

Sponsored by: Shealy

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION 2004-052**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD,  
ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND STAFF TO  
APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM "SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES" IN  
ORDER TO STABILIZE AND PRESERVE THE JESSE LEE HOME**

**WHEREAS**, the Jesse Lee Home is one of Seward's nine properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jesse Lee Home is in dire need of stabilization and preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Seward Historic Preservation Commission recently learned of the "Save America's Treasures" grant program, which has funds available for restoring historic properties; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager and staff are requesting Council authorization to apply for a grant from "Save America's Treasures"; and

**WHEREAS**, this type of a grant requires a one hundred percent (100%) match which will be sought from the Rasmuson Foundation and other non-City sources; and

**WHEREAS**, if matching sources are not obtained, the grant will not be used and the City will not incur any costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska appropriated grant funds totaling \$65,000 for a historic structure report for the Jesse Lee Home in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, the historic structure report was produced by ECI/Hyer, Inc. in conjunction with the Jesse Lee Home Advisory Board and was approved by Council Resolution 2003-57; and

**WHEREAS**, the historic structure report can be used as a supporting document for applying for grant money for stabilization and rehabilitation of the structure.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA that:**

**Section 1.** The City Manager and staff are authorized to apply for a grant from "Save America's Treasures" for the Jesse Lee Home.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the city of Seward, Alaska, this 10th day of May, 2004.

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION 2004-052**

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**THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA**

*Vanta Shafer*  
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**Vanta Shafer, Mayor**

AYES: Branson, Valdatta, Clark, Amberg, Shafer  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Dunham  
ABSTAIN: None

**ATTEST:**

*Jean Lewis*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Lewis  
City Clerk



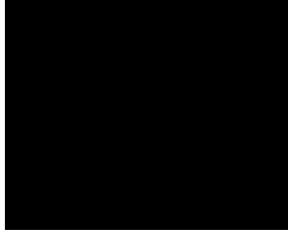
# Council Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: May 10, 2004

Through: Phil Shealy, City Manager

From: Malcolm G. Brown, Planner

Agenda Item: Council authorization to apply for a grant from  
"Save America's Treasures" for the Jesse Lee Home



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## **BACKGROUND & JUSTIFICATION:**

In 2002 the Alaska State Legislature appropriated \$65,000 for the City of Seward for a historic structure report for the Jesse Lee Home, one of the nine properties in Seward which are on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic structure report was prepared by ECI/Hyer, Inc., under the guidance provided through Council by the Jesse Lee Home Advisory Board, which was made up of citizens appointed by Council. The historic structure report was approved by Council Resolution 2003-53 in May of 2003. The report was then forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for presentation to the Legislature in order to obtain subsequent funding for structure stabilization and rehabilitation. Due to State revenue constraints, the State has not been able to provide funding for stabilization during this budget cycle.

The Seward Historic Preservation Commission has learned that "Save America's Treasures" is a grant source for historic structures needing stabilization and preservation. The grants are administered by the National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. The minimum grant request for historic property projects is \$250,000 for the Federal share, the maximum grant request is \$1 million dollars.

The grants require a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match, which can be cash, donated services or use of equipment. The intent is to communicate with the Rasmuson Foundation to see if they will be able to provide a match or locate another entity which can provide matching funds for this type of an activity. If the grant is received and no matches are found, the grant would not be used and the City would not incur any costs.

Diane Kaplan is the President and CEO for the Rasmuson Foundation, and has been enthusiastic about the Jesse Lee Home's prospects for rehabilitation. Staff has kept her apprised of ongoing efforts by the Seward Historic Preservation Commission to publicize the need to rehabilitate the Jesse Lee Home. Staff is thankful both for the guidance she has given on grant procedures and contacts and that she has also stated that the Rasmuson Foundation has invited a proposal.

The grant application will build on the stabilization recommendations in the historic structure report and will use the cost estimates in the report. The long range goal after stabilization is to rehabilitate the structure, and find a long term user who will develop it in such a manner that it will still be recognized for its historical significance, and have a memorial for the Alaska flag which would be a public resource available for commemorative and community events and ceremonies.

**CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST:**

	Yes	No
1. Comprehensive Plan (1990) The Comprehensive Plan supports saving historic buildings.	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
2. Strategic Plan (1999) The Strategic Plan encourages the recognition, rehabilitation and preservation of Historic Sites and Buildings.	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>

**FISCAL NOTE:** Applying for this grant will have no costs to the City other than the staff time. If the grant is received and a donor is not found to provide the match, the grant will not be used and the City will not incur any costs.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Council approve Resolution 2004-052, authorizing the City Manager and staff to request a grant from “Save America’s Treasures” for the Jesse Lee Home.