



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. X. M
12/31/2024

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Concurrence with the Oklahoma City Economic Development Trust in approving the Economic Development Agreement with the First Americans Museum Foundation, to assist in creating the Family Discovery Center, 659 First Americans Boulevard, not to exceed \$2,000,000. Ward 7.

Location:

659 First Americans Boulevard

Background:

The City of Oklahoma City (City) assumed responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the First Americans Museum (FAM) upon its opening in September of 2021. The City has designated the Oklahoma City Economic Development Trust (OCEDT or Trust) the entity to assume those maintenance and operation obligations on the City's behalf.

On March 29, 2019, the City and OCEDT contracted with the First Americans Museum Foundation (Foundation) to manage, operate, oversee, maintain and market FAM (Operations Agreement). The Operations Agreement requires the Foundation to prepare and submit to the OCEDT General Manager a proposed budget in February of each year for the upcoming fiscal year. For fiscal year 2024-2025, the Foundation submitted a budget of \$4,000,000 which was approved by OCEDT and the City, for operations of FAM.

Per Senate Bill 31x passed in 2023, the State of Oklahoma provided \$5,000,000 for FAM operations, which is funding the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget, as well as \$1,000,000 utilized in fiscal year 2023-2024 to cover an operational deficit and increase working reserves.

The Foundation has desired for many years to create the Discovery Center, but plans were delayed due to funding issues. However, to date the Foundation has raised nearly \$3,000,000 in private donations. A grant agreement with another foundation commits an additional \$1,500,000 but said foundation funds are contingent upon the City and/or OCEDT contributing the final \$2,000,000 needed to make the Center a reality; and

On September 24, 2024, Council adopted a Joint Resolution approving an allocation of \$4,000,000 in City General Funds to the First Americans Museum Foundation (Foundation), with \$2,000,000 of said amount to be used for expenditures in furtherance of the completion of a Family Discovery Center Exhibition at the First Americans Museum (FAM) to be completed no later than the

Summer of 2025, and with the remaining \$2,000,000 to be placed in a reserve fund with OCEDT to be used for future operations, maintenance and/or capital improvement needs at FAM, under terms and conditions to be approved in writing and executed by the Foundation, the City, and OCEDT. OCEDT and the Foundation have negotiated an Agreement, in an amount, not to exceed \$2,000,000, for furtherance of the completion of the Discovery Center.

Cost:

Not to exceed \$2,000,000

Source of Funds:

First Americans Museum > OCEDT > OKC Economic Development Trust > FAM > Professional Services-Other (7460 > 1400599 > ED0980 > 52040046)

Recommendation: Concur with the Trust in approving the Agreement(s).