CITY OF ST. GEORGE



175 East 200 North St. George, Utah 84770

January 4, 2008

Washington County Historical Society PO Box 404 St. George, UT 84771

RE: RENOVATION PROJECT – 3^{RD} FLOOR – HISTORIC DIXIE ACADEMY BUILDING

The City of St. George is seeking a grant to provide assistance in the funding of a restoration project for the 3rd floor of the historic Dixie Academy building in downtown St. George.

On October 15, 2007, the City of St. George celebrated the completion of the new Town Square (see attached *Salt Lake Tribune* article). This block is anchored at its four corners by the following buildings:

Historic Woodward School (now the home of the Washington County School District), Historic St. George Tabernacle Historic Old Dixie Academy (the subject of this grant application) Washington County Library (new building constructed in a historic motif to match the other historic buildings.)

The Town Square is comprised of outdoor plaza is in the center of the block, with an amphitheater, picnic area, open space, central tower, and an interactive fountain. (See attached schematics.)

Since 2003 the City of St. George has taken several steps to prepare for this final stage of restoration efforts. An elevator was installed at an approximate cost of \$300,000, which the City funded. Great pains were taken to build the elevator tower out of cut sandstone to approximate the original stone on the building.

Demolition of the interior space (portions built and added after the original construction) including a stage, seating, walls and ceilings have been gutted in anticipation of the planned restoration. Cost for this preparation work was approximately \$150,000, also covered by the City of St. George.

Previous to 2003, the City of St. George completed other restoration projects on other parts of the building that includes the following:

- Four of the six classrooms on the lower level were renovated. This process included new concrete floor, sheer walls between rooms to protect the structure in the case of an earthquake, new ceilings, wall treatments, window frames and windows, new electric wiring and lighting, HVAC units in each room, some new doors and locks, and carpeting.
- The second or main floor has a new entry and railings, new wall finishes and sheer walls in six offices and four classrooms, new flooring materials (carpet and faux wood), wall treatments and carpet in the hallway, some new doors and locks, window frames and windows, and restroom improvements.
- The external building also has a new roof, drainage system around the building, new landscaping, fencing, handicap access, and power transformer.
- The rock on the building was repointed at the front of the building, and some areas were replastered. New railings were also added to the front steps.

This fiscal year (July 07-June 08) the city has budgeted \$1,000,000 toward this final stage project. The total cost is \$1,500,000. Work is moving forward on this project but will not be completed if other funds are not found.

Funding in the amount of \$1,000 is requested to assist in the local fundraising efforts to complete this project and assist in other fundraising matching efforts.

The Old Dixie Academy and the third floor in particular, remain a vital component of the overall vision for historic downtown. As groups plan their activities centered in the new Town Square, they are enthusiastic about the possibility of incorporating the renovated third floor into their events and activities.

Respectfully submitted,

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Community Arts Administrator

Attachments









