MEMORANDUM

DATE:

JUNE 18, 2007

TO:

THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM:

JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT:

SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE KEEP AMERICA

BEAUTIFUL, INC. GRAFFITI HURTS®NATIONAL GRANT PROGRAM

<u>ISSUE</u>: City Council consideration of a grant application to Keep America Beautiful, Inc.'s *Graffiti Hurts*® National Grant Program for funding in the amount of \$2,000.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- (1) Submit a grant application, in the amount of \$2,000, to Keep America Beautiful, Inc.'s Graffiti Hurts® National Grant Program; and
- (2) Execute all necessary documents that may be required.

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The City's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, in cooperation with the Police Department and the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, responds to, and removes, approximately 400 cases of graffiti on public and private property each fiscal year as part of the City's Graffiti Abatement Program. The City has made it a top priority to remove graffiti within three business days after it has been reported. The cost to remove graffiti is approximately \$40,000 per year which is absorbed in the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities operating budget.

The *Graffiti Hurts*® National Grant Program is providing communities with awards in the amount of \$2,000 to assist with local graffiti prevention programs, or to provide for a one-time project that has potential to help reduce graffiti in the community. The funding, if awarded to the City, will be used to offset costs associated with staffing, and the purchase of supplies and materials to support the City's rapid response initiative in the removal of graffiti.

FISCAL IMPACT: None. No matching funds from the City are required.

STAFF:

Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Janet Barnett, Deputy Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Roger Blakeley, Deputy Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Jack Browand, Division Chief, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities