

CITY COUNCIL REPORT



Meeting Date: **June 23, 2026**
General Plan Element: **Economic Development**
General Plan Goal: ***Manage land uses to enhance economic development while protecting neighborhoods.***

ACTION

Little Red School House Lease Adopt Resolution No. 13652 authorizing Contract No. 1990-122-COS-A3, an amendment to the lease with Scottsdale Historical Society, Inc. for use of the Little Red School House property at 7333 Scottsdale Mall.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this action is to approve an amended Lease Agreement between the City and the Scottsdale Historical Society Inc. for use of the Little Red School House at 7333 Scottsdale Mall.

On July 1, 1991, City Council authorized a lease with the Scottsdale Historical Society, a non-profit organization, to occupy the Little Red School House. The lease required the School House to be open to the public and operated as the Scottsdale Historical Museum.

The lease was amended in 1997 related to utility payments, and admission fees subsequent amendment in 2018 was related to maintenance responsibilities.

The Lease has been extended several times, the most recent extension ends on June 30, 2026.

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

In 2025, the Society welcomed more than 21,000 visitors. The museum hosted and participated in eight events or activities as well as multiple featured exhibits throughout the year. Over 60 volunteer docents worked 2,258 hours, welcoming visitors and sharing stories and facts about Scottsdale history. The Scottsdale Historical Society provides an annual financial and status report demonstrating their accomplishments, events, and activities.

The purpose of the amendment is to renew the agreement for an additional five-year period and to provide for reduced operating hours for the museum. The amendment will allow any future five-year renewals to be approved and executed administratively by the City Manager.

The Scottsdale Historical Museum will be open as follows:

- September (beginning the second Wednesday in September) and May, Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Sunday, noon - 4pm.

Action Taken _____

- October through April, Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday, noon - 4pm.

The Scottsdale Historical Museum will be closed for three months in June, July and August for redesigning or adding exhibits. In addition, the museum will be closed for the following holidays: Thanksgiving (Thursday and Friday), Christmas Eve afternoon, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve afternoon, New Year's Day, Good Friday, and Easter.

The original lease agreement states that the hours of operation will be Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, noon to 4:00 p.m.; therefore, this amendment represents a reduction in hours of operation for the "shoulder season" months of September and May. This reflects decreased tourist visitation and docent availability during those months.

There is a public purpose for the establishment of the Little Red School House operated as the Scottsdale Historical Museum providing citizens of Scottsdale and visitors with a cultural awareness of the history of Scottsdale and the Southwest.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

Staffing, Workload Impact

No additional staffing or other resources are anticipated as a result of this lease agreement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 13652 authorizing Contract No. 1990-122-COS-A3, an amendment to the lease with Scottsdale Historical Society, Inc. for use of the Little Red School House property at 7333 Scottsdale Mall.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

Economic Development & Tourism

STAFF CONTACT(S)

Kevin Burke, Senior Director Economic Development & Tourism, 480-312-2533,
KBurke@scottsdaleaz.gov

APPROVED BY

Kevin Burke

Kevin Burke, Senior Director Economic Development & Tourism
480-312-2533, kburke@scottsdaleaz.gov

6/9/26 10:00 MST

Date

Scott Selin

Scott Selin, Budget Director
(For Financial Policies Compliance and Budget Appropriation)
480-312-2603 sselin@scottsdaleaz.gov

6/9/26 10:16 MST

Date

Judy Doyle

Judy Doyle, Deputy City Manager
480-312-2691, jdoyle@scottsdaleaz.gov

6/9/26 10:58 MST

Date

Greg Caton

Greg Caton, City Manager
480-312-7759, gcaton@scottsdaleaz.gov

6/9/26 11:07 MST

Date

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 13652
2. Agreement No. 1990-122-COS-A3

RESOLUTION NO. 13652

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING CONTRACT NO. 1990-122-COS-A3, THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE WITH SCOTTSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., FOR THE USE OF THE PROPERTY AT 7333 SCOTTSDALE MALL.

WHEREAS, the City is the owner of the property at 7333 Scottsdale Mall;

WHEREAS, the City leased the property to the Scottsdale Historical Society on July 1, 1991, to be operated as the Scottsdale Historical Museum;

WHEREAS, the lease has been amended twice and extended several times for additional five-year terms as allowed by the lease;

WHEREAS, the most recent extension ends on June 30, 2026, and the parties desire to amend the lease for another five-year term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City of Scottsdale, Contract No. 1990-122-COS-A3, a lease with Scottsdale Historical Society, Inc., for the use of the property at 7333 Scottsdale Mall.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona this ____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

Ben Lane, City Clerk

Lisa Borowsky, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Luis E. Santaella, City Attorney

THIRD AMENDMENT TO LEASE

THIS THIRD AMENDMENT TO LEASE is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2026, by and between the CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, a municipal corporation (“Lessor”), and SCOTTSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., an Arizona non-profit corporation (“Lessee”).

RECITALS

A. Lessee is the lessee and Lessor is the lessor under that certain Lease (the “Lease”) dated July 1, 1991 of premises consisting of a certain building (the “Schoolhouse”) located at 7333 Scottsdale Mall, commonly known as the “Little Red Schoolhouse”.

B. The Lease requires that the Schoolhouse be operated and open to the public as the Scottsdale Historical Museum.

C. The Lease was amended by the First Amendment to Lease in 1997, relating to reimbursements for utility payments and admission fees.

D. The Lease was amended by the Second Amendment to Lease in 2018 to address maintenance responsibilities.

E. The Lease allows five-year extensions upon mutual agreement of the parties.

F. The Lease has been extended several times and the most recent extension ends on June 30, 2026.

G. The parties now desire to further amend the Lease to change the required hours of operation, extend the Lease for an additional five-year period and allow future extensions to be done administratively.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and the covenants and requirements contained in this Third Amendment to be kept and performed by Lessee, and other good and valuable consideration, Lessor and Lessee agree as follows:

TERMS

1. The Recitals which appear above are made a part of this Third Amendment by this reference.

2. Subsection 2 of the Lease is hereby amended by deleting existing language and inserting the following:

Attachment 2

2. Term.

(a) The term of this Agreement shall be for five years beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2031. The Lease may be renewed for additional five-year periods upon mutual, written agreement of the Lessor and Lessee. Renewal of the Agreement may be executed administratively by the City Manager or designee.

3. Subsection 4(b) is hereby amended by deleting existing language and inserting the following:

1. The Scottsdale Historical Museum will be open as follows:

- September (beginning the second Wednesday in September) and May, Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Sunday, noon – 4:00 p.m.
- October through April, Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday, noon – 4:00 p.m.

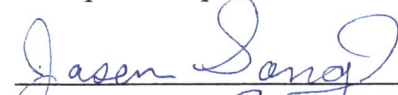
2. The Scottsdale Historical Museum will be closed in June, July, August and the following holidays: Thanksgiving (Thursday and Friday), Christmas Eve afternoon, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve afternoon, New Year's Day, Good Friday, and Easter.

4. Except as expressly stated herein, the remaining terms of Lease shall remain unaffected by this Third Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Third Amendment as of the date first written above.

LESSEE: SCOTTSDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, an Arizona non-profit corporation

By:


Name: Jason Song,
Title: President

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

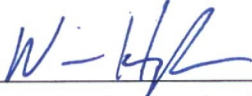
By: _____
Lisa Borowsky, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ben Lane, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY



Luis E. Santaella, Interim City Attorney
By: William Hylan, Deputy City Attorney