

Santa Barbara Spirit of '76 Foundation
<http://spiritof76sb.org/>

May 2015

One-Time Emergency Expense

To members of the Santa Barbara City Council,

In 2014 the Santa Barbara City Council approved a one-time emergency expense for purposes of placing the American Flag on the back wall of the Lobero Theater. A special apparatus was constructed to make this possible. The approval in 2014 was for \$10,000, to be made in 2 separate payments. The City of Santa Barbara sent \$5,000 to The Lobero Foundation. *The Spirit of '76 Foundation* paid the other \$5,000 to the Lobero. We are now asking that the \$5,000 we advanced to the Lobero Foundation be reimbursed to *The Spirit of '76 Foundation*.

Thank you,



Paul Lamberton
President, *Santa Barbara Spirit of '76 Foundation*

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May 2015

A Cultural Necessity

To members of the Santa Barbara City Council,

We are thankful for the financial support the City of Santa Barbara has provided to *The Spirit of '76 Foundation* in recent years. Those funds, along with contributions from individuals in the community, help us present the 4th of July Parade and Concert at the Courthouse.

Roughly eight ago the city established a satisfactory new annual level of financial contribution. Soon thereafter, when the city had a financial crisis, all financial contributions to *The Spirit of '76 Foundation* were eliminated. Through renegotiations, a partial base level of funding was eventually restored, much lower than that which we were originally assured. The city informed us that once the crisis was past, the level of financial contribution would return to its original amount.

In 2007 we were assured \$15,000 annually. We only received that amount for one year. Since then we received \$5,000 annually. (Often our insurance costs alone are nearly that amount.) **Today we are asking that the base amount of city contribution be increased to \$7,500 annually.**

Our financial circumstances are dire. And we don't want the future of this beloved cultural event to be in question. We are not asking that the city return to the contribution levels of the original amount. At this time we are only requesting that our base level of annual contribution from the city be **increased by \$2,500.**

Feedback from residents and visiting tourists has made it clear that there is a high level of appreciation and expectation for this annual cultural event that recognizes the heritage of this country and honors the individuals who have personally made sacrifices to protect freedom, liberty, equality, justice, and everything that makes America the great nation for which it is known.

Your consideration on this matter is much appreciated.

Thank you,



Paul Lambertson

President, *Santa Barbara Spirit of '76 Foundation*