



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: MAY 7, 2019**
FROM: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**
SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE MUSEUM AND THE HARADA HOUSE FOUNDATION

ISSUE:

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Riverside Metropolitan Museum (now the Museum of Riverside) and the Harada House Foundation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Riverside Metropolitan Museum (now the Museum of Riverside) and the Harada House Foundation for a term of twelve (12) months, to renew automatically for additional terms of twelve (12) months, unless otherwise terminated;
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Riverside Metropolitan Museum (now the Museum of Riverside) and the Harada House Foundation, including making minor, nonsubstantive changes.

BACKGROUND:

The National Historic Landmark Harada House (Harada House) was donated to the City by Harada family heirs in 2003. Since that time, funds have been expended to arrest further deterioration and respond to weather-related emergencies, as well as to offer interpretation of the Harada story on other sites. Due to the compromised structural condition of the house, it has not been possible to open it to the public or offer interpretation on site since the acquisition of the house.

The Harada House Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, was founded on August 2, 2017, to "solicit, receive and utilize funds for the preservation, restoration, maintenance and operation of the National Historic Landmark Harada House," a property owned by the City of Riverside and operated by the Museum.

On January 22, 2019, City Council approved the accession of Harada House into the Museum's permanent collection.

DISCUSSION:

In order to proceed with rehabilitation of Harada House to a high standard of historic preservation and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, a significant level of funding will be required. The expectation is that this funding will be generated from sources other than the City of Riverside. The Harada House Foundation was founded to provide a focused entity to solicit and receive such funding. Because the Harada House Foundation will be operating on behalf of a property it does not own or operate, both entities desired clarity on the scope of activities to be undertaken and the communications to occur between the two entities.

Therefore, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed to establish the standards, terms, and conditions for the collaboration between the Harada House Foundation and the Museum of Riverside for the benefit of the National Historic Landmark Harada House and adjacent Robinson House. The initial term of the MOU is 12 months and will automatically renew each year unless otherwise terminated.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by:	Robyn G. Peterson, Ph.D., Museum Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by:	Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager

Attachment:	Memorandum of Understanding between the Riverside Metropolitan Museum and the Harada House Foundation
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