



## Agenda Abstract

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: March 10, 2025  
Department: Planning and Economic Development  
Agenda Section: Regular  
Public hearing: No  
Date of public hearing: N/A

#### PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Shannan Campbell, Planning and Economic Development Manager

#### ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

**Subject:** Continued discussion of potential America 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

**Attachments:**

None

**Summary:**

July 4, 2026 will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Per America250.org, Inc., "the journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond." As a historic town with treasured revolutionary-era significance, there are opportunities for local events to celebrate and remember the past 250 years. Local non-profit historical and cultural organizations have already begun discussions about potential events.

At its Feb. 24 work session, the town board expressed an interest in potentially partnering with the Tourism Board and/or Tourism Development Authority to put together an event for July 4, 2026 as a culmination of the next 16 months of smaller America 250 events. Funding such an event is a consideration as well as what organization (if any) may have any capacity to put on such an event or if a third party would need to be hired to organize it.

Staff conferred with other organizations and learned that the Orange County Historical Museum is still awaiting confirmation on a potential grant from the state to do a play in the fall and the Alliance is going to theme the next two Revolutionary War Day events around America 250. There are other small events being discussed and still finalized.

**Financial impacts:**

Cost will depend on the level of town, Tourism Board, and Tourism Development Authority funding and the scale of the planned event, and if funding is needed for a staff person to organize it.

**Staff recommendation and comments:**

N/A

**Action requested:**

Advise staff on how to move forward based on the estimated costs and capacity available.