
HOT Fund Application — Wings Over Rockport / Coastal Bend National STOL — 2027 Funding

From President <president@wingsoverrockport.com>

Date Thu 5/28/2026 12:42 PM

To Stephanie Garcia <citysec@fultontexas.org>

 3 attachments (3 MB)

WOR - Fulton - HOT Use Application.pdf; WOR_Fulton_HOT_Supplemental.pdf; EIN for Wings Over Rockport.pdf;

Ms. Garcia,

Please find attached Wings Over Rockport's Hotel Occupancy Tax application for 2027 funding, submitted in connection with the Coastal Bend National STOL competition scheduled for March 25–27, 2027, at Aransas County Airport (KRKP).

I have also included additional required documents.

Wings Over Rockport is requesting \$5,000 in HOT funding to support advertising and promotional programs designed to attract out-of-town attendees and overnight visitors to Fulton and the Rockport-Fulton area. The Coastal Bend National STOL is a sanctioned event on the National STOL series circuit, drawing competing pilots and their crews from 29 or more states, with a projected attendance of 1,500 or more and a national livestream broadcast reaching aviation fans across the country.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or if additional information is needed. I am happy to be present at any Council review meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chad Mitchell
President
Wings Over Rockport
361-557-1919





**Town of Fulton
Hotel Occupancy Tax
Application**

Date Application received (To be completed by Town)		
Official Name of Organization/Entity: Wings Over Rockport	Is the Organization/Entity a non-profit? Yes	Date Organization/Entity Founded: 2023
Organization/Entity Mailing Address: 421 John D Wendell Rd, Rockport TX 78382		
Organization/Entity website: www.wingsoverrockport.com		
Name and Title of Person authorized to act on behalf of Organization/Entity for this application ("Applicant"): Chad Mitchell / President	Organization/Entity Phone: 361-557-1919	Organization/Entity email: president@wingsoverrockport.com

FUNDING REQUEST DESCRIPTION

Name of Project/Event: Coastal Bend National STOL	Project/Event date(s): March 25-27, 2027
Estimated number of room nights that will be occupied at local hotels, motels, and short-term rentals by attendees of your event(s) or project(s)? 375	Estimated number of annual attendance at your event(s) or project(s)? 1500+ Will you charge admission/if yes, how much? Yes, \$25
Do your promotional materials/website note area lodging that can host attendees? Yes, we will have booking/promo codes on all materials	Have you negotiated a lodging rate at any local hotels, motels, and short-term rentals? Yes, with Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn, Holiday Inn Express, with negotiations happening at Lighthouse Inn, La Quinta Inn and more
Project/Event location(s): Aransas County Airport	Total Amount of funds requested: \$5000

In the space below, please describe each project/event for which funding is sought, and explain how each project/event will directly enhance and promote tourism and the hotel/motel/short-term rental (STR) industry in the Town of Fulton:

The Coastal Bend National STOL (Short Takeoff and Landing) Competition is a nationally sanctioned aviation sporting event hosted at Aransas County Airport (KRKP) on March 25-27, 2027. Competing pilots and their crews travel from 29 or more states, spending multiple nights in local hotels beginning with aircraft arrival prior to competition. Out-of-town spectators travel from across Texas and beyond to attend the multi-day event, generating hotel room nights, restaurant visits, and retail spending across the Rockport-Fulton area during the March shoulder season. The event is broadcast via livestream to an aviation audience that generates significant national exposure for the Rockport-Fulton destination. Net proceeds fund Wings Over Rockport's youth aviation scholarships and STEM education programs across the Coastal Bend. HOT funds will support advertising and promotional programs designed to attract out-of-town attendees and overnight visitors to the Fulton and Rockport-Fulton area.

FUNDING CATEGORIES AUTHORIZED BY TEXAS LAW

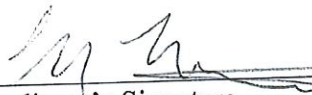
(Please indicate which funding categories apply to your project/event – multiple categories may be selected)

	Check box below the appropriate category or categories	Amount requested for each category
The acquisition of sites for the construction, improvement, enlarging, equipping, repairing, operation, and maintenance of convention center facilities or visitor information centers, or both.		
The furnishing of facilities, personnel, and materials for the registration of convention delegates or registrants.		
Advertising and conducting solicitations and promotional programs to attract tourists and convention delegates or registrants to the municipality or its vicinity.	X	\$5,000
The encouragement, promotion, improvement, and application of the arts, including instrumental and vocal music, dance, drama, folk art, creative writing, architecture, design and allied fields, painting, sculpture photography, graphic and craft arts, motion pictures, radio, television, tape and sound recording, and other arts related to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of these major art forms.		
Historical restoration and preservation projects or activities or advertising and conducting solicitations and promotional programs to encourage tourists and convention delegates to visit preserved historic sites or museums; • at or in the immediate vicinity of convention centers; or • located elsewhere in the municipality or its vicinity that would be frequented by tourists and convention delegates		
Signage directing the public to sights and attractions that are visited frequently by hotel guests in the municipality;		
The promotion of tourism by the enhancement and upgrading of existing sports facilities or fields if: • the municipality owns the facilities or fields.		

ASSURANCES

The Applicant hereby certifies to the Town of Fulton that, to the best of the Applicant's knowledge and belief, the:

1. Project(s)/event(s) for which financial assistance is sought will be administered in accordance with Federal, State, and local law;
2. HOT funds received as a result of this application will be used solely for the project(s)/event(s) described herein;
3. Applicant has read, understand, and will conform to the Town of Fulton HOT guidelines and policy;
4. Figures, facts, and representations made in the application, including any attachments hereto, are true and correct.


Applicant's Signature

Date: 5/28/26

Chad Mitchell
Printed Name

President - Wings over Rockport
Title

WINGS OVER ROCKPORT

Coastal Bend National STOL | March 25–27, 2027 | Aransas County Airport (KRKP)

Town of Fulton Hotel Occupancy Tax Application | Supplemental Information

Organization: Wings Over Rockport

Contact: Chad Mitchell, President

Phone: (361) 205-9375

Email: president@wingsoverrockport.com

Event: Coastal Bend National STOL — March 25–27, 2027

HOT Amount Requested: \$5,000

Funding Category: Advertising and Promotional Programs to Attract Tourists (Category 3)

Section 1: Marketing Plan — Channels Designed to Generate Overnight Visitors

The following marketing activities are specifically designed to reach out-of-town audiences who will require overnight lodging in the Rockport-Fulton area. HOT funds will be applied directly to advertising and promotional programs within these channels.

1.1 National STOL Series Network

As a sanctioned event on the National STOL competition circuit, the Rockport event is promoted directly to a national audience of aviation enthusiasts and competitors. National STOL generated 267.5 million impressions in 2025 across its combined platforms:

Facebook: 350,000 followers

Instagram: 113,000 followers — 5.3 million page reach (2025)

YouTube: 112,000 followers — 25.6 million impressions (2025)

TikTok: 36,800 followers

Total following: 611,800 across all platforms

Competitors travel from 29 or more states and register through the National STOL platform, which promotes each sanctioned event directly to its nationwide pilot and aviation enthusiast base. This channel drives the multi-night hotel stays that form the foundation of the event's overnight visitation impact.

1.2 Event Website and Online Registration

The Wings Over Rockport event page at wingsoverrockport.com and the National STOL registration portal will prominently feature Rockport-Fulton area lodging options, room block promo codes for Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, and Fairfield Inn, and links to local visitor information. Attendees are directed to area lodging at the point of registration.

1.3 Wings Over Rockport Social Media

WOR will conduct ongoing promotional campaigns across its Facebook, Instagram, and email channels in the months preceding the event. Campaigns will target aviation enthusiasts, families, and coastal tourism audiences

across Texas and the surrounding region, with lodging availability and room block information featured in all out-of-town-facing promotional content.

1.4 Rockport-Fulton CVB Coordination

The event will be listed on the Rockport-Fulton CVB website and regional tourism calendar. WOR will coordinate with the CVB on co-promotion through visitor advertising channels, ensuring the event reaches travelers already researching the Rockport-Fulton area as a destination.

1.5 Official Event Program and Print Materials

The official event program, distributed to all attendees on-site, will include a local lodging guide directing out-of-town visitors to Fulton and Rockport area hotels, short-term rentals, and bed and breakfast properties. Signage and event materials will reinforce lodging options throughout the event footprint.

1.6 National Livestream Broadcast

The competition will be broadcast live via National STOL's YouTube and social platforms, reaching aviation fans across the country. The broadcast reinforces Rockport-Fulton as a destination for future visitors and extends the event's tourism promotion impact well beyond the event weekend itself.

1.7 Confirmed Room Block Agreements

WOR has already secured contracted room blocks providing direct overnight lodging pathways for out-of-town attendees. Signed agreements are attached to this application:

Hampton Inn & Suites Rockport-Fulton: 20 rooms (10 Queen, 10 King), March 25–30, 2027 — signed May 27, 2026

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Rockport: 20 rooms (5 King, 15 Double Queen), March 25–28, 2027 — signed May 27, 2026

Fairfield Inn & Suites Rockport: 20 rooms (10 King, 10 Double Queen) — confirmed block

Combined, these three confirmed blocks represent a minimum of 180 guaranteed room nights at Fulton and Rockport properties. WOR is actively negotiating additional room blocks with area lodging properties and expects total contracted room nights to exceed 300 prior to the event.

Section 2: Use of Local Vendors

Wings Over Rockport is committed to keeping event spending within the Rockport-Fulton community. The following local businesses and vendors are actively targeted to provide goods and services for the Coastal Bend National STOL:

Local Vendor Category
Golf Cart Transportation
Portable Restrooms
Beverage Service
Food & Catering
Payment Processing
Printing & Signage

WOR will continue to prioritize local procurement across all event categories and will document local vendor use in the post-event report submitted to the Town of Fulton within 60 days of the event's conclusion.

Section 3: Schedule of Events and Activities

The Coastal Bend National STOL is a three-day event running Thursday through Saturday, March 25–27, 2027, at Aransas County Airport (KRKP), Rockport, Texas. The following is a rough schedule of planned activities. Final timing will be confirmed with National STOL as the event date approaches.

Day	Time	Activity
Thursday, March 25, 2027 — Pilot Fly-In Day		
	<i>All Day</i>	Competing aircraft arrivals and staging at Aransas County Airport (KRKP)
	<i>All Day</i>	Pilot FBO check-in and registration
	<i>All Day</i>	Sponsor setup and activation area build-out begins
	<i>Afternoon</i>	Welcome bags distributed to registered pilots and crews
	<i>Evening</i>	Official pilot safety briefing conducted by National STOL Air Boss (mandatory for all competitors)
Friday, March 26, 2027 — Competition Day 1		
	<i>Morning</i>	Vendor village setup complete; gates open to the public
	<i>Morning</i>	Advance ticket sales and walk-up admission at gate (\$25 admission)
	<i>Morning – Afternoon</i>	STOL Competition Day 1 — scored flights across multiple aircraft classes; National STOL livestream broadcast
	<i>All Day</i>	Vendor village open: food trucks, aviation vendors, outdoor and lifestyle vendors
	<i>All Day</i>	Sponsor activation zones open; merchandise sales
	<i>Evening</i>	Pilot, Sponsor, and Public Welcome Dinner — pilots, sponsors (comped), and public (ticketed)
Saturday, March 27, 2027 — Competition Day 2 and Awards		
	<i>Morning</i>	Gates open; full spectator program begins
	<i>Morning – Afternoon</i>	STOL Competition Day 2 — final scored flights; national series points tallied
	<i>All Day</i>	Vendor village open; sponsor activations; merchandise sales
	<i>All Day</i>	Kids aviation activities and STEM education exhibits
	<i>Afternoon</i>	National STOL Awards Ceremony — class winners and national series standings announced
	<i>Evening</i>	Event closes; pilot departures begin
Sunday, March 28, 2027 — Pilot Departures and Breakdown		
	<i>Morning</i>	Competing pilots depart; vendor breakdown and site cleanup; event debrief begins

Date of this notice: 10-17-2023

Employer Identification Number:
93-3953962

Form: SS-4

Number of this notice: CP 575 E

WINGS OVER ROCKPORT
113-4TH ST-LAMAR
ROCKPORT, TX 78382

For assistance you may call us at:
1-800-829-4933

IF YOU WRITE, ATTACH THE
STUB AT THE END OF THIS NOTICE.

WE ASSIGNED YOU AN EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Thank you for applying for an Employer Identification Number (EIN). We assigned you EIN 93-3953962. This EIN will identify your entity, accounts, tax returns, tax information, and documents, even if you have no employees. Please keep this notice in your permanent records.

Taxpayers request an EIN for business and tax purposes. Some taxpayers receive CP575 notices when another person has stolen their identity and are operating using their information. If you did **not** apply for this EIN, please contact us at the phone number or address listed on the top of this notice.

When filing tax documents, making payments, or replying to any related correspondence, it is very important that you use your EIN and complete name and address exactly as shown above. Any variation may cause a delay in processing, result in incorrect information in your account, or even cause you to be assigned more than one EIN. If the information is not correct as shown above, please make the correction using the attached tear-off stub and return it to us.

When you submitted your application for an EIN, you checked the box indicating you are a non-profit organization. Assigning an EIN does not grant tax-exempt status to non-profit organizations. Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your organization, has details on the application process, as well as information on returns you may need to file. To apply for recognition of tax-exempt status, organizations must complete an application on one of the following forms: Form 1023, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; Form 1023-EZ, Streamlined Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; Form 1024, Application for Recognition Under Section 501(a); or Form 1024-A, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Nearly all organizations claiming tax-exempt status must file a Form 990-series annual information return (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) or notice (Form 990-N) beginning with the year they legally form, even if they have not yet applied for or received recognition of tax-exempt status.

If you become tax-exempt, you will lose tax-exempt status if you fail to file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, unless a filing exception applies to you (search www.irs.gov for Annual Exempt Organization Return: Who Must File). We start calculating this three-year period from the tax year we assigned the EIN to you. If that first tax year isn't a full twelve months, you're still responsible for submitting a return for that year. If you didn't legally form in the same tax year in which you obtained your EIN, contact us at the phone number or address listed at the top of this letter. For the most current information on your filing requirements and other important information, visit www.irs.gov/charities.

