

AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the application for funding through the Tennessee Tourism Enhancement Grant

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From: Chris McCartt, City Manager

Action Form No.: AF-270-2023 Work Session: August 14, 2023 First Reading: N/A Final Adoption:August 15, 2023Staff Work By:Michael PricePresentation By:Michael Price

Recommendation:

Approve the Resolution.

Executive Summary:

If approved the City of Kingsport will apply for a Tourism Enhancement Grant for the rehabilitation of the Observation Tower at Bays Mountain Park.

Community Development staff seeks authorization to apply for the Tennessee Tourism Enhancement Grant. The grant <u>specifically promotes tourism development</u>. The application is for <u>\$100,000</u> and will be used for rehabilitation of the observation tower at Bays Mountain Park. The rehabilitation will include scaping, painting, decking, compliant railing, new decking, additional amenities, and structural reinforcement. <u>The project is estimated to be \$177,000</u>.

The grant carries a <u>70/30 match requirement</u> with matching funds coming from donations and pledges totaling <u>\$90,000 from the Friends of Bays, the Fox Family and Bays Mountain Park Commission.</u>

The Observation Tower (Lookout Tower on Park Map) is approximately half a mile from the nature center off Bays Mountain Road. A rehabilitated tower will provide an additional destination asset to the park with a goal of increasing tourism.

Attachments:

- 1. Resolution
- 2. Park Map
- 3. Picture

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