

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
*real places telling real stories*

November 15, 2018

The Honorable Keith Self  
Collin County  
2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192  
McKinney, TX 75071

Dear Judge Self,

We are excited to announce a special funding opportunity through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program (THCPP). Some time ago, your county submitted a Courthouse Preservation Master Plan (Master Plan) prepared by ArchiTexas which was approved by the THC in 2000. The Master Plan contains valuable information on the condition of your courthouse, prioritizes the needs to be addressed, and includes estimated costs for rehabilitation and restoration work. The allocation of THCPP grant funds for these Master Plan updates was recommended by a Courthouse Advisory Committee which convened earlier this year to re-evaluate the program's funding priorities. The Committee, comprised of county judges, commissioners, facility managers and architects, recognized that the costs to update previously approved master plans were not typical county budget items.

At its October 24 quarterly meeting, the Texas Historical Commission (Commission) determined that any county with an approved Master Plan that has not yet been funded for a full restoration or planning grant **can receive up to \$50,000** in THCPP grant funding to update that plan. A \$5,000 local match is required. Grants will be awarded at the January 24-25, 2019 Commission meeting in Austin. You need not be present. **Please provide a letter and resolution of support from the Commissioners Court requesting a THCPP grant to update your Courthouse Preservation Master Plan. It must be received in our office by January 19, 2019 for consideration at the January Commission meeting.** There is no requirement that your county otherwise participate in the grant program, however, updating your Master Plan will make any future grant application easier and more accurate. The THC has included \$35 million for the next round of Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program grants in our Legislative Appropriations Request for the upcoming biennium.

With some funds remaining from the FY 2017-18 legislative appropriation, we anticipate awarding grants for 18-20 Master Plan updates. The planning effort should be undertaken and completed by December 2019. Your master plan preservation architect (and THC staff) can work with you to assess which items in your Master Plan would need reconsideration and your architect will provide a fee proposal for their services.

As always, our staff looks forward to working with you and your county to preserve and maintain your historic courthouse. Further information on these grants can be found at <http://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/texas-historic-courthouse-preservation/master-plan-updates>. Please contact Olivia Hillmer at 512.463-8821 or [olivia.hillmer@thc.texas.gov](mailto:olivia.hillmer@thc.texas.gov) to direct you to an appropriate staff member.

Sincerely,



Sharon Fleming, AIA  
Director, Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program

Cc: Collin County Historical Commission  
ArchiTexas

