

# Memorandum



DATE: November 7, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:  
Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates,  
Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: **Dallas Firefighters Museum**

On Monday, November 10, 2014, you will be briefed on the Dallas Firefighters Museum.  
The briefing materials are attached for your review.



Eric D. Campbell  
Assistant City Manager

## Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager  
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

A Tradition Since 1872  
A Reality Since 1972



Public Safety Committee

November 10, 2014

# The “Fair Park Fire Station”



- ◆ Fire Station #5 located on Parry Avenue was known locally as the “Fair Park Fire Station”
  - Built in 1907
  - Construction materials came from Texas
  - Staffed with a horse drawn ladder truck and an Asst. Chief



- ◆ Station Firsts
  - Housed a horse hospital
  - First electronic station notification system was installed (“Joker” system)
  - Apparatus had one-way radio

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## - History



- ◆ Planning for museum began as early as 1966
- ◆ Registered as a State chartered organization in 1970
- ◆ Museum began using the station under a letter of agreement in 1971 from City Manager W. S. McDonald
- ◆ The Museum was officially founded in 1972 with a Board of Directors and By-Laws

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – History continued



- Museum was designated as a Dallas Landmark in 1976
- Located directly across Parry Avenue from Fair Park, the Dallas Firefighters Museum is now considered part of the Fair Park Museum collection
- Joint venture of the City of Dallas, the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department and a non-profit 501(c)3 organization

# CURRENT OPERATIONS....



- ◆ Operated by the Dallas Firefighters' Museum, Inc.
- ◆ Museum Staff
  - Paid Curators (former Dallas Firefighters)
  - Volunteer staff and Board of Directors
    - ◆ Speak to civic groups
    - ◆ Participate in numerous community events
    - ◆ Host retiree's annual luncheon



# PRESERVING OUR HISTORY



- The mission of the Museum is to preserve and share the history of the Dallas Fire Department
- Over 2,000 Historical artifacts include:
  - Equipment
  - Apparatus
  - Memorabilia

# PRESERVING OUR HISTORY



- Thousands of documents depicting daily station operations and major events in the City's history are being preserved for future generations.



# SHARING THE HISTORY.....



## ◆ Museum Visitors

- 3,500 year
- 60% children, 40% adults

## ◆ Hours

- Wednesday thru Saturday
- 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – The Future



- ◆ Remodeling back to original 1907 building facade (interior and exterior)
- ◆ Improving comfort of building (climate control)
- ◆ Improving access for all (ADA compliant)

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – The Future



- ◆ Develop an interactive Educational Center to teach fire safety
- ◆ Partner with school districts and youth organizations to provide safety education

# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – Continuing the Tradition

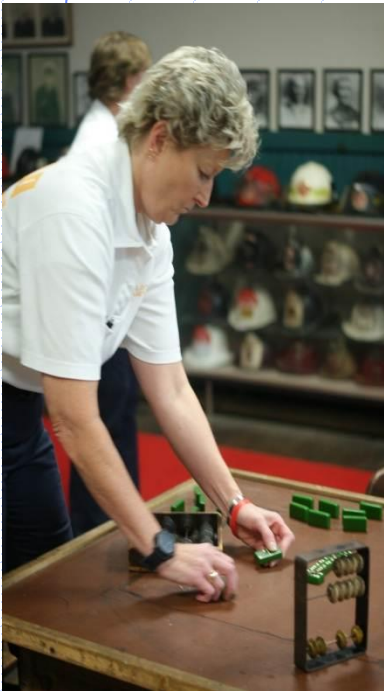
- ◆ Current Lease Terms - City Council approved lease agreement by Resolution 07-1749 on June 13, 2007

### Long term lease – 30 years

- ◆ Lease rate - \$1 annually
- ◆ City may terminate the lease anytime after the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the lease

### City responsibilities –

- ◆ Maintain the foundation, roof, exterior walls, main piping and central air and heating for premises
- ◆ Provide Utilities



# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – Progress to Date

- ◆ Established goal of \$5M capital campaign to renovate Museum which will include a state of the art interactive education center and to establish a \$5M operating and endowment account
- ◆ Selected architectural firm of Good, Fulton & Farrell to develop renovation feasibility and programming study
- ◆ Suggested floor plans have been approved by Museum Board of Directors
- ◆ Construction Management firm selected and retained



# DALLAS FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM

## – Progress to Date

- ◆ Retained Dini Counsel to conduct a feasibility study into raising \$10M for the renovations to the building, the addition of an Interactive Education Center, and endowment fund
- ◆ Dini concluded this is a viable project with the following recommendations:
  - Postpone fundraising activities until 2014 due to current economic conditions
  - Seek sponsorships as well as donations
  - Allow 18 months to raise \$5M for renovations and the education center once public fund raising has begun



## EXTERIOR VIEW

RESTORED BUILDING EXTERIOR  
Dallas Firefighters Museum



Good Fulton & Farrell Architects

2808 Fairmont Street  
Suite 202  
Dallas, Texas 75201

214.363.1500 Fax  
214.363.1512 Phone  
www.gff.com



FIRST FLOOR VIEW  
RENOVATED EXHIBIT SPACE  
Dallas Firefighters Museum



Good Fulton & Farrell Architects

2808 Fairview Street  
Suite 202  
Dallas, Texas 75201

214.363.5300 Fax  
214.363.5322/214  
www.gff.com



- 1 DORMITORY
- 2 FIRE POLE
- 3 SCRATCH & SNIFF
- 4 911 SIMULATOR
- 5 DIAL-A-BELT
- 6 HAZARD HOUSE
- 7 BEDROOM SAFETY
- 8 SEASONAL HAZARDS
- 9 FIREMAX THEATER



SECOND FLOOR VIEW

INTERACTIVE FIRE EDUCATION CENTER  
Dallas Firefighters Museum



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# Preserving our past...



**For our future!**

# Questions?

