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# AGENDA ITEM

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TO: Mayor McNeill, Lansing City Council  
FROM: Tim Vandall, City Administrator  
DATE: September 16, 2024  
SUBJECT: Prison Museum & Tour Funding

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The City Council discussed funding for the tours of the Lansing Correctional Facility at the August 29<sup>th</sup> work session and September 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. The Council's guidance was to work toward an agreement to review past documents for the Kansas Regional Prisons Museum, provide seed money (but not the full \$137,000 amount from the previous 501C3), work on a policy to outline ways to promote tourism at the old Lansing Correctional Facility for future years.

Total donations for the Kansas Regional Prisons Museum generated over \$24,013.11 (attachment one). A portion of the donations were generated through joint events around 15 years ago, which was where the previously discussed \$16,000 figure came from. In an effort to provide seed money and assistance to the Historical Society as they begin giving tours of the old Lansing Correctional Facility, staff is recommending allocating the donation amount to the Historical Society.

Please note on the second attachment which shows total revenues that \$179,023 in revenue was generated from the Lansing DAZE celebration and \$84,019 was generated from the now defunct BBQ contest. These were City sponsored events staffed by City staff, impacting the General Fund over a decade ago.

Policy Consideration: Staff can work with members of the Lansing Historical Society to create a policy that provides funding for the new Prison Museum over the next few years. Preliminary ideas and discussions revolve around tying the future funding to the number museum visitors, thereby generating transient guest tax (7%) and general sales taxes (1.9%) for Lansing.

Financial Consideration: The one-time \$25,000 seed money would come from the Transient Guest Tax Fund, which does not impact property taxes. Future allocations would be dependent upon a policy devised by the Historical Society and City staff, which would need to be approved by the City Council. This allocation would still allow the City to fund events like the Fall Festival and Independence Day Fireworks Spectacular.

Action: Approve allocation of \$25,000 seed money to Historical Society to be used exclusively for tours at the Lansing Correctional Facility.