

MEMO

To: Mayor and Ames City Council Members

From: Steven L. Schainker, City Manager

Date: April 14, 2026

Subject: Resolution Approving \$1,500 for Ames: A Glimpse Inside Event

BACKGROUND:

During budget wrap-up session the City Council discussed a request for \$1,500 to support the Ames: Inside Glimpse Event which is scheduled for October 17, 2026. This event is hosted by an ad-hoc group of six Ames residents which includes Sharon Wirth as the Chairperson.

The goal of this event is to inform others about historic preservation, Ames' rich history, and the City's many historic treasures. By creating an event showcasing historic architectural resources, the organizers hope to raise awareness and appreciation for these resources.

The budget for the event is shown below. **In current fiscal year this event was paid partially from unspent funds allocated to the Ames Historic Preservation Commission (AHPC). For the upcoming event on October 17, 2026 the AHPC voted in March to provide \$1,500 from their FY 2026/27 budget allocation of \$2,000.**

Should the City Council prefer that another funding source be identified so as not to use the HPC's budget allocation for this purpose, another source could from the City Council's FY 2026/27 Contingency Account.

The proposed budget for the Glimpse event includes:

- \$ 960 for bollard, wire, and real estate signs for advertising
- \$ 445 for posters and post cards for pre-event publicity
- \$ 642 for design and formatting print materials
- \$ 664 for storyboards
- \$ 800 for printing brochures
- \$ 33 for bottled water for host and volunteers
- \$ 550 for graphic design fees

\$ 420 for participation survey gifts

\$ 500 for contingencies

\$5,014 for Total Project Costs

OPTIONS:

1) The City Council could decide to support the Ames Historic Preservation Commission's recommendation to fund the \$1,500 for the Glimpse event from their FY 2026/27 budget allocation.

2) The City Council could decide to fund the \$1,500 for the Glimpse event from the FY 2026/27 Council's Contingency Account.

REQUESTED CITY COUNCIL DIRECTION:

At the budget wrap-up session, I indicated support for funding the Glimpse event for the \$1,500. The questions before the City Council is whether to support funding for this event and, if so, should the \$1,500 come from the FY 2026/27 Council Contingency Account or from the budget allocation for the AHPC.

Assuming the City Council supports funding the event from either source, it has been agreed that the Ames Foundation will serve as the financial agent for the volunteer group. All bills for the event, up to \$1,500, will be submitted to the City's Finance Director by the Foundation for reimbursement.