

RESOLUTION #2024-2

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, MISSOURI, ENDORSING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CITYWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood, Missouri, though a relatively new City, incorporated in 1995, has a long, rich history, as evidenced by its burial grounds and artifacts left by Indigenous Peoples, eleven (11) historic communities, with the earliest settled in 1834, conservation areas, with the first in the State of Missouri being Rockwoods Reservation, industries of national importance, resort era mansions, and original alignment of Route 66, established in 1926 and decommissioned in 1932; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood, Missouri adopted a Historic Preservation and Restoration Code in August 1999; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 440 Historic Preservation and Restoration Code specifically states the Historic Preservation Commission should prepare and maintain a comprehensive historic preservation plan, or a preservation element to a master plan, to integrate the preservation program into the City government for planning and zoning for land use, building and fire codes, special use permits, community revitalization and heritage tourism.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood, Missouri maintains an official policy, as adopted by its Master Plan, of preserving historic buildings/sites and archaeological areas through their designation on the City's Historic Registry; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood became one (1) of Missouri's first Certified Local Governments (CLG) in 2001, as authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act; and

WHEREAS, the role of a CLG in this federal-state-local partnership involves, at a minimum, 1) commitment to enforce historic preservation laws, 2) responsibility for the review and approval of nominations of properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and 3) eligibility to apply to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for matching funds reserved for CLGs; and

WHEREAS, a CLG Evaluation Visit was conducted on October 26, 2023, by representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), with a key recommendation in the resulting report that encouraged the City of Wildwood to pursue a standalone Historic Preservation Plan for the community to help create milestones and a timeline for future historic preservation goals, as well as examine the past and current state of commercial and residential historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2023, the Historic Preservation Commission adopted a Resolution endorsing a grant application to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for a Historic Preservation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City has already heavily promoted a Route 66 Revitalization Plan, with positive reception from the community, which could potentially be one (1) element of this overall preservation plan; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation-based revitalization, as an overall goal of the City, is intended to increase the economic vitality of Wildwood, preserve its historic and unique character, create an inviting, accessible, and people-centered streetscape, promote cultural heritage tourism, and empower the local community to promote the area locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated benefits of the Historic Preservation Plan to Wildwood residents and businesses, as well as visitors and the traveling public, are:

- a. Assessing the status of the City’s historic residential and commercial properties.
- b. Developing milestones and a timeline for historic preservation goals.
- c. Making future grant applications more competitive.
- d. Timing projects better to grant application cycles.
- e. Defining the City’s historic areas, both thematically and geographically, to assist with National Register applications and other projects.
- f. Adding more emphasis to City review and enforcement processes.
- g. Providing a tool for having conversations about private-public partnerships with business owners, developers, and anyone else dealing in historic real estate.
- h. Fostering additional buy-in and partnership from the community for preservation-based activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section One. An application to the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), due February 16, 2024, will be made.

Section Two. The Mayor, City Council Members, the City Administrator, and the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission are hereby authorized and, therefore enabled, to sign and execute the necessary documents and letters of support for submitting the application to SHPO.

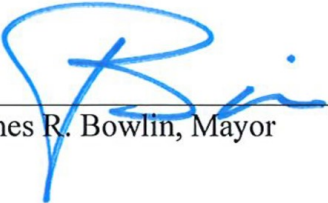
Section Three. If a grant is awarded, the following items are acknowledged and understood by the City of Wildwood, and its elected and appointed officials, along with City personnel:

- a. The City will be responsible for a forty (40) percent match of funding, which is anticipated to be \$14,000 of the anticipated total project cost of \$35,000.
- b. The project must be completed within an eighteen (18) month period.

Section Four. This Resolution shall be effective upon passage and approval by the City Council of the City of Wildwood, Missouri.

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Passed and Resolved by the Council of the City of Wildwood this 8th day of January, 2024.



James R. Bowlin, Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk