



## Agenda Item Report

**Meeting Type: Common Council**

**Meeting Date: May 5, 2026**

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**Item Title:** Consider and take action the application for 2026 Tourism Grant by the Columbus Chamber Choir. (TC 4/6/26)

**Submitted By:** David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

**Detailed Description of Subject Matter:**

Due to multiple conflicts of interest, the Tourism Commission is unable to review the application for the Columbus Chamber Choir's 2026 Tourism Grant. The Columbus Chamber Choir is asking for up to \$2,008.58 in reimbursement as part of the 2026 Tourism Grant, pending 2026 concerts and final report review. The Choir has submitted budgeted line items to show they plan to meet the grant funding match requirements and are planning to host and promote local concerts. The Chamber Choir will be developing a survey to gather information about out-of-town visitors to show where they are coming from. The survey will be used to gather data regarding economic impact if visitors are not lodging in Columbus. This is the first time this organization has applied for the Tourism Grant.

The Tourism Grant is a reimbursement grant, that after awarding, will disperse funds based on completion of tourism development, events, and/or marketing as applied for, along with a successful review of the organization's final report. The final report includes analytics from the concerts along with photos and confirmation of financial contribution match. Council will need to review and potentially approve the final report for the Chamber Choir prior to any reimbursement. This would need to take place at the first meeting in January.

Staff recommends awarding of the grant pending Council review.

**List all Supporting Documentation Attached:**

- 2026 Columbus Chamber Choir Tourism Grant Application
- Draft Tourism Commission minutes from April 6, 2026

**Action Requested of the Council:**

Review and approve awarding of up to \$2,008.58 to the Columbus Chamber Choir for the 2026 Tourism Grant.

**Strategic Plan Objective:** None