

JEFFERSON CITY, TENNESSEE

Resolution 2026 - 16

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JEFFERSON CITY AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE CERTIFIED TENNESSEE DOWNTOWNS PROGRAM AND COMMITTING TO MEET THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee, through the Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD), administers the Tennessee Downtowns program (also referred to as the Certified Tennessee Downtowns Program), a downtown revitalization education and grant initiative designed to assist communities in strengthening and revitalizing their traditional commercial districts; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Downtowns program is based on the Main Street Four-Point Approach of organization, design, promotion, and economic vitality, and requires participating communities to complete a two-year training, planning, and project implementation process; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson City recognizes that its traditional downtown commercial district, generally comprised of properties that are at least fifty (50) years old and that exhibit a pedestrian-oriented pattern of development, is a significant economic, civic, historic, and cultural asset to the community; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson City further recognizes the need to reinvest in, strengthen, and promote its downtown in order to address issues such as building vacancy, underutilized properties, aging infrastructure, and changing market conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Downtowns program requires participating communities to:

1. Define a specific downtown revitalization district.
2. Establish a dedicated five-member (or larger) Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee to guide the program.
3. Designate a local government or nonprofit organization to serve as the program's administrative and fiscal agent.
4. Adopt a formal resolution by the city government agreeing to participate in and meet the mandatory requirements of the program.

WHEREAS, Jefferson City desires to apply for selection in the next available round the Tennessee Downtowns program and to be eligible for available training, technical assistance, and grant funds for an approved downtown improvement project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Jefferson City, Tennessee, as follows:

1. Authorization to participate.

The City of Jefferson City, through its City Council, hereby authorizes participation in the Certified Tennessee Downtowns (Tennessee Downtowns) Program and approves the submission of all required application materials to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

2. **Designation of downtown revitalization district.**

The City Council hereby designates the “Jefferson City Historic Downtown District” as the project area for the Tennessee Downtowns program, consisting generally of the traditional commercial area of Jefferson City as described the application materials, including a majority of buildings at least fifty (50) years old and a compact, pedestrian-oriented pattern of development.

3. **Creation and recognition of Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee.**

The City Council hereby establishes and recognizes a Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee of not fewer than five (5) members, composed of community leaders, business and property owners, and other stakeholders, which shall be responsible for working with city staff and partners to complete all Tennessee Downtowns training, planning, and reporting requirements.

4. **Designation of program administrator and grant agent.**

The City Council hereby designates the City Manager and City Recorder to serve as the administrative and fiscal agents for the Tennessee Downtowns program and for any grant funds awarded, with authority to enter into required agreements, manage project implementation, and request reimbursements in accordance with TNECD requirements.

5. **Support from city government.**

The City Council expresses its support for downtown revitalization and acknowledges the importance of downtown Jefferson City as a key economic, social, and cultural asset. City staff are hereby directed to cooperate with the Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee in carrying out the Tennessee Downtowns work plan and to coordinate city policies and investments, where feasible, to support the revitalization of the designated district...

6. **Compliance with program requirements.**

The City of Jefferson City agrees to comply with all mandatory participation requirements of the Tennessee Downtowns program, as established and amended by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, including program reporting, attendance at required training sessions, and completion of work plan activities.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

ADOPTED this 6th day of July, 2026.

APPROVED:

Mitch Cain, Mayor

Attest: _____
Bettina Chandler, City Recorder