, and anticipated expenses for postage, photocopying, reporting, long-distance phone calls, and supplies.

Ames Smart Growth Alliance was formed in 2006 as a non-profit (501 3c) organization with the overall purpose of helping to improve the quality of life in our community.

Thank you for your kind consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Catherine Scott, President

ASGA Executive Committee:

Erv Klaas
Sue Ravenscroft
Kay Berger
Joe Lynch
Jeff Hall
Holly Fuchs

Getting Serious About Sustainability

A Proposal for Funding to the City of Ames

From
Ames Smart Growth Alliance

Purpose: This is a project to develop a portfolio of options for best practices and indicators of progress for sustainability for the city of Ames.

Objectives:

1. Review the published and unpublished literature on case studies of cities that have adopted policies on sustainability with an eye toward providing some level of detail concerning “best practices” that can be emulated in Ames.
2. Make recommendations for best practices that would be of practical use in Ames.
3. Develop a list of indicators that could be used in Ames to track the progress of policy development and implementation of a sustainability plan.

Introduction: There are numerous works that advocate for the creation of sustainable cities, providing either a conceptual rationale for them, or “how-to” manuals for those involved in their development. (Note: The use of the term “sustainability” in this proposal corresponds to wording similar to that found in the 1987 report of the United Nation’s World Commission on Environment and Development. The Commission put forth the general concept that sustainable economic development must “...meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”) As of 2003, there were at least 25 major cities in the United States that have invested significant amounts of time, resources, and political capital in the development of initiatives to pursue some form of sustainability (Kent E. Portney. *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously*. MIT Press, 2003). This number has undoubtedly grown since Portney’s book was published. The Twin Cities adopted a comprehensive plan in 2005. Portney observed that cities that took sustainability seriously were similar in having strong community relations, perhaps as a result of the process of becoming sustainable.

As of November 2007, more than 700 cities, including Ames have signed the U.S Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement. We congratulate the council on taking this important first step towards initiating a more comprehensive sustainability effort. Many cities are finding that not only is planning for sustainability the right thing to do it enhances the city’s ability to meet economic development goals. Thus, it would be to the city’s advantage to identify specific problems or impediments that were encountered in

other cities so that these problems can be avoided here as the city begins to initiate a more comprehensive sustainability effort.

Methods: Published materials will be obtained from libraries and the internet, reviewed and summarized. Unpublished materials will be requested from a minimum of 10 cities with populations between 50- and 100-thousand, that have adopted or implemented sustainability plans within the last five years. If possible, phone interviews will be conducted with key officials in these cities. In addition, we will consult with Ames city staff, school boards, local business leaders and Iowa State University administrators, students and faculty on a regular schedule throughout the study.

Product: Final Report.

Timetable: Begin literature review July 1, 2008. Draft Report Submitted January 15, 2009. Final Report submitted April 1, 2009

Budget: Intern \$15,000. Supplies, Materials, Postage, Fees, \$2000.

Responsibility for completion of the study will lie with the Ames Smart Growth Alliance. We will actively work with and monitor the project to assure final recommendations fit the Ames community.

Contact: Erwin E. Klaas, 1405 Grand Avenue, Ames, IA 50010. 515-233-3327.

10



"Ken Shaw"
<ksshaw@iastate.edu>
02/04/2008 12:10 PM

To <ETHompson@city.Ames.IA.US>
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Budget request

Budget Proposal for 2008-2009
From: AMOS Environmental Research Team

We commend Mayor Campbell and the Ames City Council for signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and adopting the Cool Cities initiative. Item C.12 of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement directs the City to "Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution". On behalf of A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy (AMOS), we are writing to request funding in the 2008-09 budget for education to fulfill this requirement and we are offering assistance in implementing this component of the commitment.

Formed in 1996 as an affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation, AMOS is a broad-based community effort composed of organizations and institutions in central Iowa including 6 church congregations in Ames. The Environment Research Team of AMOS, in cooperation with the City of Ames and other local groups, would like to assist in providing educational opportunities as described in Item C.12. Therefore, we are requesting the Ames City Council designate \$5000 in the 2008-09 budget to be used for expenses incurred in offering educational programs planned for the fall of 2008. Anticipated expenses include speaker honorariums and travel reimbursement, facility rental, and publicity expenses.

Thank you for your consideration to our request.

Kenneth C. Shaw
Coordinator, AMOS ERT

Get easy, one-click access to your favorites. [Make Yahoo! your homepage.](#)

November 5, 2007

Dear Mayor and City Council:

On behalf of the Environment Research Team (ERT) of AMOS, we want to thank the Ames City Council and Mayor Campbell for adopting the Cool Cities initiative and signing the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. We also want to thank the City staff for beginning implementation of these initiatives.

AMOS, A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy, is a broad-based community organization of churches and organizations in Ames and Des Moines. The mission is to address issues and concerns that affect the common good of the community.

The Environment Research Team of AMOS, with cooperation from other local groups, would like to support the City of Ames in providing educational opportunities to support these initiatives as described in Item C.12 of the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement which reads, "Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution." Within the next month, we will submit a more specific request for funding from the City to support educational efforts which may include public forums and neighborhood programs.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Donna Starck
Alan Baker
Mary Jean Baker
Ken Shaw
Rosemary Osheim
Jim Murdock



January 21, 2008

Her Honor the Mayor, Anne Campbell, and Members of the Ames City Council

Re: Partner Cities Appropriation

Dear Mayor Campbell and Council Members,

For more than ten years the Ames International Partner City Association has enabled the people of Ames to participate in an exchange of home visits with our sister cities of Koshu , Japan and Frýdek-Místek, Czech Republic. The Koshu visits have alternated regularly and our Frýdek-Místek relationship has again been renewed and marked with consistency.

This past year we have been busy entertaining delegations. An adult delegation from Koshu came to Ames in May of 2007 and the youth from Japan came in October of 2007 with the largest delegation yet. After some persistent efforts, we have regained good communication and received an invitation for an Ames delegation of up to 12 people to visit Frýdek-Místek in late September. An unofficial invitation has been extended (pending dates) for Ames Youth and Adult delegations to visit Japan most likely in June 2008 and October 2008, respectively.

We have completed the final stages of hiring an Assistant English Teacher for Koshu and are beginning the process of hiring another teacher for Fall 2008.

The City's annual appropriation of \$3,000 allows these exchanges with Koshu and Frýdek-Místek to continue to be a positive experience and help fulfill our mission statement: to foster and promote friendly relations and mutual understanding between the people of Ames, Iowa and our partner cities abroad.

Your continued support of the Ames International Partner Cities program is significant to the cultural life of our community, and is greatly appreciated.

Yours Truly,

Laura Lynn Boettger, President
Ames International Partner Cities Association, Inc.

#12

AMES PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

January 31, 2008

Mayor Ann Campbell
Members of the City Council
City of Ames
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Mayor Campbell and Council Members:

The Ames Public Art Commission respectfully requests your consideration and approval of our budget for 2008-2009. The Commission is seeking new municipal funds of \$18,000. This is a decrease over last year's request.

As you examine the budget request, please consider the following rationales and events leading to the request for next year:

- The *Ames Resource Recovery Artist-in-Residence Program*, was a joint project between the Ames Public Art Commission and the Ames Resource Recovery Plant that began in August 2006 and was the brainchild of a former PAC committee member. It was originally expected to be an annual program with partial support from outside grants, but the PAC was unsuccessful in securing state funding for this purpose. While this project is a very creative and worthwhile venture, the PAC feels the need to regroup and reorganize the Artist in Residence committee. For this reason, we will not use the 2007-08 allocation of \$7,500 and are not requesting additional money for this project in 2008-09. However, the PAC seeks approval to reallocate \$5,000 of the current year's budget for any unforeseen expenses associated with the Ada Hayden Park project, and the remaining \$2,500 to the City Hall Collection committee to begin the artwork appraisal and restoration project described in the next item.
- The City Hall/Permanent Art Collection Committee has been reviewing the status of the artwork in the City's permanent collection. Several pieces are in immediate need of repair (i.e., new glass, new/repaired framing, different display techniques, etc.). In addition to the immediate repairs that have been noted, the committee desires to conduct a 6-month review of the status of the remainder of the collection. We request \$3,000 for an *artwork appraisal and restoration project* in the next fiscal year. As was noted above, we also respectfully request permission to reallocate \$2,500 from the 2007-08 Artist in Residence Budget to begin the needed assessment and repairs immediately.
- The Public Art Commission has enlisted North Carolina artist, Patrick Dougherty, for an *Art for the Parks project at Ada Hayden Heritage Park*. His process will have a low impact on the natural environment in the park and will leave a work of art that will last approximately two years. Planning for this project began over three years ago with much progress over this past year. Preliminary work on the project will begin this spring with project installation in October 2008. The City Council previously allocated a total of \$18,000 for this project, which should be augmented by cash and/or in-kind donations from Iowa State University. Since this project requires much work in the fall beyond the 2007-08 budget, we request \$3,000 for this project in the next fiscal year. As was mentioned above, we also respectfully request permission to reallocate \$5,000 from the Artist in Residence Budget to the Ada Hayden project.

AMES PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Note: Unused funding from the Ada Hayden Art project could be reserved and utilized for the next *Art in the Parks* project.

The remainder of the funds requested for fiscal year 2008-2009 will continue programs from previous years:

- We are in the midst of planning for this year's *Art Around the Corner* exhibition and have requested funds for a continued annual exhibition next year;
- *The Neighborhood Sculpture program* is now in its fourth year and we have included a request for funds for next year for that program as well. This program gains interest each year and continues our opportunity to place art throughout Ames and to expand the art collection and display from the downtown area;
- The *Education Committee* completed the Ames Art Walking Tour and Map brochure in FY 2008 and requests additional funds for a continuing promotional program and to update the website.

2008-2009 Budget Requests:

Ada Hayden Park Project	\$3,000
Art Around the Corner	\$4,500
Education	\$2,500
Neighborhood Sculpture Program	\$4,000
City Hall/Permanent Collections	\$3,000
<u>Operating</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total Request	\$18,000

2007-2008 Approved Budget & Recommended Reallocations:

	Approved	Reallocate
Ada Hayden Park Project	\$ 16,518	\$ 21,518
Artist-in-Residence Project	\$ 7,500	\$ 0
Art Around the Corner	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
Education	\$ 7,300	\$ 7,300
Neighborhood Sculpture	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
City Hall/Permanent Collections	\$ 0	\$ 2,500
<u>Operating</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
Totals	\$ 40,818	\$ 40,818

Public Art Commission accomplishments and business of the past year:

Art Around the Corner: This is the longest running program of the PAC and continues with its 11th annual exhibition in 2007-08. We also instituted a "Best in Show" award with the winner selected by the public in attendance at last fall's Octagon Arts Festival (see below). Planning for the 12th annual exhibition is underway. The jury just completed its deliberations and selected six works for this coming spring's installation.

Neighborhood Sculpture: This past summer, PAC installed three pieces of art in neighborhoods around Ames. They include "Window on a Blue Garden" in the Master Gardener plot on the corner of Delaware and North Dakota Avenues, "Symphony" in Brookside Park, and "Dance of the Prairie Dawn" on Pierce Court. The program continues to gain popularity and garners increased interest from throughout Ames.

AMES PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Ada Hayden Park Project: Artist Patrick Dougherty visited Ames and Ada Hayden Park in June as the first step in this "Art for the Parks" project. The Public Art Commission and the Department of Parks and Recreation continue to work closely with Mr. Dougherty as we recruit volunteers for the project in anticipation of installation in Fall 2008.

Education: The walking tour map for use in the downtown areas and throughout Ames was completed and distributed in FY 2008. The committee continues to work on the website and is now exploring the following potential initiatives for next year:

- An Annual Public Art Competition for children K-12
- A program for the promotion and rotation of Public Art throughout public spaces located within local businesses and other public venues
- A public art competition for local professional artists, Iowa State University students, and post high school artists-in-training
- PAC semi-annual grants to local artists to increase the amount of public art
- PAC & City of Ames sponsorship and supplementation of fees for design services of architects and designers hired by developers and contractors for civic and private buildings

Specific programs will be considered by the entire PAC membership and will be brought to the City Council for approval prior to implementation.

The Octagon Arts Festival: We collaborated again this year with other organizations to have an informational booth at the festival. This year we asked for votes for the "Best in Show" for the favorite sculpture in the current Art Around the Corner collection. "Beast" by Dave Johnson was chosen as the favorite and the artist was awarded \$500.

Americans for the Arts: We renewed our membership in this national organization. This provides a great chance to see what is going on in other communities, stay apprised of trends and funding opportunities, and participate in their informational programs that allow us to tap into public service announcements and other promotional materials at low or no cost.

Public Art Commission Website: We continue to work with City staff to develop and enhance the web site. Cathy Gersema in the City Manager's office is a valuable asset as she monitors the art collection list, receives applications on-line and assists the Commission with several processes.

The Public Art Commission continues to appreciate the work of our liaison, Assistant City Manager Bob Kindred, for his efforts on our behalf. Bob spends a lot of time negotiating contracts, communicating with artists and city staff and assisting with site preparation for the PAC. He keeps us well informed on issues and opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the City of Ames.

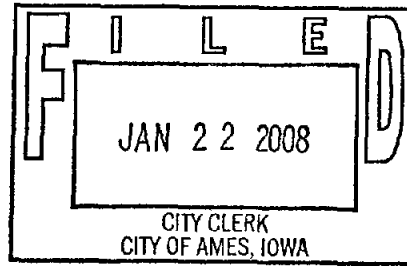
Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stephany
Chair, Ames Public Art Commission

Steve Kawaler
Finance Chair, Ames Public Art Commission

13

Photo 1-25-08
Copy Carol Collings



January 22, 2008

To the Ames Commission on the Arts:

As the city council prepares to approve the budget for fiscal year '08-'09, I would like to express my concern with COTA's recommendation to award what seems to be a disproportionately large sum of money (\$11,000) to the Story Theater Company ("STC").

As president of another arts organization in Ames, I have several concerns about this award. First, I fear that granting \$11,000 to an organization with such a high salary component in its budget will have a negative effect on volunteerism in the arts. Second, I am surprised that COTA has recommended funding nearly 20% (when salaries are subtracted) of STC's budget. Finally, I question the relative size of STC's budget (\$91,500) given the limited nature of its proposed programming.

Although volunteerism has traditionally been a cornerstone of arts organizations in Ames, STC has chosen to use more than half of its budget as compensation (\$36,000 for administrators, and another \$16,000 for the undergraduates who produce its shows). Of course, STC is entitled to pay its administrators and student helpers whatever it chooses. However, by rewarding this sort of financial structure, I wonder at the message that COTA and the council would be sending to other local arts organizations which, for years, have strived to maintain conservative budgets and have relied heavily on volunteer work. Will we all have more difficulty recruiting volunteers to serve on our boards; or will we be forced to follow suit and begin compensating those who formerly contributed their time, so that we can remain "competitive" in the non-profit world?

With this philosophy in mind, and for comparison, Town & Gown's Artistic Director is an expert in the field of chamber music and has even served as program coordinator for the chamber music series at the Library of Congress. She is responsible for the artistic aspects of our organization, the business negotiations with the artists, and acts as a liaison to the community at large. Given her level of expertise, the requirements of the position, and her salary of only \$10,260, she is essentially a volunteer. No one else on our board is paid for their services which include grant writing, fundraising, and publicity, and which are equivalent to those of the professional staff in a concert office. Perhaps our thinking on this is outdated, but giving generously of one's time to worthwhile community service can be a reward in and of itself.

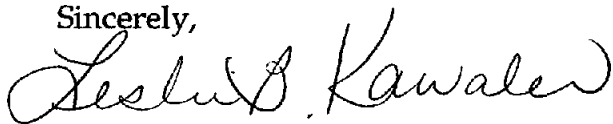
My second question concerns the percentage of STC's budget which COTA has recommended funding. Because COTA may not fund salaries, it is appropriate to remove the \$36,000 administrative salary portion from STC's budget to analyze what percentage COTA has recommended funding. In this case, it is nearly 20%. This seems rather out of line in terms of the Commission's other funding recommendations. While COTA is certainly under no obligation to spread funding "evenly" among its grantees, I question what the Commission saw in STC's grant application that made it worthy of such a large award.

My third concern is with the size of STC's budget compared to that of other arts organizations in Ames. Town & Gown brings professional, world-class artists/ensembles to our community to present five concerts and at least two educational outreach events each season. As you can imagine, this is a rather costly endeavor. Surprisingly, our budget is \$20,000 lower than that of STC which plans to present two children's shows (for which the cast members are charged between \$75 and \$150) and several workshops (for which each student is charged on the order of \$400). Has COTA compared STC's budget and programming to that of other similar organizations? It seems that most grantees have tried to be ultraconservative with their money (foregoing offices and salaries for example) so that COTA dollars can be used to maximum effect in the community. I question whether STC is delivering appropriate value to this community for the \$11,000 in taxpayer money it is slated to receive.

Finally, I would suggest that, in the future, COTA members attend a sampling of programming from each organization that requests funding. Town & Gown has a 58-year proven track record of bringing quality music to Ames. We give back to the community by admitting students to our concerts free of charge and providing at least two educational outreach events each season which are always free and open to the public. I would be proud to invite COTA members to any of our programs so that you can be assured that the taxpayer money we are so grateful to receive is well spent.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Leslie B. Kawaler
President,
Ames Town & Gown Chamber Music Association

cc: Sheila Lundt
Ames City Council

2-08-08 PKTs.
Copy Carol C.



Memo

#14

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Maggie Luttrell

DATE: February 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Student Appreciation Year-End Event – April 2008

The Welcome Back Ames Event that was initiated and carried out by the City of Ames in August of 2007 was a great welcoming event for ISU students. My goal in my monetary request is to have a joint activity similar to this event where GSB and the City of Ames would be partners in this endeavor.

The student appreciation year-end event would occur April 21, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Campustown Fire Station. The objective of this event is 1) to educate students staying in Ames over the summer months and 2) to thank ISU students for a great, successful year. The entities that I would like to see present at this event are: Parks and Recreation, Electric, Water, Police, Fire, GSB, Mayor/City Council, ISUPD, and potentially the Chamber of Commerce. Each of these entities are vital to the success of ISU students and Ames as a college community.

The information needed would be along the lines of promoting summer events and programs from Parks and Recreation, conservation in electricity and water, parking code and housing code education from Police and Fire, GSB promoting their position as a governing body for students, along with Mayor/City Council and ISUPD gaining more networking and community outreach opportunities, and the Chamber of Commerce providing information about summer jobs.

Having this educationally fun opportunity for ISU students and members of the community would be a progressive, instrumental step in gaining student's understanding of city rules, utilities, and local government. I am suggesting the City contribute \$2,000 to this event. This would be a perfect opportunity to educate students, while having some spring-time fun after VEISHEA and before finals week.

Sheila K Lundt/COA
02/08/2008 03:19 PM

To Sharon J Hjortshoj/COA@COA
cc
bcc
Subject FACES request

#15

The Breaking Down the Barriers group is in the process of working with the members of the Human Relations Commission to present FACES 2008 on March 29, 2008. The Council currently has \$1,500 set aside in both 2007/08 and 2008/09 for support of this event in the Hotel/Motel Tax funds. In order to expand particularly the marketing and promotion of the celebration, the FACES organizing group would ask that the City consider increasing this amount to a maximum of \$5,000 in each of those years.

This event has drawn a good cross-section of the population of our community the past several years, both as participants and presenters. As we emphasize the positive impacts of living in a diverse community, this is a good event to help in that effort.