



Mayor Robert E. Simison

City Council Members:

John Overton, President

Anne Little Roberts, Vice President

Brian Whitlock

Liz Strader

Doug Taylor

Luke Cavener

January 23, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Simison and City Council

FROM: Steve Siddoway, Parks & Recreation Director

RE: Budget Amendment – America 250 Celebration Fireworks

Background

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting a budget amendment of \$40,000 to enhance the City's Fourth of July fireworks display in 2026. This increase is proposed in conjunction with *America 250*, the national commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Reason for Budget Amendment

During the FY26 budget development process and summer budget workshops, the City was not yet aware of the scope or expectations associated with *America 250* programming. Information about the national initiative and the opportunity to align Meridian's Independence Day celebration with this milestone became clear only after the budget was finalized. As a result, the existing fireworks budget reflects a typical annual celebration rather than the enhanced level appropriate for a 250th anniversary observance.

The additional funding will allow the City to deliver a Fourth of July celebration that is bigger and better, yet appropriate, for the historic significance of *America 250*. A larger fireworks display would provide a higher-quality show with an improved experience for the thousands of residents who attend this event.

Fiscal Impact

The requested \$40,000 budget amendment would be used solely to increase the scale and quality of the fireworks display for July 4, 2026. No ongoing costs are proposed beyond FY26. We plan to bring forward a future net-zero budget amendment for additional activities and event improvements, but only if we can secure sponsors to cover the cost.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the \$40,000 budget amendment to ensure Meridian's 2026 Fourth of July celebration appropriately reflects the significance of *America 250*.

City of Meridian FY2026 Budget Amendment Form

Personnel Costs

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	Full Time Equivalent (FTE): G/L# Description	Total
01	5122	41200	10697	Wages	
01	5122	41206	10697	PT/Seasonal Wages	
01	5122	41210	10697	Overtime	
01	5122	41304	10697	Uniform Allowance	
01	5122	42021	10697	FICA	\$ -
01	5122	42022	10697	PERSI	\$ -
01	5122	42023	10697	Worker's Comp	\$ -
01	5122	42025	10697	Employee Insurance	\$ -
Total Personnel Costs				\$ -	

Operating Expenditures

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	One-Time	On-Going	Total
01	5122	69400	10697	Holiday Expense - July 4th Event	\$ 40,000		\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
01	5122		10697				\$ -
Total Operating Expenditures				\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	

Capital Outlay

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	Total
01	5210		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
Total Capital Outlay				\$ -	

Revenue/Donations

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	Total
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		
01	5122		10697		

Total Revenue/Donations \$ -

Please only complete the fields
highlighted in Orange.

Amendment Details

Title: America 250 Celebration Fireworks
 Department Name: Parks & Recreation
 Presenting Department Name: Parks & Recreation
 Department #: 5122
 Primary Funding Source: 1
 CIP#:
 Project #: 10697

Is this for an Emergency? Yes No
 New Level of Service? Yes No

Clerks Office Stamp

Date of Council Approval _____

Acknowledgement

Date
<i>Steve Siddoway</i> _____
1/23/2026
Department Director
<i>in Todd's absent</i> _____
REVIEWED By Jenny Fields at 8:38 am, Jan 26, 2026
Chief Financial Officer
Approved John Overton via email 1.27.26
<i>John Overton</i> _____
Council Liaison
<i>John Overton</i> _____
1-27-26
Mayor

Total Amendment Request \$ 40,000

City of Meridian FY2026 Budget Amendment Form

Total Amendment Cost - Lifetime

	Prior Year(s) Funding	Fiscal Year		Fiscal Year		Fiscal Year		Fiscal Year		Title:	Department Name: Parks & Recreation America 250 Celebration Fireworks
		2026	2027	2028	2029	2030					
Personnel		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Operating		\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Capital		\$									
Total		\$ -	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Total Estimated Project Cost: <u>\$ 40,000</u>											

Instructions for Submitting Budget Amendments:

- Department will send Amendment with Directors signature to Finance (Budget Manager) for review
- Finance will send Amendment to Council Liaison for signature
- Council Liaison will send signed Amendment to Mayor
- Mayor will send signed Amendment to Finance (Budget Manager)
- Finance (Budget Manager) will send approved copy of Amendment to Department
- Department will add copy of Amendment to Council Agenda using Municode Agenda Manager

Evaluation Questions

Please answer all Evaluation Questions using the financial data referenced above.

1. Describe what is being requested?

Funds will be used to provide a bigger fireworks show for this year's America 250 celebration on the 4th of July.

2. Why was this budget request not submitted during the current fiscal year budget cycle?

There is a desire to expand this year's 4th of July fireworks show to be bigger in conjunction with the America 250 celebrations. We did not hear about the America 250 programming until after the FY26 budget workshop.

3. What is the explanation for not submitting this budget request during the next fiscal year budget cycle?

America 250 celebrations are held in 2026.

4. Describe the proposed method of funding? If funding is split between Funds (i.e. General, Enterprise, Grant), please include the percentage split. List the amounts and sources of anticipated additional revenue that will result from approval of this request.

General Fund

5. Does this request align with the Department/City's strategic plan? If not, please explain how this request was not included in the Department/City strategic plan?

Yes

6. Does this request require resources to be provided by other departments? If yes, please describe the necessary resources to be provided by other departments.

No

7. Does this Amendment include any needed Equipment or Software that will utilize the City's network? (Yes or No)

No

8. Is the amendment going to result in the disposal of an asset? (Yes or No)

No

9. Any additional comments?

Total Amendment Request \$ 40,000

Every effort should be made to avoid reopening the budget for an amendment. Departments will need to provide back up and appear before the City Council to justify budget amendments. Budget amendments are intended for emergency or mandatory changes to the original balanced budget. Changes to the original balanced budget may cause a funding shortfall.