

RESOLUTION #2023-18

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, MISSOURI, SUPPORTING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO) FOR A ROUTE 66 HISTORICAL CONTEXT STUDY AND INVENTORY.

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood, Missouri deems it necessary and important to integrate and preserve historical sites and local history within the Wildwood Town Center Area; and

WHEREAS, the City's original Route 66 Corridor contains four (4) historic communities, Grover, Pond, Hollow, and Fox Creek, all with the heritage of being the traditional commercial centers of the area, prior to the City's incorporation in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the City's original Route 66 Corridor is in itself, its own defining asset, established in 1926 as a major connection to the West and affectionately known as "The Main Street of America" and "The Mother Road," giving birth to many small towns, inns, Mom and Pop businesses, and other roadside attractions, and now memorialized in pop culture; and

WHEREAS, the original Route 66 Corridor, from Chicago to Los Angeles, is being promoted nationally for cultural heritage tourism; and

WHEREAS, the original Route 66 Corridor through Wildwood contains many of the City's historic assets, recognized as local landmarks, with some listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, this year, planning and design work for an interpretive and trailhead park facility for the Route 66 corridor was completed for a City-owned, half-acre parcel of ground within the Historic Grover Community; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission, along with other City Boards, Committees and Commissions, have already invested in the area through various initiatives in planning, parks, historic preservation, and streetscape improvements; and

WHEREAS, the proposed *Route 66 Historical Context Study and Inventory* will provide a foundation for a future Route 66 revitalization planning effort and interpretive material for the design of a Wildwood Route 66 Timeline Walk feature planned for the Route 66 Roadside Park; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation-based revitalization, as an overall goal, is intended to increase the economic vitality of Wildwood's Route 66 Corridor, preserve its historic and unique character, create an inviting, accessible, and people-centered streetscape, promote cultural heritage tourism, and empower the local community; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated impact of the overall initiative will benefit the citizens, and businesses, of Wildwood, as well as visitors and the traveling public.

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

Section One. An application to the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), due October 2, 2023, 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 fifty (50) percent match of funding, inclusive of both cash and in-kind support to the project.
- 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.

Passed and Resolved by the Council of the City of Wildwood this _____ day of _____, 2023.

James R. Bowlin, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk