



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of a Resolution Entering into a 50 Year Memorandum of Understanding with Hawkins County for a Portion of Bays Mountain Park

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-92-2024
Work Session: April 1, 2024
First Reading: N/A
Final Adoption: April 2, 2024
Staff Work By: Committee
Presentation By: Michael T. Borders

Recommendation:
Approve the Resolution.

Executive Summary:
If approved Kingsport would enter into a 50-year Memorandum of Understanding with Hawkins County for a portion of land on the western end of Bays Mountain Park.

Hawkins County was awarded a Tourism Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$100,000 for the construction of a bridge over Laurel Run Creek. The location of the crossing is within the boundaries of Bays Mountain Park.

The Hawkins County Commission voted to accept the grant during their meeting on October 3rd, 2023. The Bays Mountain Park Commission considered the request and made the recommendation to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, with certain stipulations to ensure protection of the nature preserve (park), for the property during its regularly scheduled meeting on December 14, 2023 and further voted to pay the \$5,000 match (out of Commission funds) for Hawkins County during the Commission’s regularly scheduled meeting on February 15th.

Bays Mountain Park staff regularly program waterfall and wildflower hikes in the western portion of the park. A crossing over Laurel Run Creek would be an additional asset to Bays Mountain Park and would benefit users of both Laural Run Park and Bays Mountain Park.

This is an opportunity to utilize state funds to invest in a needed park asset that will benefit the citizens of both entities along with visitors to the region. Bays Mountain Park was awarded the same grant to make improvements to the Observation Tower.

Once design is complete and a contractor chosen the City and County will enter into a development agreement. Funds are available in 612-4530-473.20-99.

- Attachments:**
1. Resolution
2. Map

	Y	N	O
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—
Olterman	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Shull	—	—	—