

**City of Piedmont  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

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Date: September 20, 2004  
From: Geoffrey L. Grote, City Administrator  
Subject: Use of 801 Magnolia by the Piedmont Choirs

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RECOMMENDATION

Approve the attached request from Piedmont Choirs to use the city's property at 801 Magnolia Avenue for a concert on January 20, 2005.

BACKGROUND

When the city purchased 801 Magnolia Avenue from the Christian Science Church, a commitment was made to use this city facility for the public good. During the first year of ownership, the city has already allowed an art exhibit by students at Piedmont Unified School District and has now received a request for use by the Piedmont Choirs.

Occasional use of 801 Magnolia for public events seems appropriate while the city discusses long-term use of the building. Suggestions have been made that the city use the site for recreation programs for young children, that the sanctuary section of the building be converted to permanent performance space, or that a café or other commercial use be installed. Whether the site is ultimately zoned for public facilities (as is the rest of civic center) or for commercial use, a public dialog will need to take place before the matter is ultimately decided by the voters of Piedmont.

In the meantime, I believe the Piedmont Choirs request fulfills the city's commitment to use the space for the public good and supports an organization which has a long and honored place in the community.