



WILDWOOD

August 14, 2023

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: **Grant Application for Route 66 Historical Context Study and Inventory (Wards - All)**

Council Members:

BACKGROUND >>> Since 2001, the City of Wildwood has been a 'Certified Local Government' (CLG) with the State of Missouri, as authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act. 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.** This program is administered by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

In recent years, the SHPO has awarded approximately \$200,000 in grants. Individual awards are generally capped at \$50,000. Grants can support up to 60% of a project budget with a 40% match required by the applicant. All Certified Local Governments, all county governmental entities, municipalities, and qualified non-profit organizations with a historic preservation mission are eligible to apply for Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grants. Per federal regulations, 10% of the SHPO's HPF funding is reserved for Certified Local Governments in good standing. Last year, this amount was \$123,651.

WHAT IS FUNDED:

- Training opportunities for members of historic preservation commissions or CLG city team members
- Conferences and workshops related to historic preservation
- Posters and pamphlets related to historic preservation
- **The creation of Preservation Plans or Design Guidelines**
- Inventory of archival files related to historic preservation
- **Archeological and architectural surveys for purposes of National Register nominations**
- Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places
- Documents for publicly-owned, NR-listed buildings, including
 - Historic Structure Reports

- Maintenance Plans
- Planning for construction work (designs, feasibility studies)

Development (meaning construction) projects is not funded; HPF money can be used to plan construction work, but not to enact it.

Required pre-application must be emailed to the SHPO Grants Manager by **Friday, August 18, 2023**. Final applications must be postmarked or received through the Department of Natural Resources' Funding Opportunities Portal by 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, October 2, 2023**.

At its meeting on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, the Historic Preservation Commission directed the Department of Planning to pursue a Historic Preservation Fund grant application related to Route 66 revitalization, which is identified as a 2023 Work Plan objective. The Department has since assembled the following proposed scope of work and is seeking cost estimates from area consultants. It is anticipated that a resolution in support of such will be requested of the City Council at its September meeting.

PROPOSAL FOR ROUTE 66 HISTORICAL CONTEXT STUDY AND INVENTORY >>>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project has three (3) main components and will lay the foundation for a future revitalization planning effort. These three (3) components are:

1. Conduct a historical context study for Wildwood's stretch of the Historic Route 66 Corridor;
2. Inventory the corridor's historically significant properties (or build on previously conducted inventories); and
 - a. Include vacant buildings; and
 - b. Identify adaptive reuse opportunities.
3. Identify potentially eligible properties or districts for the National Register.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK:

- Research the history of Wildwood's Route 66 Corridor, including the history of its four (4) historic communities (Fox Creek, Hollow, Pond, Grover), the corridor's development, the presence or absence of various trails that may have contributed to its eventual use as a Route 66 alignment, historically important buildings, monuments, and other artifacts, its original pavement, key events and happenings, and any other contributing element of the corridor's significance and story.
- Develop interpretative themes for Wildwood's Route 66 Corridor that could be utilized in the future for interpretive signage, displays, and development of the Route 66 Roadside Park Timeline Walk concept.
- Update architectural surveys of the Route 66 Corridor and conduct additional surveys of historically important buildings, elements, and other assets.
- Identify vacant buildings and recommend possible adaptive reuse opportunities that may exist.
- Identify potentially eligible properties or districts for the National Register and submit eligibility assessments for them to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

CONTACT INFORMATION >>> If any City Council Member should have other questions or comments before tonight's meeting about this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. This item is on tonight's Work Session Agenda under 'For Information,' but can be discussed, if any City Council Members would request such. Thank you for your review of this information.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF WILDWOOD

Janice Stevens, Chair

Historic Preservation Commission

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
Thomas Lee, City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation
Travis Newberry, Senior Planner

*The Department of Planning and Parks developed this report, in conjunction with the Historic Preservation Commission. Content reflects the Commission's consideration of this subject and not necessarily an individual's position or opinion.