



NEWS RELEASE

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REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2009 (for Atchison area media only)

SECOND GRANT ROUND FOR AMELIA EARHART BRIDGE MITIGATION FUND ANNOUNCED

\$150,000 available – Application Deadline February 1, 2010

TOPEKA, KS— The Kansas Historical Society announced the second round of the Amelia Earhart Bridge Mitigation Fund for historic preservation projects in Atchison. This fund was established by a Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and the Kansas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) as partial mitigation for the planned demolition of the National Register-eligible Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge that will be replaced by a new four-lane bridge. The purpose of the fund is to foster and support the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of historic resources within Atchison.

In 2009, the Amelia Earhart Bridge Mitigation Fund awarded \$299,971 to five projects. Approximately \$150,000 remains in the fund. A maximum of \$100,000 will be awarded to each project. A minimum match of 10% is required of applicants. The review committee will take any additional match that can be provided by the applicant into consideration. The application deadline is February 1, 2010. Award recipients will be announced in March 2010. More information, including program applications, can be found at kshs.org/resource/aebridgemitigationfund.htm. Additional assistance is available by calling the SHPO staff at 785-272-8681, ext. 240.

Unlike a grant program that provides funding on the front end of a project, this is a reimbursement program. The project sponsor must pay for work as completed and is reimbursed when bills are submitted to the SHPO, less the matching percentage. Any restoration or rehabilitation work must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/standguide/>

There are three categories of eligible projects, which include: historic properties within the corridor of the Amelia Earhart Bridge project; historic preservation projects outside the corridor but within the city limits of Atchison for historic properties that have a connection or link to transportation; and non-rehabilitation projects such as museum displays for bridge or transportation-related history, funding for speakers on historic bridge rehabilitation, or peer exchanges at historic preservation conferences. Public agencies, 501(c)(3) and other nonprofit organizations, and private property owners are eligible to apply for this reimbursement program.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.

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